

VISION

“Support First Nations to develop and implement a comprehensive holistic educational system inclusive of First Nations languages, world views, values, beliefs and traditions with exemplary academic standards, under First Nations jurisdiction.”

MISSION

To help First Nations improve education for all learners to achieve:

- mino-pimatisiwin (Cree, Ojibway, Oji-Cree)”
- honso aynai (Dene)”
- tokadakiya wichoni waste (Dakota)”

Principals' Newsletter

www.mfnerc.org

Volume 7, Issue 4



Joe Keeper - Angela Chalmers Celebration Run 2008

The Joe Keeper Angela Chalmers Celebration Run was held Sunday, September 28. It was a cool 12°C, under partially cloudy skies and with a cool north wind during the race(s). This year's event drew over 140 entries. The Joe Keeper Angela Chalmers Celebration Run is held biannually to raise funds for the Manitoba First Nations Educational Resource Centre Scholarship Fund.



“In general, any form of exercise, if pursued continuously, will help train us in perseverance. Long-distance running is particularly good training in perseverance.”

- Mao Tse-Tung

The race began with a smudge, prepared by Donna Beaulieu and ceremonial drum song by Rob Apeyagon. Sixty five runners completed the 10Km Road Race while 22 runners completed the 3Km Fun Run/

Walk. In addition over twenty children under the age of 10 took part in a 1KM Kid's Fun Run. Complete details of the results are presented in the tables which accompany this report.

This year saw the introduction of a High School Relay Race Challenge. This race allows students an opportunity to not only represent their schools but also obtain high school Physical Education credit hours. This inaugural race featured teams from Pequis Cree Nation competing with a teams from Fisher River Cree Na-

tion. It was an exciting race with all teams in close contention throughout the race. The victorious team from Fisher River – Jordan Cochrane, Shane Cochrane, Presley Kirkness and Dylan Kirkness- received a banner to be hung in their school Gym.

All participants completing their run received a participation medalion. Cash prizes of \$250, \$150and \$100 were awarded to the overall top three finishers in the open category of the 10KM run. This year's recipients are:

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Are Students Being Given Equal Opportunities to Learn?

In September 1967, the grade one classroom of Crestview Park Elementary School was, well, a groovy place to be, if you were six, had average smarts, and came from a home fortunate enough to have books. The teacher, a hip young enthusiast in a plaid jumper, told us kids that she would be showing us some special magic this year, she would be teaching us how to read! She was that excited about it. She got me excited about it and the whole year was a big blast. I remember lots of stickers, stars and stamps with tons of hullabaloo just for me, a kid who was learning to be a good reader!

I realize that circumstances are often not the same for many children learning to read. I know that children do not have equal advantages at home and that the disadvantages for many can seem insurmountable. There are many disparities in what children have learned prior to coming to school and promoting

early literacy at home is a campaign community politicians and activists could consider. However, once children are in school, inequalities in learning opportunities need to be addressed. Once in school, each child should be guaranteed equal opportunities to learn to read and to learn to love reading.

However, is this the case in our schools? Are learning opportuni-

Programs for reading instruction must have a degree of consistency in Early Years Classrooms, as well as the Early Years program should serve some correspondence to the programming for reading instruction in the middle years.

ties equal across classrooms, across grade levels? To be equal, programs for reading instruction must have a degree of consistency in Early Years classrooms, as well the Early Years program should serve some correspondence to the programming for reading instruction in the Middle Years. Teachers at all grade levels have to be well informed of reading curriculum across a continuum and be competent instructors of reading at a variety of skill levels in order for children's learning needs to be met in a fair and equitable manner. Reading instruction should not look vastly different from one classroom to another; there should be strong similarities that ensure equal learning opportunities.

Equality in all things does not usually just happen, it usually has to be designed and managed. If you would like to have help in assessing your current reading instructional programs, and if you would like to

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Important Dates 2

Computer and Technology 2

Lake Manitoba First Nations School..... 2

Mikisew School: Fall Feast 3

Strengthening School Planning and Reporting 3

Special Education Unit Service Delivery Areas 3

6th Annual Manitoba First Nations Science Fair 4

Exciting News From Lake Manitoba School..... 4

Speech and Language Regional Workshops 5

Science and the MFNERC Website 5

MFNERC Organizational Chart.. 6

Roots of Empathy Program 8

Supported Literacy Project 8

Research and Development Unit Update 8

New Staff Member 9

Choose the Future 9



Joe Keeper - Angela Chalmers Race Results 10

MFNERC FirstClass 12

MFNERC Scholarships..... 12

work towards aligning instructional programs to promote equal opportunities for children to gain strong literacy skills, the ELA Team at MFNERC can be of assistance. As a part of the school's ELA Action Plan, an ELA Specialist can support teachers in the alignment of reading curriculum; reading assessment; reading instruction, and; reading resources.

Darcy-Anne Thomas, ELA Specialist
In-School Programs Unit
204.940.7034

Important Dates

Nov 11	Remembrance Day (MFNERC Offices Closed)
Nov 12-13	ELA Team Meeting Winnipeg via Video Conference
Nov 18	SIP Team Meeting Winnipeg, MFNERC SIP Staff
Nov 19-20	SEU Assessment Tools Regional Dauphin, Location TBC
Nov 21	Resource Teacher Meeting Dauphin, Location TBC
Nov 28	Special Area Groups (SAG) Conference Day
Dec 4-5	Principals Roundtable Winnipeg, Location TBC
Dec 9-10	ELA Team Meeting Winnipeg via Video Conference
Dec 11-12	RDU Value-Based Project Meetings Winnipeg, Location TBC
Dec 15	MFNERC General Staff Meeting Winnipeg, Location TBC
Dec 16	SIP Team Meeting - Winnipeg, MFNERC
Dec 16	MFNERC Staff PD Session Winnipeg - Location TBC (tentative date)
Dec 17	MFNERC Unit/Subject Area Meetings (tentative date)
Dec 18	MFNERC Christmas Open House (tentative date)
Dec 19	Pancake Breakfast - AM Offices Closed 1/2 Day
Jan 5	MFNERC Offices Re-Open from Christmas Break
Jan 13-14	ELA Team Meeting Winnipeg via Video Conference
Jan 14-15	RDU Value-based Project Orientation
Jan 19-20	SLP Regional - Island Lake, Location TBC
Jan 20	SIP Team Meeting - Winnipeg, MFNERC
Jan 30	Resource Teacher Meeting - Brandon
Feb 3-4	Supported Literacy Assessment Tool Training Kinonjeoshtegon FN, Location TBC
Feb 10-11	ELA Team Meeting Winnipeg via Video Conference
Feb 10-11	Supported Literacy Assessment Tool Training Bunibonibee Cree Nation, Location TBC
Feb 16	Louis Riel Day - MFNERC Offices Closed
Feb 17	SIP Team Meeting - Winnipeg, MFNERC
Feb 17-18	Supported Literacy Assessment Tool Training Opaskwayak Cree Nation, Location TBC

IRC Has Moved

With the expansion of the MFNERC, the Information Resource Center (IRC) has moved to Unit E - 1791 Dublin Avenue. The new address will be opened as of December 1, 2008.

Lake Manitoba First Nation School

Courtney Lucier is a 13-year-old Grade 8 student at Lake Manitoba First Nation School. Courtney attends Lake Manitoba First Nation School. Her parents are Bob and Angie Lucier. Courtney is a very bright and intelligent student who enjoys reading and writing Poetry.

During the summer months, Courtney found a Poetry Contest in a magazine. She submitted one of her writings to the International Library of Poetry in Maryland, USA. She received a letter in the mail and she was awarded a semi-final-

ist in the International Open Poetry Contest. Also in celebration of her unique talent, they are also going to publish Courtney's poem in a classic, coffee-table poetry book called, *Immortal Verses*, which will be published this fall. The title of her poem is "Do You?".

If you require further information, you may contact Courtney's parents at 768-3204.

*Sincerely Yours In Education,
Pamela Penashii
Grade 8 Teacher*

Computers and Technology

The new school year is an important time for technology in the school. There is a need to update the Acceptable Use of the Internet Policy for the students and staff, designate distribution and use of workstations and printers, timetable computer room or lab, do updates and so much more.

"It would appear that we have reached the limits of what it is possible to achieve with computer technology, although one should be careful with such statements, as they tend to sound pretty silly in 5 years"

- John von Neumann

In the last year there has been a major change to the ICT high school courses as designated by MB education. The new designation of .5 credit courses (which can be found online at <http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/ict/index.html>) include high interest areas like digital pictures and video, desktop publishing, web design, 2d design and more.

Already this fall, during Circle of Knowledge and the Garden Hill PD conference, I have notice a greater interest in integrating technology into the curriculum at all grade levels. Students should become comfortable in using ICT tools when doing work or activities that support them. This will include word processing, spreadsheets, Internet resources, printing, scanning, and more.

Assistive technologies are also becoming more common in our schools. BoardMaker and Write Outloud are some of the software technologies that have been introduced and supported by MFNERC. Other assistive software implementations have been the initiative by the local school. More schools are becoming available each year but they may not all be affordable at the local level. BoardMaker and Write Outloud have been distributed over the past couple of years and SuccessMaker, SOLO, and others have been purchased by some of the schools on their own. Remember that training is an important component of new programs coming into the school and this can be expensive if you are hoping to get it from the vendor and not arranging it at time of purchase.

Para Educator training has continued this fall and is in progress in two more communities. The Computer Fundamentals course is delivered in the community as a hands-on course as well as work using the Internet. All those completing the course should be comfortable doing keyboarding, word processing with graphics, and using the Internet.

Enjoy the time of the year with your available ICT tools. Taking digital pictures and video clips throughout the year add to local interest as well as providing material for a year book or memoirs. Having an inventory of flash drives, CD/DVD's and printer supplies can alleviate panic during the school year as well.

Continue to have a great Fall and Winter!

*Dave Thiessen
davet@mfnerc.com
Ph: 204 729 1061*

The First Nations Teachings



The First Nations Teachings & Practices document is ready to be printed. An orientation for this document was held at the Manitoba First Nations Circle of Knowledge and Practices conference. Dan Thomas conducted the orientation to the document. Sixty educators attended the session. Participants came from various First Nations including Mathias Colomb, Sandy Bay, Peguis, and Brokenhead Ojibway Nation.

Ralph Arthurson also oriented teachers in attendance to the Cree values posters for which he was the project lead.

Mikisew School: Fall Feast

Tansi, I would like to greet all the readers of our first annual report for this year. I would like to thank the Misikew Staff for their tremendous effort in making the Fall Feast possible. Without your efforts and contributions this would not have happened. Thank You to the organizers and to the people that attended our function. We hope to make this an annual event for students or parents alike. Once again a big thank you to fall feast committee, keep up the good work.

Best Regards, Greg Halcrow

Hello, Tansi! Thank you to all of the organizers for this event. A special "thank you" to Kerry Muswagon. He was the one who did all of the organizing. A special "thank you" to Derek Halcrow, he was a big help in this event as well. There was so much food! We had ducks, moose-meat, fish, geese, bannock, duck & moose soup, salads, potatoes and kraft dinner & wieners (for the students who did not want to eat wild food). We also had outdoor tea! This was such a successful event that we will be holding it again next fall. Thank you to all staff and students of Mikisew School. Keep up the good work!

Ekosani - Connie McIvor

Tansi, first of all the committee would like to thank the administration for letting us have a feast for your students. The idea was to introduce the abundance of wild foods that are still out in our lands and give the opportunity for your students to taste our traditional foods. Some students knew what they wanted to eat while some preferred kraft dinner & wieners overall most students tried and enjoyed the entire menu. This was a happy time for many students and some staff. The preparation itself was a challenge as we had to cook food for 300+ in 3 hours. This was made possible with the helping hand in all C.A. classes during the week of the feast which they prepared a site by cutting and raking grass, cutting logs, plucking, singeing ducks and geese.

Thank you to the boys in I.A. room for the beautiful picnic tables they made and let us use during the week. This was a great learning experience for our kids as they were very excited in the skills they have learned. Thank you to the cooks and staff members who helped with the cooking and the use of some of their equipment. Finally to the staff for all the food donations and help with the cooking and preparation for the feast, the feast was a success because of this and we hope everyone including our guests and visitors had a good and satisfying meal/time. Ekosani, till next fall if god grants,

Fall Feast Committee 2008

Strengthening School Planning and Reporting: The Use of Data

Larry Budzinki, the School and Division plans Consultant from the Province did an excellent workshop on school planning, specifically focusing on data collection for the Circle of Knowledge and Practices Conference on October 17, 2008 at the Radisson Hotel downtown. It is unique and practical how Larry delivered his presentation to 21 participants from various First Nation Schools. He made the concepts and ideas of school planning meaningful and relevant for the participants by assigning all the participants to take a school planning committee role throughout the workshop. Their task was to review a sample school profile and school data and make decisions on what the school priorities should be. The participants got involved and engaged in the process of looking at school data, discussing and deciding what the information is telling them, deciding on what the school priorities will be and what school staff will do differently to get better at what they do. The school information Larry covered in school planning were - what is a school plan, what is data, why do we use school data, types of data we need to collect, what causes student achievement, are we a good school, when is a priority a priority, and what do we need to do differently now that we know what our school priorities are? Larry's practical approach to school planning was very much appreciated by the participants and they all walked away encouraged and motivated to use the ideas and strategies on how to use their school plan to inform school staff on what they will work on. Thanks to Larry Budzinki for a very well throughout approach to school planning.

In the afternoon Mary-Ann Fenn, consultant from Distance Learning Unit and Susan Wersch, coordinator from Distance Learning Unit from the Province did a presentation on Distance Education. We understand that many of our First Nations Schools are not able to provide certain high school courses because they are a small school and can only offer limited high school courses to students. The Distance Education Unit offers an alternative for these dilemmas. They offer three distance learning programs that can be utilized by First Nation Schools. The Independent Study Program are for school aged students attending school,

*"Some people choose not to donate their services because they believe that it somehow devalues them by "giving them away." In truth, there is nothing that demonstrates the value of your skills more than putting them to good use for a cause you believe in."
- Scott Allen*

school age students not attending school as well as Adult learners over the age of 18. Teacher Mediated Option is for students who are attending school and have access to telephone for the audio tele-conference delivery. The Web-Based Courses are for students attending school, who have access to internet for online, teacher-assisted courses. Right now they offer 42 Distance Education courses to schools in Manitoba and 4 courses are currently under development. Their mandate is to provide increased access to distance learning educational opportunities for all learners and to support educators in their delivery and implementation to distance learning programs. The

presenters did an excellent job of informing and highlighting what their unit can do to help schools increase the number of courses they can offer to their students and adults. You can contact Marianne Fenn or Susan Wersch at 1-800-465-9915 or 325-1700 or go the web-site for assistance and information at distance.learning@gov.mb.ca or <http://www.education.gov.mb.ca/k12/dl/index.html>

Dr. Frank Deere, Research and Development Specialist from MFNERC ended the afternoon with his presentation on what the MFNERC has developed for high courses electives that can be offered in First Nation school. Presently there are three courses we are offering. The First, First Nations Law Course starts with grade nine students on Traditional Law, grade ten students with Treaties and Treaty rights, grade eleven students with the Indian Act and The Indian Acts Regulations and grade twelve students with The Charter of Rights and Freedoms and The Constitution Act, 1982.

The second elective course the MFNERC has is the First Nations Leadership Course for students in grade 11 or grade 12. The course is divided into three units: Leadership Concepts and Issues, Topics in First Nations Leadership and Leadership practicum.

The last course MFNERC will have ready by January 2009 is called World Indigenous Issues Course. This course is divided into three units: Terminology and Concepts, World Indigenous Peoples and Colonization, Comparative Policy and Post-Colonial Consequences. If you require further information about the three courses the MFNERC has, please contact Dr. Frank Deer at 1-204-336-7062 or e-mail him at frankd@mfnerc.com.

Special Education Unit - Service Delivery Areas

Richelle Lovegrove – Dauphin Home Office

1. Bloodvein
2. Chemawawin
3. Ebb & Flow
4. Lake St. Martin
5. Little Grand Rapids
6. Rolling River
7. Sapotawayak
8. Tootinaowaziibeeng (Valley River)
9. Waywayseecappo
10. Wuski-Sipihk

Gina Schall – Home Office

1. Canupawakpa
2. Dakota Plains
3. Dakota Tipi
4. Garden Hill
5. Keeseekoowenin
6. Little Saskatchewan
7. Long Plain
8. Oxford House
9. Pinaymootang
10. Sioux Valley
11. Swan Lake

Jennie Tait – Thompson Office

1. Fox Lake
2. God's Lake
3. God's River
4. Lac Brochet
5. Nisichawayasihk
6. Sayisi Dene
7. Shamattawa
8. Tataskweyak
9. York Factory

Curtis Mallett – Winnipeg Office

1. Cross Lake
2. Dauphin River
3. Fisher River
4. Lake Manitoba
5. Mathias Colomb (Puk)
6. Peguis
7. Poplar River
8. Roseau River
9. Sandy Bay
10. Wasagamack

Don Shackel – Winnipeg Office

1. Brokenhead
2. Jackhead
3. Little Black River
4. O-Chi-Chak-Ke-Sipi
5. Opaskwayak
6. Pauingassi
7. Red Sucker Lake
8. St. Theresa Point
9. Sagkeeng

Sylvia Henwood – Winnipeg Office

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services With all MB

Revised September 11, 2008

6th Annual Manitoba First Nations Science Fair



The 6th annual Manitoba First Nations Science Fair, held at Red River College on March 5th & 6th, 2008, hosted a record number of entries and participating First Nations communities.

Activities for participants at the MFN Science Fair included planetarium shows, interactive robotics and science probe displays.

In addition, the MFN Science Fair included career displays to promote health and wellness and health science careers put on by the Health Science Centre and Red River College. Participating Science fair students, while viewing the displays, participated in a Health Science Career Awareness Contest for prizes.

All participants in the Science Fair received either a bronze (235 students), silver (107 students) or gold (65 students) medal as recognition for efforts made creating and researching their projects.

Major prizes presented included all expense paid trips to the Canada Wide Science Fair in Ottawa, Ontario in May 2008, the Genome Prairie Awards, the Manitoba Hydro Awards, Cancer Society Awards and INAC Summer Camp Awards.

Additional prizes consisting of 2 major door prizes (2 Nintendo Wii) and a prize for the best school banner were presented.

MAJOR PRIZE WINNERS

The winners of the major prizes at the 2008 MFNSC are as follows:

Canada Wide Science Fair Recipients:

1. Brandon Courchene & Cody Guimond, Grade 8, Sagkeeng Junior High, Sagkeeng

Project: The Effects of Airboat Use on Wild Rice Harvests

2. John Spence, Grade 9, Nishichawayasihk Neyo Ohtinwak Collegiate, Nelson House

Project: The Effects of Willow Water on Rooting

3. Taylor Flett, Grade 9, Chief Sam Cook Mahmuwee Education Centre, Split Lake

Project: Solar and Wind Panels

Manitoba Hydro Award Recipients:

1. Jared Courchene, Grade 6, Sagkeeng Junior High, Sagkeeng

Project: Traditional vs. Modern Medicine

2. Julian Chippeway & Vince O'Laney, Grade 8, Sagkeeng Junior High, Sagkeeng

Project: Erosion in Sagkeeng

3. Raven Pruden, Grade 10, Little Saskatchewan School, Little Saskatchewan

Project: Insulation Effectiveness

4. Shyloh Johnson & Dawn Spence, Grade 10, Peguis Central School, Peguis

Project: How Soft Drink Acid Affects Teeth

"It's very helpful if parents have some sort of calendar that is large enough and is posted in a prominent place. In one color you have written when the science fair project is due. And then you backtrack from that date breaking down that science fair project into manageable chunks of time. Great big projects tend to scare kids."

- Richard Bavaria

Genome Prairie Award Recipients:

1. Blossom Mazawasicuma, Grade 6, Sioux Valley School, Sioux Valley

Project: Forensic Science

2. K.J. Dettanikkeaze & Santana Denechezhe, Grade 7, Petit Casimir Memorial School, Northlands Denesuline First Nation

Project: Family Fingerprints

School Banner Award

School banners produced by students from schools participating in the MFN Science Fair were paraded in front of Elders, guests, chaperones, judges and spectators during the grand entry and then prominently displayed for public viewing. This year's banner award recipients were the students from Sergeant Tommy Prince School.

2008 MFNSF Participating Schools included:

- 1972 Memorial High School
- St. Theresa Point Schools
- Chief Clifford Lynxleg School
- Chief Sam Cook Muhmuwee Education Centre
- Ebb & Flow School
- God's Lake Narrows first Nation School
- George Knott School
- Indian Springs School
- Isaac Beaulieu Memorial School
- Keeseekoowenin School
- Kistiganwacheeng Elementary School
- Lake St. Martin School
- Little Saskatchewan H.A.G.M.E. School
- Charles Sinclair School
- Mikisew School
- Nishichawayasihk Neyo Ohtinwak Collegiate
- Long Plain School
- Otter Nelson River School
- Neil Dennis Kematch Memorial School
- Peguis Central School
- Otetiskiwini Kiskinwamah towekamik
- Pinaymootang School
- Oxford House Elementary School
- Sagkeeng Consolidated School
- Petit Casimir School
- Sioux Valley School
- Poplar River School
- Sergeant Tommy Prince School
- Southeast College
- Waywayseecappo School

The MFN Science Fair recognizes the contributions of its major sponsors: The Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. Special acknowledgement is extended to the MFN Science Fair facility contributors – Red River College and awards contributors: The Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Manitoba Hydro, Canadian Cancer Society, and Genome Prairie.

Exciting News From Lake Manitoba School

Lake Manitoba School held its annual Book Fair on October 15-21, 2008. Many thanks to Mrs. Valerie Edwards and Ms. Doris Swan for their good effort. The school received a percentage of sales in books and it was awesome.

Congratulations to the soccer team who won the soccer tournament in Fairford on October. 16, 2008.

Kids in the Kitchen Program meet on Fridays to prepare nutritious snacks for their peers. Thank you Delma McLean from the Health Centre Staff.

Good Luck to Mrs. D. who has retired after teaching for 36 years. Mrs. D. (in back) with her Gr. 4 class.



Speech and Language Regional Workshops

The Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre is pleased to offer Speech and Language regional workshops again for this school year. The following are the sites: Island Lake, Dauphin, Thompson, and Winnipeg. Dates of workshops:

January 19-20, 2009 (Island Lake)

February 25-26, 2009 (Thompson)

March 25-26, 2009 (Winnipeg)

April 22-23, 2009 (Dauphin)

The regional workshops will deal with resource room and classroom strategies for speech and language programming. Each workshop will be a duplicate of the others, so that you have 4 choices of attendance.

Anticipated Participants: Resource Teachers, Special Education Personnel, Education Assistants, and Teachers.

This Year's Topics:

- Motor Speech Disorders
- Syndromes – Autism and Down Syndrome

- Phonological Awareness and Literacy
- Auditory Processing

Motor Speech Disorders - Session will discuss what "apraxia" and the "dysarthrias" are.

Apraxia is the inability to execute a voluntary speech movement despite being able to demonstrate normal muscle function. The dysarthrias are a group of speech disorders caused by disturbances in the strength or coordination of the muscles of the speech mechanism as a result of damage to the brain or nerves. This session will discuss the causes of motor speech disorders, their symptoms, its diagnoses, how it is treated and also strategies to use when working with children that have these motor speech disorders.

Syndromes (Autism and Down Syndrome) - This session will discuss Autism and Down Syndrome disorders: the diagnoses, characteristics, management, strategies and intervention. Each participant will receive a binder with helpful ideas

and strategies that are geared toward children with these disorders.

Phonological Awareness and Literacy – This workshop will provide information on phonological and phonemic awareness and how it related

"All speech, written or spoken, is a dead language, until it finds a willing and prepared hearer."

- Robert Louis Stevenson

to literacy. Participants will learn strategies to teach various phonological awareness skills and how to set up centres in the classroom. All those in attendance will be making some materials that they could take back to their schools to use and a phonological awareness assessment tool will also be provided.

Auditory Processing – Auditory processing disorders can be a con-

genital or an acquired condition (for example; resulting from ear infections and head injuries) which refers to difficulties in the processing of auditory information within the central nervous system, such as problems with: "...sound localization and lateralization; auditory discrimination; auditory pattern recognition; temporal aspects of audition; auditory performance in competing acoustic signals; and auditory performance with degraded acoustic signals." This session will provide more information about these and will discuss strategies to use and activities to do when working with children with auditory processing disorders.

For more information, please call or email any of the following:

Stacey Misko at 940-7856 or email staceym@mfnerc.com

Rachel North at 940-6056 or email racheln@mfnerc.com

Loretta Sinclair at 981-0145 or email lorettas@mfnerc.com

Registration forms will be forwarded to your schools by Mina McKenzie.

Science and the MFNERC Website

The Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre Web site, www.mfnerc.org, offers a vast array of information and support services that many of our educators are not aware of. The MFNERC web page headers provide links to the following information: Contacts, Careers, About, Events, Resources and Services.

Located on the left site of the MFNERC home page are two very useful science related icons:



The Manitoba First Nations Science Fair icon connects to:

The MFNERC Monthly Science Newsletter

The newsletter contains information about:

- The Manitoba First Nations Science Fair,
- Online Resources Reviews - identifies useful sites for science curriculum topics that offer hands on and interactive activities, and
- Reviews classroom support materials such as Science A-Z featuring multilevel reading levels for each science unit, supported by lessons, labs, project suggestions and work sheets.

Manitoba First Nations Science Fair Site

This site contains the following information:

- General Information Package for the MFNERC Science Fair Deadlines, registration forms, time line suggestions
- Teacher Science Fair Manual
Teacher guidelines for doing science fair projects
- Student Science Fair Manual
Helpful hints for carrying out research, conducting experiments, interviewing people, writing reports and presenting and displaying science fair projects
- Judging Package
Provides helpful resources for obtaining judges and guide lines to understand what criteria are evaluated for projects.
- Creating a Science Fair Project
Developing Science and Technology skills while creating science fair projects. This course is designed to help grade 4 to Senior High teachers integrate science fair activities

into classroom programming. Participants will learn how the process of doing a science fair project covers many of the outcomes in the provincial curriculum.

- Science Video

Featuring highlights of the MFNERC Science Fair

PLZONE.NET Online Teacher Resources

This site offers an educational directory for teachers, students and parents. The web page allows for selection of elementary, middle and high school levels and the four core subjects: English, Mathematics Science and Social Studies. There are four areas of support available for each subject area: tutorials, interactive, printable material, and tests. All materials listed on the site are free.

MFNERC Website Discussion Board

This resource can be accessed by navigating to the MFNERC home page, selecting Resources at the top of this page, and then scrolling down and clicking on "discussion board". Teachers can sign up to post questions and share information with each other on various science concerns such as best teaching practices, curriculum, hands on activities, and collaborative learning projects between schools. Look for discussion topics to appear throughout the year.

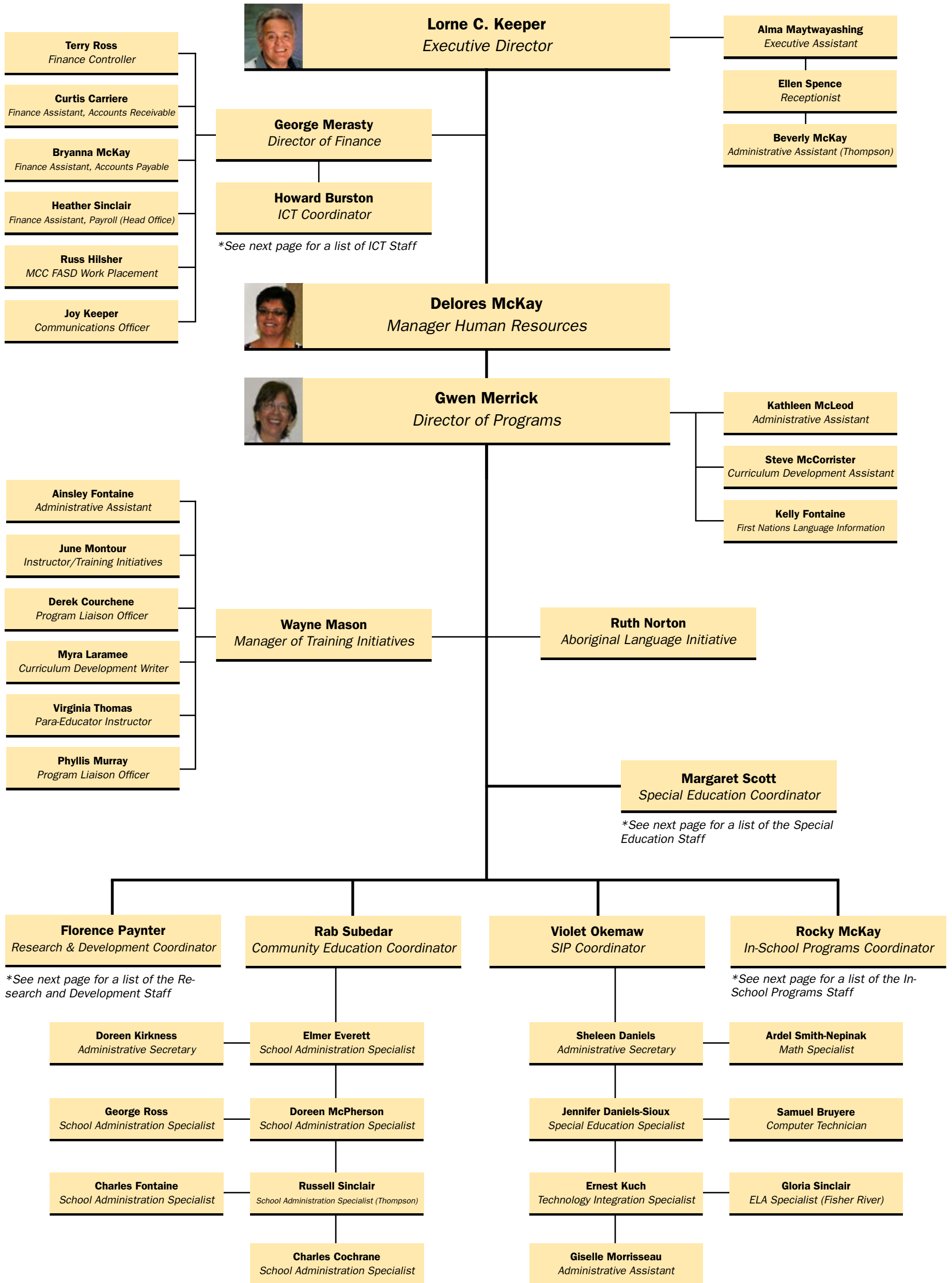
Looking for School Science Contacts

The MFNERC science specialists are requesting each school to identify a science contact representative and provide an email address so that the science teachers can be kept updated on science information throughout the year. Email your contact name to Ron Hallock, ronh@mfnerc.com or Wilfred Buck wilfredb@mfnerc.com.

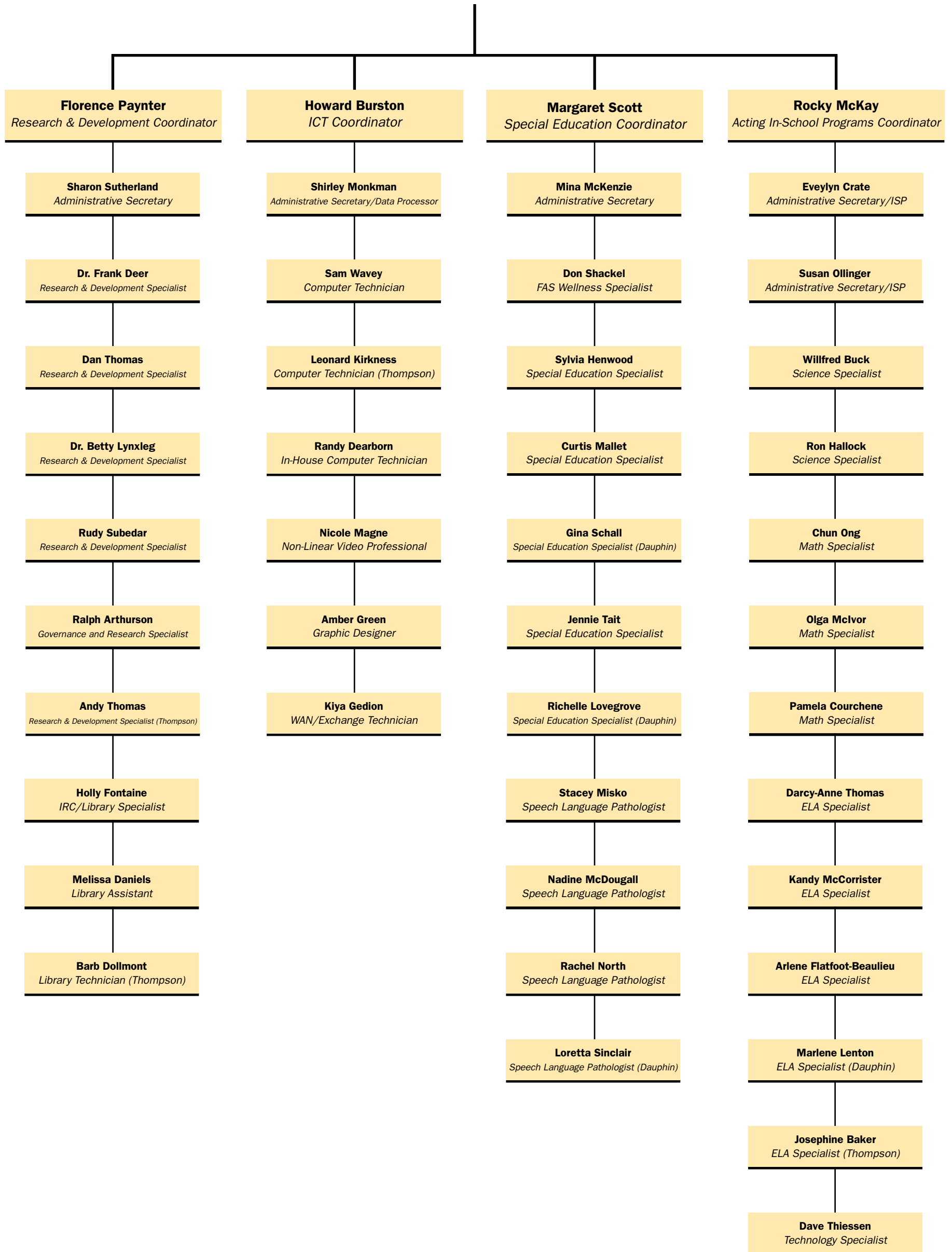
First Nations Astronomy

Introducing a night out with the STARS (Wilfred and Ron) to observe the heavenly bodies you saw in the planetarium presentations. This Celestron computerized telescope can produce images bright enough to reveal the polar ice caps on Mars or the cloud belts on Jupiter! View the details of the lunar surface or the rings of Saturn which are clearly visible with this telescope. With the extra light gathering capability of the 114 SLT, a number of the Messier objects such as the globular cluster in Hercules (M13), or the Great Nebula in Orion (M42) are available to you. For school bookings please contact MFNERC science specialists Wilfred Buck, wilfredb@mfnerc.com, or Ron Hallock ronh@mfnerc.com.

Manitoba First Nations Education Resource



Centre Inc. Organizational Chart



The Roots of Empathy Program

During the months of August and September, 24 people from 16 First Nations Communities gathered to attend three day training sessions to become instructors for The Roots of Empathy Program.



Roots of Empathy is an evidence-based classroom program which has demonstrated a dramatic effect in reducing levels of aggression and violence among school children (K-8) while raising social/emotional competence and increasing empathy. The mission of Roots of Empathy is to build caring, peaceful, and civil societies through the development of empathy in children and adults.

The Roots of Empathy Program was created in Toronto schools by Mary Gordon in 1996. It became a charitable not-for-profit organization in 2000. Since its inception, Roots of Empathy, working in partnership with communities, has reached more than 150,000 children in more than 6,000 classrooms across Canada and internationally.

The trained Roots of Empathy instructor visits the classroom every week during the school year, starting in October and ending in June for a total of 27 lessons. Once every three weeks, a parent and a baby (2-4 months at the start) from the community come to the classroom with the instructor for a family visit.

This program teaches children about feelings, their own feelings and the feelings of others. In Roots of Empathy, the baby is the teacher. With each family visit (9 in all), the instructor leads the students in identifying how the baby is growing and changing over the course of

his or her first year of life. The children also watch the loving relationship between the parent(s) and baby see how the parent(s) regulates the baby's emotions. By learning to understand the perspective of the baby and learning to label the baby's feelings, the students become literate in describing their own feelings and understanding those of others—empathy.

Schools which had instructors trained at the sessions in August and September are as follows:

Cross Lake Education Authority
Garden Hill
Lake Manitoba First Nation
Long Plain School
Opaskwank Education Authority
Oxford House
Pequis
Red Sucker Lake School
Rod Martin School
St. Theresa Point
Sagkeeng First Nation
Sandy Bay
Shamattawa
South Indian Lake
Waasagomach
Wapanohk School
Wapi-Penace School

For more information, visit the Roots of Empathy website at www.rootsofempathy.org.

Supported Literacy Project



SEU's Supported Literacy Training Session

The newly redeveloped Support Literacy Project began in August with the initial training session devoted to the Woodcock Johnson III assessment training for the participating schools' resource teachers. The second training session on the delivery of this remedial literacy program is now nearing completion. These sessions were conducted in the communities of the four participating schools; Kinonjeoshtegon, Sapotaweyek, Opaskwayak, and Oxford House.

Supported Literacy is a remedial literacy program for students in grades 5 through 12 who are struggling with reading, writing and comprehension. Resource teachers and classroom teachers are trained in providing assistance that is specific to each student's literacy needs. MFNERC's SEU specialists; Richelle Lovegrove, Gina Schall and Jennie Tait are the trainers for the Supported Literacy Project.

Research and Development Unit Update

Dear Colleagues:

It is my pleasure to bring greetings on behalf of the Research and Development Unit. I am glad that through the Principals' Newsletter we are able to communicate again. I hope you and your staff are able to continue to meet the challenges of school with strength and courage.

Not all of us at RDU have the same opportunity to visit you and your school. However what we do as researchers and curriculum development specialists is to help develop curricular areas of interest and this has major impacts on the choices you have for curricular content. I am fortunate to be surrounded by people who assist me in that process and who have taken steps to help with your school staff's input. Some of these steps have included working with cultural and outdoor programs, developing school initiated course and other supports to enhance school programming.

Some of the team members met in Dauphin to conduct interviews with the Elders for the Treaty 4 Project that R&D is working on. It is always nice to meet and to talk to the Elders.

We are in the process of forming an editorial committee for our own First Nations journal on education. This is so exciting because we all share so many good things happening throughout our schools that we should be sharing with one another as educators. It is our hope that you will consider developing research papers and submitting articles of interest. If you have an ideas or comments, please contact Frank Deer, an addition to the team. He can be reached at 336-7062.

In the last few months, the Instructional Resource Centre has been placed under R&D and between all of us, we have a good selection of more supportive resources for First Nations education. Please go to the website to see what is new, or call any of the library staff in Winnipeg, Dauphin or Thompson.

We would also like to extend special wishes to you, staff and students as you come near to the most celebrated season of Christmas; We wish you well, best wishes and good health in the new year!

Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre Research & Development Unit Courses/Teacher Resources



First Nations Law Course

- Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12
- A teacher resource with test questions



First Nations Leadership Course

- Designed for Grades 11 and 12
- Course includes a practical leadership component

Coming Soon

- World Indigenous Issues Course

Sylvia Henwood – MFNERC Staff Member

Tansi, Hello - My name is Sylvia Henwood and I have been with the MFNERC since time began, meaning since it opened in 99'. I work with the Special Ed. Unit and just the past year and a half I have been in training and working with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. I spent one year at the Manitoba School for the Deaf and working very closely with the outreach team consultants. I travel to all the First Nations Schools that have deaf and hard of hearing students. I introduce to them the equipment, such as the F.M. and D-Link systems, different types of hearing aids and ASL

materials to meet the needs of these students. Any up-coming events that are taking place at Man. School for the Deaf or surrounding area I group dial to the First Nations Schools to keep them informed and to take part in the events if possible. I am taking ASL courses as I go along. I enjoy the work and many thanks to the MSD consultants for all their help and support

Sylvia Henwood
Special Ed. Specialist for DHH
Manitoba First Nations Education
Resource Center
1-204-9407020 ext 7046

Russell Sinclair – New Staff Member

Tansi, my name is Russell Sinclair. I come from the Fisher River Cree Nation. I began my work here with the Manitoba First Nation Education Resource Center on Aug. 7th, 2008. I am very excited to be here working with so many talented people not only within this organization but also with those people in the different schools that I am assigned to.

My area of work has been in education, first as a Teacher, then as an Administrator. I worked in Fisher River and in Oxford House, Manitoba. I look forward to working with you and do not hesitate to call me at the following numbers; MFNERC -940-7020, Cell Number – 299-0884 or email at russells@mfnerc.com. EKosi!



Russell Sinclair

“Choose the Future: Education for Sustainability” Conference

Over the last year, the MFNERC Research and Development Unit (RDU) has been involved in various activities that aim to promote, develop and implement ESD initiatives. In support of local First Nations efforts, the RDU has supported the development of specific programs that aim to teach sustainable education.

One huge initiative that the RDU is currently involved is the International ESD Conference, “Choose the Future- Education for Sustainability”

“Education is a human right with immense power to transform. On its foundation rest the cornerstones of freedom, democracy and sustainable human development.”
- Kofi Annan

that is being held in Winnipeg on November 26-28, 2008, at the Winnipeg Convention Centre. The ESD Conference is being held concurrently with the Special Area Group (SAG) conference. The RDU will be providing two workshops on November 28, which will focus on traditional Indigenous approaches in practicing the “Seven Generations” philosophies.

Designed for educators who wish to embed the principles and practices of sustainable development in

their teaching and program planning, this conference also applies to leaders of business, NGO's and government who wish to engage their employees and stakeholders in sustainable practices and operations.

Confirmed Keynote Speakers include:

- **Dr. Chuck Hopkins**, York University
- **Bob Willard**, Speaker and Author of the Business Case for Sustainability
- **Dr. Samantha Nutt**, Founder/Executive Director of War Child Canada
- **Dr. Wade Davis**, Explorer-in-Residence of the National Geographic Society
- **Dr. Patrick Moore**, Co-Founder of Green Peace and Founder of Greenspirit for a Sustainable Future

The conference will be hosting globally recognized speakers that aim to build a bridge of understanding of ESD across all sectors. As this is an international conference, with participants coming from all parts of the world, with limited number of registrants, please register early. For more information, please visit the conference site: www.mesdwg.ca

We hope to see you there!

Special Events at Pinaymootang School - Fairford

REAL CARE BABY PARENTING PROGRAM

The Pinaymootang Health Centre donated five Real Care Babies for the Grade 9 Health and Family Studies program taught by Mona Asham. The goal of the reality Baby Program is to give students an opportunity to experience the challenges of parenthood and to think twice about having a baby at such a young age.

Reality Babies are computerized dolls that are cared for as real infants in a school program. Over several weeks, 25 students participated by caring and treating the dolls as real infants. These “babies” must be fed, burped, rocked, and diapered around the clock. Each student was graded by the computerized programming and the results were downloaded and printing. All of the students involved successfully completed their “parenting.”

Special thanks to Mona Asham and her very good job in administering this program! The following prizes were awarded to the following students:

- 1st \$60.00 Amanda Marsden and Dana Anderson (“Parents”)
- 2nd \$45.00 Ashley Mckay and Clarisse Anderson (“Parents”)
- 3rd \$25.00 Amanda Sumner (“Single Parent”)



ELDERS GRADUATE COMPUTER PROGRAM - MAY 12, 2008

Pinaymootang seniors computer class and the grade 12 graduating class joined together every Wednesday morning from February 6- May 12, 2008 to help each other to learn more about the Computer, the Internet, and most importantly **each** other. Some of our class missed due to illness but will be here next time to complete their courses.

The Elders and High School Computer program was a great success and a lot of fun for everyone concerned.

Congratulations to Graduates:

- Hector Sumner
- Hazel Sumner
- Genevieve Stagg
- Rosalie Woodhouse

Thanks to Pam Sumner, Maggie Anderson, Susan Lackie and the Grade 9 and 12 Classes!



Joe Keeper - Angela Chalmers Celebration Run

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Open 10KM

Finish	Male	Residence	Time
1	Brian Walker	Winnipeg	33.36
2	Darcy Ready	Winnipeg	34.04
3	Bradley Keefe	Winnipeg	34.22
	Female	Residence	Time
1	Darolyn Walker	Winnipeg	39.42
2	Amanda Younka	Winnipeg	41.33
3	Angela Paci	Winnipeg	41.49

The top Aboriginal female and male runners were recognized and each received gold medallions for their accomplishments.

This year's recipients were:

Keith Bilous	Winnipeg	39.13
Randi Keefe	Winnipeg	44.46

In the Master Category, gold silver and bronze medallions were presented to the following runners:

1	Male	Darcy Ready	Winnipeg	34.04
1	Female	Amanda Younka	Winnipeg	41.33
2	Male	Keith Bilous	Winnipeg	39.13
2	Female	Angela Paci	Winnipeg	41.49
3	Male	Murray Rose	Winnipeg	40.15
3	Female	Monica Young	Winnipeg	42.02

The top three participants in age categories received certificates in honour of their accomplishments.

Following the presentation of awards, a going home safe song and drum were provided by Rob Apetagon and drummers Wilfred Buck, Gator Beaulieu, Mr. Beaulieu.

Each registered participant received a Race Day Kit, and their bib numbers were entered into a draw for a 22 inch Flat Screen T.V. Participants also received tickets for the silent auction prizes. Spectators, participants, and volunteers were invited to purchase additional tickets for the silent auction, with all proceeds going to the Manitoba First Nations Scholarship Fund.

Three early bird draws were held in relation to the Joe Keeper Angela Chalmers Celebration Run.

- At the Lighting the Fire conference in May

Christine Pierre won a Free registration for either the 10KM Road Race or the 3KM Fun Run/Walk, and A Gift Certificate, courtesy of the Viscount Gort Motor Hotel, for a complimentary one night stay.

- At the Manitoba Marathon Expo

Brian Waterman: winner of a Free Registration for either the 10Km Road Race or the 3KM Fun Run/Walk

- The Early Bird Registration Draw for \$100 was won by Nellie Kopiz of Brandon, Manitoba

Many thanks to NCI 105.5 – Hot Country & More- for promoting this event prior to the race, as well as sending Gerry "Big Bear" Barrett and his crew to Emcee at the race site. Additional entertainment at the race was provided by the Beaulieu Brothers, Gator and Dustin. All participants and spectators were invited to share some fried bread, bannock, jam, berries, oranges and bananas. The 5th Joe Keeper-Angela Chalmers was a success due to all of the generous support from our sponsors, and the time and efforts of the MFNERC staff members and others who volunteered their time and assistance. Megwetch!!

10Km Road Race Results

Finish	Name	Residence	Time	Age
1	Brian Walker	Winnipeg	33.36	25-29
2	Darcy Ready	Winnipeg	34.04	40-44
3	Bradley Keefe	Winnipeg	34.22	25-29
4	Calvary Dejong	Winnipeg	34.25	20-24
5	Delhonnice Nicol-Samuel	Winnipeg	35.22	15-19
6	Jeffery Booth		39.04	30-34
7	Keith Bilous	Winnipeg	39.13	50-54

Finish	Name	Residence	Time	Age
8	Darolyn Walker	Winnipeg	39.42	25-29
9	Barry Mann	Pequis	39.59	25-29
10	Murray Rose	Winnipeg	40.15	45-49
11	John Lawler	Winnipeg	40.31	15-19
12	Tim Magas	Winnipeg	41.25	40-44
13	Amanda Younka	Winnipeg	41.33	35-39
14	Angela Paci	Winnipeg	41.49	40-44
15	Monica Young	Winnipeg	42.02	40-44
16	Colton Devos	LaSalle	42.10	15-19
17	Jack Waterman	Winnipeg	42.15	45-49
18	Bruce Waterman	Winnipeg	42.18	45-49
19	Audrey Goertzen	Winnipeg	42.20	40-44
20	Michael McGovern	Winnipeg	42.2	45-49
21	David Lawler	Winnipeg	42.35	50-54
22	Kevin Koenig	Winnipeg	42.36	30-34
23	Joshua Blackbird	Winnipeg	42.36	25-29
24	Richelle Ready	Winnipeg	44.14	15-19
25	Randi Keefe	Winnipeg	44.46	25-29
26	Wayne Ford	Winnipeg	44.47	50-54
27	Ken Perchaluk	Winnipeg	46.47	55-59
28	Joel Stevens	E.St.Paul	46.57	14 under
29	Andrew Swan	Winnipeg	47.23	40-44
30	Ralph Beardy	Winnipeg	48.16	40-44
31	Randal Bodnar	Winnipeg	48.35	50-54
32	Bruce Bell	North Bay	48.40	40-44
33	Grant Johnston	Winnipeg	48.55	40-44
34	Catherine MacKay	Winnipeg	49.08	40-44
35	Meegahan West	Winnipeg	49.24	35-39
36	Joy Kraemer		50.13	40-44
37	Tim Stevens	E.St.Paul	50.33	45-49
38	Christina Keeper		52.42	20-24
39	Garry Balenchuk		53.36	30-34
40	John Beverly	Winnipeg	53.59	50-54
41	Cathy Gornik		54.04	40-44
42	Eril Fast		54.1	65-69
43	Jim Anderson	Winnipeg	54.57	65-69
44	Michaela Lamoureux	Winnipeg	55.23	45-49
45	Jim Glasier	Winnipeg	55.25	65-69
46	Chris Macdonald		55.27	45-49
47	Cynthia Sabiston	Winnipeg	55.29	35-39
48	John Murray		55.45	45-49
49	Melissa Bud	Stonewall	55.53	35-39
50	David Fielder	Grosse Isle	55.57	45-49
51	Harley Murdock	Winnipeg	58.03	25-29
52	Lindsay Carroll	Winnipeg	58.47	30-34
53	Gwen Bonneville	Winnipeg	59.00	50-54
54	Tyler Green	Pine Falls	1.00.39	20-24
55	Dillon McTaggart	Winnipeg	1.01.17	15-19
56	Garry Swampy	Pine Falls	1.02.31	40-44
57	Trisha Wilson	Winnipeg	1.02.07	20-24
58	Petra Carlisle	E.St.Paul	1.02.31	35-39
59	Hillary Beardy	Winnipeg	1.02.47	20-24
60	Camille Jones	Winnipeg	1.02.47	30-34
61	Candace Sutherland	Winnipeg	1.03.14	15-19
62	Diane Shoemaker	Winnipeg	1.04.01	55-59
63	Nellie Kopitz	Brandon	1.06.48	40-44
64	Marie Roddy	Winnipeg	1.16.49	45-49
65	George Chapman	Winnipeg	1.16.50	75-79

10 KM Race - Age Category

14 & Under Male Category

Finish	Name	Residence	Time
1	Joel Stevens	E.St.Paul	46.57

15-19 Male Category

1	Delhonnice Nicol-Samuel	Winnipeg	35.22
2	John Lawler	Winnipeg	40.31
3	Colton Devos	LaSalle	42.1

15-19 Female Category

1	Richelle Ready	Winnipeg	44.14
2	Candace Sutherland	Winnipeg	1:03:14

20-24 Male Category

1	Calvary DeJong	Winnipeg	34.25
2	Tyler Green	Winnipeg	1:00:39

20-24 Female Category

1	Christina Keeper		52.42
2	Trisha Wilson	Winnipeg	1:03:14
3	Hillary Beardy	Winnipeg	1:02:47

25-29 Male Category

1	Brian Walker	Winnipeg	33.36
2	Bradley Keefe	Winnipeg	34.22
3	Barry Mann	Pequis	39.59

25-29 Female Category

1	Darolyn Walker	Winnipeg	39.42
2	Randi Keefe	Winnipeg	44.46

30-34 Male Category

1	Jeffery Booth		39.04
2	Kevin Koenig	Winnipeg	42.36
3	Garry Balenchuk		53.36

30-34 Female Category

1	Lindsay Carroll	Winnipeg	58: 47
2	Carmille Jones	Winnipeg	1:02:47

35-39 Female Category

1	Amanda Younka	Winnipeg	41.33
2	Meeghan West	Winnipeg	49.24
3	Cynthia Sabiston	Winnipeg	55.29

40-44 Male Category

1	Darcy Ready	Winnipeg	34.04
2	Tim Magas	Winnipeg	41.25
3	Andrew Swan	Winnipeg	47.23

40-44 Female Category

1	Angela Paci	Winnipeg	41.49
2	Monica Young	Winnipeg	42.02
3	Audrey Goertzen	Winnipeg	42.20

45-49 Male Category

1	Murray Rose	Winnipeg	40.15
2	Jack Waterman	Winnipeg	42.15
3	Bruce Waterman	Winnipeg	42.18

45-49 Female Category

1	Michaela Lamoureux	Winnipeg	55.23
2	Marie Roddy	Winnipeg	1:16:49

50-54 Male Category

1	Keith Bilous	Winnipeg	39.13
2	David Lawler	Winnipeg	42.35
3	Wayne Ford	Winnipeg	44.47

50-54 Female Category

1	Gwen Bonneville	Winnipeg	59.00
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55-59 Male Category

1	Ken Perchaluk	Winnipeg	46.47
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55-59 Female Category

1	Diane Shoemaker	Winnipeg	1:04:01
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65-69 Male Category

1	Eril Fast		54.10
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65-69 Male Category Continued...

Finish	Name	Residence	Time
2	Jim Anderson	Winnipeg	54.57
3	Jim Glasier	Winnipeg	55.25

75-79 Male Category

1	George Chapman	Winnipeg	1:16:50
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3KM Road Race Results

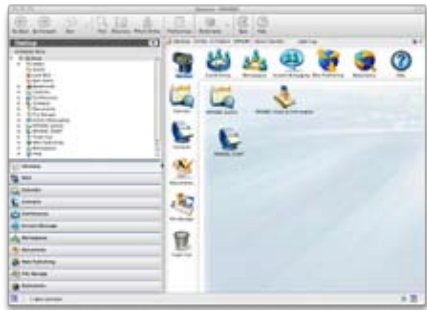
Finish	Name	Residence	Time
1	Andrew Lawler	Winnipeg	12:15
2	Robert Young	Winnipeg	13:22
3	Shayden McIntyre	Winnipeg	15:01
4	Frank Deer	Winnipeg	15:37
5	Alyssa Cochrane	Fisher River	15:50
6	Adam Cochrane	Winnipeg	16:01
7	Kirstin Bilous	Winnipeg	16:31
8	Kurston Daniels-Cochrane	Pequis	17:16
9	Jenna Thomas	Pequis	17:31
10	Kyle Saunders	Winnipeg	17:37
11	Pamela Courchene	Winnipeg	
12	Rhiannn Swan	Winnipeg	17:46
13	Michelle Mckay	Winnipeg	18:11
14	Stephanie Courchene	Winnipeg	18:14
15	Montana Fortier	Winnipeg	18:34
16	Dusty Cochrane	Fisher River	19:25
17	Rabindrath Subedar	Winnipeg	
18	Vanessa McKay	Winnipeg	24.54
19	Jose Lansard	Winnipeg	25.54
20	Sandra Delaronde	Winnipeg	29.19
21	Leora Purchase	Winnipeg	33.18
22	Sarah Delaronde	Winnipeg	35.00

3KM Road Race Results

Category	Place	Name	Residence	Time
15-17	1	Dusty Cochrane	Fisher River	19:25
		Alyssa Cochrane	Fisher River	15:50
	2	Kurston D. Cochrane	Pequis	17:16
13-14	3	Jenna Thomas	Pequis	17:31
	1	Andrew Lawyer	Winnipeg	12:15
		Kristen Bilous	Winnipeg	16:31
12 & under	2	Michelle Mckay	Winnipeg	18:11
	3	Stefanie Courchene	Winnipeg	18:14
	1	Robert Young	Winnipeg	13:22
Relay/School		Rhiann Swan	Winnipeg	17:46
	2	Shayden MacIntyre	Winnipeg	15:01
		Montana Fortier	Winnipeg	18:34
Relay/School	3	Adam Courchene	Winnipeg	16:01
		Vanessa Mckay	Winnipeg	24.54
	1	Fisher River		51.01
Relay/School	2	Pequis Team #2		56.02
	3	Pequis Team #1		56.15



MFNERC FirstClass: Solutions for Education



FirstClass Desktop Interface

The MFNERC is pleased to offer to the First Nation schools access to the MFNERC First-Class Communications Suite for starting September 1, 2008. This communications suite includes email, instant messaging, collaborative conferences and workspaces, calendaring and scheduling.

The MFNERC FirstClass Communications Suite offers a variety of applications that are seamlessly integrated and designed in one platform. The core components and applications within FirstClass include:

Your Personalized Portal: The First-Class Desktop

All FirstClass users are outfitted with a personalized desktop that is presented each time they log into the system. The

FirstClass desktop acts as a portal, providing:

- A summary view of all applications a user has been granted access to.
- One-click access to all features and components of FirstClass

Email & Instant Messaging

FirstClass offers fully functional email capabilities that enable users to safely and securely communicate within the education community or, if desired, with a managed set of external Internet destinations. FirstClass offers an incredibly powerful suite of messaging features that includes:

- Message grouping and previews.
- Mail automation tools, message tracking and status.
- Integrated instant messaging that enables users to check if another user is online and in-

stantaneously share messages, graphics, files, and even voice communications.

Collaborative Conferences & Work Spaces

At the core of FirstClass' collaboration capabilities are FirstClass Conferences (for large groups) and Work Spaces (for smaller teams) — permission-based shared spaces that facilitate topic based discussions, email, group calendars, peer editing, classroom resource sharing, lessons, assignment drop boxes, and more.

Collaborate on a wide array of topics such as professional development, communities of practice, on-line courses, administrative forms and processes, and peer discussions.

Every conference can be customized with background graphics, layouts, resources and workflow tools.

Permission-based controls ensure that only appropriate people have access to each conference, and that the role each person can play within the conference is well-defined.

A selection of pre-formatted templates enables quick and easy set up of new Work Spaces.

Calendaring & Scheduling

FirstClass offers comprehensive calendaring, scheduling, and time management capabilities that are tightly integrated within the First-Class environment. Features include:

A wide range of viewing options, including weekly, monthly, and flexible multi-day views.

Robust scheduling with "at a glance" access to a participant's or resource's availability for booking and calendar conflict resolution.

Support for repeat events, formatted text, and attachment of files and messages.

For more information contact:

Howard Burston,
ICT Coordinator, MFNERC
hburston@mfnerc.com,
204.940.7028

MFNERC Scholarships

The Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre Inc. (MFNERC) will be awarding the High School Graduates' Scholarship Awards to four (4) senior high school students on November 28, 2008.

The successful candidates should **have graduated within the last 2 years (2006-2007 or 2007-2008 school year) and are currently attending a post secondary institution or have been accepted into a post secondary institution for the current year. MFNERC will announce the recipients to the community via media outlets.**

We are requesting your assistance in nominating one (1) student from your school whom you feel would qualify. Please have the nominated student send:

- Student profile
- Most recent picture
- Most recent report card/transcript, and
- Letter of acceptance from a post-secondary institution
- Letter of reference; (other than family e.g. teacher, school counsellor, principal, etc.); letter should reflect the **Terms of Reference** for the scholarship

The **Terms of Reference** for the High School Graduates' Scholarship Awards should include the following:

- Has excelled within their academic studies
- Has graduated and has been accepted or is currently attending a post secondary program/institution
- Has exemplified aspects of human development (i.e. spiritual, physical, mental and/or emotional)
- Has volunteered and demonstrated commitment to community involvement
- Has First Nations status
- Has attended a First Nations band-controlled school for a portion of his/her schooling

Please contact the MFNERC High School Graduates' Scholarship Awards Committee for more information at the MFNERC Winnipeg Office 1-877-247-7020 or (204) 940-7020 and ask for the Chairperson or a member of the HSGSA committee.

THE MANITOBA FIRST NATIONS
EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTRE INC.
PRESENTS THE

FIRST NATIONS LANGUAGE TEACHERS SYMPOSIUM PHASE IV

November 18 – 21, 2008
Victoria Inn Hotel & Convention Centre
1808 Wellington Avenue, Winnipeg, MB
FOR HOTEL ROOM RESERVATION PHONE (204) 786-4801
PLEASE USE GROUP # 264385 TO RECEIVE CONFERENCE RATE.

Phase IV will focus on:
**Curriculum Planning - Creating the Design:
"The Blue Print"**

REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR PHASE IV:

NAME: _____

TITLE/POSITION: _____

SCHOOL: _____

GRADE LEVEL: _____

COMMUNITY: _____

PHONE (WORK): _____

FAX: _____

For more information please contact:
General Information:
Ruth Norton
First Nations Language Specialist
Registration:
Steve McCorrister
Curriculum Development Assistant
MFNERC INC.
1151 Sherwin Road
Winnipeg, MB R2H 0V1
Phone: (204) 940-7020
Toll Free: 1-877-247-7020
Fax: (204) 942-2490

Please fax registrations to
Steve McCorrister at
(204) 942-2490.

**ATTENTION ALL
FIRST NATIONS
LANGUAGE
TEACHERS**

Phase IV will continue work on developing a working "First Nations Language Curriculum" for all grade levels, Kindergarten to Grade 12.

Please check each that applies:

Attended Phase I
(November 21, 22, 23, 2007)

Attended Phase II
(February 20, 21, 22, 2008)

Attended Phase III
(August 5, 6, 7, 8, 2008)

First Time Attending

Please Note:
There is no Registration Fee, however, registration is required. Registrants are responsible for their own travel arrangements and accommodations.

CONTACT US:

Head Office
Portage La Prairie, Manitoba
R1N 3B5
Long Plain First Nation
5000 Crescent Road West
Toll Free: 1(866) 331-9561
Fax: 1(204) 857-4576

MFNERC WINNIPEG Sub-Office
1151 Sherwin Road
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3H 0V1
Phone: (204) 940-7020
Toll Free: 877-247-7020
Fax: (204) 942-2490

MFNERC THOMPSON Sub-Office
202-79 Selkirk Avenue
Thompson, Manitoba
R8N 0M7
Phone: (204) 677-0930
Toll Free: 877-879-0930
Fax: (204) 677-0938

