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WGC Newsletter. Each month we try to gather and publish the latest, most current and relevant native news events and top stories for our membership. A well informed and updated clientele is better able to see, relate with, analyze and grasp their situation more effectively when they have the tools to work with. It is our objective to provide as wide a scope as possible for our readership to study their situations. This format of providing news and the disseminating the right information is our top priority. Web access Not only our local readership is serviced with this format of news production, but the audience that surfs the net can benefit as well. A talented and seemingly tireless worker, Sharon Green, from Ontario helps us to reach our audience and readers around the world by putting our monthly newsletter on her web site. To view her site go to Gathering Place First Nations and search in there, go to Nations to find our newsletter, Wulustuk Grand Council News. Contact. You can reach us by snail mail at P.O. Box 3226, Perth-Andover, NB. Canada E7H 5K3, or at our US site at P.O. Box 603, Fort Fairfield, ME 04742. By telephone we're at 506-273-6737 in NB, Canada, and via Internet.

### **3 BREAK-INS AT TOBIQUE ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE REMAIN UNSOLVED**

p.paul Tobique FN - Over the past summer months a total of three break-ins occurred at the Tobique Entertainment Centre in which an indeterminate sum of money and several pieces of vital electronic devices and equipment went missing. Besides taking surveillance gear and other equipment with them, the intruders broke into all cash boxes of the 80 or more slot machines lined up on the floor and scooped up the modest sum of 'ready cash' kept in each machine. The small sum of money left in the machines every night allows the equipment to stand in 'ready for use' status for the following day's operation. In all three cases, RCMP was called in to investigate each incident and according to the latest information gathered, neither the missing funds nor the stolen equipment has been located so far. The investigations are ongoing at this date and are expected to continue until definite details and results are determined. The Tobique Entertainment Centre operates daily from noon to 1 a.m. and is staffed by around 20-22 persons in all who are employed both, from the reserve community and also a few from the several neighbouring areas. Update interviews held with staff and management concerning the three incidents claimed that the Entertainment Centre was closed for about three operational days in all due to the break-ins. These three unfortunate events represent the first reported cases of criminal activity and vandalism suffered by the Centre during its ten or more years of operation. More details will be reported on this story as information becomes available.

**FOREST WATCH TO MAKE LAST JOURNEY THIS YEAR ON SEPT. 13** Due to unavoidable circumstances, the forest trek in August had to be canceled. Instead, the Tobique Forest Watch will take its last journey of the year to the northern woodlands on September 13. For more information call pat paul at 506-273-6737, Tobique The Watch based on Tobique First Nation, has been keeping a close eye on things such as clearcutting operations and the resulting damage done by the industry to the forest floor and environment in general. Also

kept in view are the state and quality of wildlife and natural watersheds affected in the forested areas.

### SEPTEMBER VOTE COULD BE A MAJOR HURDLE FOR LORD GOVERNMENT

p.paul The campaign to close, downsize or eliminate rural community hospitals, province-wide, has run amuck throughout Bernard Lord's term of office and the attack continues to this day. Recent soundings from the upper circles indicate that the next election in New Brunswick could happen in late September which would kick off a hectic campaign blitz for would-be MLA's. Since the last election in 2003, the legislature has operated with a slim one-seat majority over the opposition and the narrow gap has cramped, both, the leadership style and everyday workings of government. The upcoming vote could very well solve this problem for good. . The election will also give the public the opportunity to either endorse or reject the government's unpopular plan to revamp the provincial health care system from top to bottom. Presently, the government is closing specific medical units and constructing regional hospitals in their stead. Up to this time the people of New Brunswick have enjoyed an easy access to health care in both rural and urban communities without having to travel great distances. This could change. The new proposal advanced by the Lord government three years ago recommended that most rural facilities be downsized or closed completely and be replaced by super regional facilities built at strategic locations across the province to serve universally. This plan has met with strong opposition from the rural public who demonstrated province-wide in rallies and protests. The announcement of cuts and closures of health services not only shocked and angered most rural residents but has made a permanent dent in the government's rigid armor that will be felt and dealt with in future elections. Although the building of the new regional hospitals has begun already, a steady flow of ire, discord and rejection keeps rising in rural communities throughout the province, as a result. When completed in 2007, the new facilities will require rural users to travel great distances to receive health services that formerly were accessed locally and required minimal travel. A quick glance at one particular impacted area, Plaster Rock, for instance, where a smaller general hospital used to serve the community of 2000, has now been downgraded to an emergency health unit complimented by a few emergency beds only. It is staffed with a skeletal personnel and operates only during daytime hours. Plaster Rock's load of more severe cases are sent 25 miles downstream to facility in Perth-Andover, which too, has been given notice of oncoming downsized formatting. Although the Perth-Andover hospital still operates at relatively full capacity, it has been relegated to gradually move to a reduced mode and be prepare to become another emergency unit as well. Perth-Andover hospital serves roughly 12,000-14,000 in its catchment area and is centrally located between county lines and the US border, and therefore accommodates several communities, along with the Tobique First Nation as a prominent component. Upon the government's announcement of November 2, 2003, to downsize and close certain units, Perth-Andover quickly formed a "Save the Hospital Committee". This ad hoc group represented several nearby towns and villages who worked hand-in-hand with other similarly affected communities in the province. These conjoined communities included Dalhousie, Bathurst, Mirimachi, Shediac, Caraquet, Woodstock, St. Quinten/Kedgwick, Bath, Sussex, St. Stephens, St. Andrews, Grand Manan, Minto, Chipman and McAdam, Perth-Andover, Plaster Rock, Grand Falls, etc. Collectively, they make up a formidable solidarity of the disgruntled voter. Together the communities proceeded to fight the government plan with a solid front in a coordinated effort, bringing their battles right to the doors of legislature several times, to protest directly against the government's policy of cutbacks and closures, but apparently to no avail, as Government continued to move forward with their plans unfazed. The protesters were, however, successful in one way. Together as a unit, they were able to demonstrate their disapproval and displeasure with government over the massive loss of guaranteed services. At the same time they served notice to MLA's that

they would be heard from, in one way or another. The vote in September will be THE time and place for a collective response from the voting public which will remind the government, in no uncertain terms, to heed the voice of the people before making any rash decisions or undertaking fundamental changes in health services. Up to this time the government has dictated their terms of reference to the people as they pleased. However, with the upcoming election the tables will be turned a 100% and the people will speak and be heard this time around. Through their vote they will freely express their displeasure and opposition to wholesale cuts, changes and closures of rural medical services in New Brunswick. This will be the people's turn to speak in unison and be heard effectively after years of frustration and tolerating the government's domineering control and arrogance.

**READY FOR RPC - RURAL PARTY OF CANADA?** p.paul. Time for a new party for the little guy! When a person is overlooked, ignored and gets left out of the picture everywhere, they can turn 'cold' against everything that has made them into a non-person. Their bitterness can actually turn them off the whole political system itself. As a result, 'these turned-off' individuals can get so pissed off that they sometimes would prefer to opt out of politics altogether because they are unable to reach or relate with any party, and/or vice versa. Or out of sheer desperation, they may turn to joining fringe parties or even starting a party of their own. To put it bluntly, many have come to this point already. When they meet these crossroads, people don't know where to turn or what to do to get their voices heard and interests represented. They feel they have become a nobody or possibly invisible in the world of politics leaving them without an outlet or representation. This would be the precise time when they would look for options or turn to alternatives like forming the Rural Party of Canada. A statement of one businessman, Wally Mullin, said it all when he was interviewed recently in Plaster Rock, New Brunswick. "There is no place, nowhere, no party in Canada today to represent a small businessman like myself" he said, "in order to get decent treatment and fair representation. It gets pretty grim and frustrating," he said. "As far as I'm concerned everything goes to the big guys in big cities and nothing but crap comes to rural communities. Frankly, I'm sick of it," he said. "We, in small communities don't stand a chance for anything. We are treated like we're from some third world country when the great things and other resources promised in political campaigns are released. In fact, we are totally by-passed and denied everything. So why even bother to vote, he said. "It's pretty plain that all elections in New Brunswick are generally between Liberals and PC's. who are like two peas in a pod. They think alike, and act alike, when it comes to dealing with constituents. And the other party, the NDP, can hardly be counted on because they always end up tailing in the polls. Over the years, NDP has never been elected to leadership, therefore would have limited experience if it ever should lead a government. So what choice does a voter have? - ziltch!" "Most people vote for a purpose, for some reason," he said, "either for something personal or for some larger issue like health, economy, environment or other things. Oftentimes they vote an MLA into office hoping to get his political backing or support for their line of work or business. That is fair. But the fact is, there is always a reason" "However, when nothing comes your way after you vote and your dreams are pretty well shattered, then thoughts turn to changing votes or changing governments, You've got to find a way out." "What choice does a person have when a government fails you and is unable or unwilling to meet your hopes, goals and expectations? ""You have no choice but to go somewhere else or to someone who is ready to step up to the plate and make things happen." "Economic hardship mixed in with political and social turmoil, plus alienation can be a very potent concoction in a tormented society. Rural folks can bear witness to this fact. The elements mentioned above can stir very strong emotions and reactions in people. That, plus losing hope and losing political will and identity can quickly produce crisis in people's lives and in their communities. Quite often, people caught up in these situations are most vulnerable and weakened. Thus, they can easily

be by-passed when the country's good fortunes and resources are being handed around. It hurts when you're on the outside and fixed into the 'have not' category," he said, "all because you live in a rural community." "Scenario: If one day, rural people across Canada proceeded to organize themselves politically and formed a party of their own, possibly called the Rural Party of Canada, they would be one helluva force to be reckoned with when or if they decided to do something specific. Nothing in a democratic society would be able to halt their progress because of the sheer numbers and legitimacy they would command..Remember in a democratic society such as ours, it takes 50-plus-one to turn the tide" "Proceeding under the banner, Rural Party of Canada,, they would be in a legal position to easily outnumber, outvote and/or outrank any urban population in Canada. And without a doubt, they would be able to put their own people into 'power positions' in provincial legislatures as well in Parliament to represent, support and fight for their causes and interests" - an absolute win-win situation. "This may sound a bit lofty to the average person, but, not to forget, it may also be the one and only chance for rural people to overcome their manufactured isolation and marginal representation in politics." "Outside of that," he said, "it could take another millennium before a chance comes around to advance our cause. Are we ready for the challenge?"

**AVOID BORDER-CROSSING PITFALLS THIS SUMMER** Donalee Moulton, CanWest News. Canadians often head south of the border to wile away their vacations, but, before wiling away comes crossing the border. To make that experience as smooth as possible, it is essential to travel prepared. The first thing drivers need is plenty of staying power, says Jacqueline Whiting, spokeswoman for the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA). "Travellers... need to be patient this time of year, as summer holidays and long weekends usually mean longer lines at the border." Crossing the Canada-U.S. border can be a hassle, but being prepared makes it easier.Both the CBSA and the U.S. Customs and Border Protection post current wait times on their Web sites. It is best to avoid peak travel periods, usually mornings, early evenings and statutory holidays. Getting into the United States requires documentation. Agents on both sides of the divide have often accepted drivers' licences and other photo ID as proof of identification. That is about to change. The U.S. government has announced that passports will be required to enter the country. Effective at the end of this year, all air passengers will have to show a passport to gain entrance. By the end of the following year, all visitors to the U.S., including those driving through the border, will have to show their passports. The new regulation is part of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act. Customs officials on both sides of the border can search a vehicle at their discretion. The Go Northwest tourism association says border officials are on the lookout for stolen cars or people trying to avoid paying duties on cars they have just purchased. Documentation of car ownership and purchase date is critical. Rental cars and cars registered to someone not on the trip can be tricky. In the former case, a signed copy of the rental agreement is usually all that is needed to get into the U.S. In the latter case, a letter from the registered owner noting that the driver has permission to take the car across the border is needed. When Canadians return home via the U.S. border, customs officials want to know what is being brought across the border. The federal government has limits on how much money Canadians can spend in the U.S. without having to pay duty and tax, and also on how much liquor and tobacco can be brought back. Canadians must stay out of the country for at least 48 hours before they can bring either across the border. Once the time limit is met, 200 cigarettes, 24 cans or bottles of beer or 1.5 litres of wine can be carried across the border duty free. In terms of cash, Canadians can spend \$50 duty free if they are away for 24 hours or less, \$200 if gone at least 48 hours and \$750 if away for seven days. "It is best to keep all receipts handy, declare everything and, when in doubt, talk to border officers," says Whiting. Receipts easily prove where and when purchases were made and the price. Where it can get dicey is with valuable items that travellers may have brought with them but that could have

been purchased in the U.S., for example, jewellery. The CBSA recommends that Canadians traveling to the U.S. take as little jewellery as possible or bring some proof that item was purchased before the trip. This could be an appraisal, a certification statement or a dated photograph."

**NEW RELATIONSHIP" WITH FIRST NATIONS** By Cheryl Wierda. Abbotsford News Aug 17 2006 Abbotsford-Mt. Lehman MLA Mike de Jong is looking forward to being part of a ""historic time"" in B.C.'s history as he takes on a new challenge as the newly minted Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation. De Jong, formerly the labour minister, was moved to the post by Premier Gordon Campbell during a cabinet shuffle on Tuesday. ""I cannot think of a better time, a more exciting time to become involved in forging a new relationship with B.C.'s First Nations,"" de Jong said Tuesday afternoon. Advancing the treaty process with aboriginals is a ""key priority"" for the provincial government, and de Jong notes the talks have come a great distance. Saying they are on the ""cusp"" of reaching settlements, de Jong said he is looking forward to being part of the ""historic time"" when that goal is accomplished. While in opposition, de Jong served as the aboriginal affairs critic and during his time as forestry minister he helped reach some 60 forest and range agreements with First Nations groups. The shuffling of de Jong, who remains as government house leader, was one of five changes made to the cabinet on Tuesday.

**TASTE OF OWN MEDICINE** Chief Terrence Nelson, Roseau River FN, Man. SHRILL, ugly and lawless," says the Winnipeg Free Press editorial (Aug. 9), describing the situation in Caledonia, where the Mohawks now occupy the land. As the chief of Roseau River, I say, "How does it feel, White Man, to have people who come to what you consider your property, set up their own system, refuse to go home, refuse to recognize your laws and then when you ask them to leave, they tell you that you no longer own the land?" I say, bravo to the Mohawks, it is about time the white man got a taste of his own medicine. Speaking of lawlessness, Delgamuukw, Haida, Marshall, Taku River, and many other Supreme Court decisions sided with the indigenous people, yet Canada ignores the very law you say must be upheld in Caledonia. So, is the law you speak of only good for the white guys, not for the Indians? Why did it only take 100 days for the white business people to get \$12 million of compensation from Canada and yet the Indians are still waiting 200 years later? You ask that First Nations be patient, to accept a process that National Chief Phil Fontaine stated averages 27 years to settle a land claim. For example, when CN Rail expropriated land belonging to the Birdtail Sioux reservation in 1905 for about \$80 (without the consent of the real owners) the order-in-council removing the land from reserve status took only three days to complete. Our Treaty Land Entitlement purchases have not been converted, despite the fact that we have had a legally binding agreement with Canada since 1996. Our lands in 1903 that were similarly taken without our consent were converted to non-reservation status in 26 days with an order-in-council. So, when it benefits the white man, the law works fine. In Delgamuukw, the Supreme Court of Canada recognized aboriginal title, but it also ruled that the original owners have no access to Canadian courts to apply for injunctive relief. So, the white man has protection against the law but not the Indian. The law you speak of, the injunctive relief, is only available to the whites, not the Indians. Yeah, the law is great when it is on your side, White Man. Each of the provinces ensured that they have the notwithstanding clause, so they can ignore the law whenever it is not in their favour. Former Ontario premier David Peterson called Justice David Marshall's decision "bizarre." It is a bizarre decision, because Superior Court Justice David Marshall would never be allowed to decide injunctive relief for the Indians. Did you see Marshall calling the police and government officials criminals for ignoring the law, did you see him asking to jail government officials? Of course not. Perhaps, the Indians would have a little less contempt for the law if it really was equal and available to

everyone, not just the white guys. I strongly support the Mohawks of Six Nations in their application of the indigenous notwithstanding clause to ignore this bizarre white man's decision. In case you don't realize the consequences yet of seeing Mohawks on TV with bloodied faces, being beaten by OPP, I'll state this for you again. Hundreds and hundreds of billions of dollars in resource wealth are travelling on thousands and thousands of kilometres of railway lines in this country. You whites did not bring these resources to our lands in your little boats; you left your God-given resources in Europe. If you didn't hear the anger at the Treaty 1-11 conference, where aboriginals met to discuss the original intent of Canada's numbered treaties, you don't realize the consequences of bloodying the faces of Mohawks. Right now, the government is negotiating without the economic consequences of railway blockades. Don't underestimate the consequences of killing unarmed Mohawks. Terrance Nelson is chief of Roseau River First Nation, Manitoba

### **WULUSTUKIEG (Maliseet) PHRASES,- SEASONAL CHANGES p.paul.**

Summer days are gone-Maachi nib ne gis ked ee ka Days are getting cooler-Mudge ah t'ka gis ka deek ka The sun is setting earlier-Kisos mudge ah meosi keeah The leaves are turning color-Gis mudge ah bil wogee ta dol nibiel Soon the cooler winds will blow-Neg zie eow datch ma cha t'kel lum sen eeka Then birds will leave-Unedge zipsiseg mudge ed we ah tin yaah And the leaves will fall-Naga nibiel edge ben ah g'we ah Then autumn weather arrives -Om datch da go ug wa gis ka deek ah Thereafter snow will start falling-El me ug datch, mudge ep p'sun And rivers start freezing-Nega zibool edge mudge aa gul den Finally, it will be deep winter-Um datch, wis kee poon

### **THE NATIVE AMERICAN HOLOCAUST**

NOTE: (This item originally appeared in our July 2003 edition, and by special request it is being reprinted in the current edition with the permission of the author, Dan Ennis). I recently completed a summer course at the University of Maine Presque Isle entitled "The Native American Holocaust 1492 - Present". The course was taught by Dr. Matthew Johnson, professor of Sociology. This was one of the most rewarding educational experiences that I have ever received in my years of attending Euro-American schools. For this experience a heartfelt thank-you must go to Matt Johnson. His teaching style reminded me of the gentle teaching ways of our Medicine Elders. His style conveyed to his students that he cared, he was aware, he knew the subject matter and that he was taking on the responsibility as opposed to taking on guilt for the Native American Holocaust. My gratitude and appreciation goes to the authors of the prescribed, excellent text books for having the heart and spirit to research and publish their books. I would also like to thank the students for their heart and spirit for taking part in a such a difficult and gut-wrenching course. All have renewed my faith in humankind and in a future for the Seventh Generation. This course did many things for me as an Indian. It confirmed that all of the estimated population and annihilation figures put out by schools over the years have been too low. It is now generally agreed that the actual population of the Americas prior to the arrival of the Europeans was in the range of 90-120,000,000 persons and that the annihilation rate among native societies routinely reached and exceeded 95%. All is not lost however. Again, due to my having taken this course, I know that people (both Indian and non-Indian) do care about the fate of those 100 million Indians that were annihilated in the name of Indian land, Indian gold and European greed. While it is still very painful and anger-provoking to know that our people died in such horrific numbers and with such contempt and callousness, it is good to know that people, especially academics, are now interested enough to conduct the required research so as to produce text books that speak the truth to the Native American Holocaust. With similar such courses at other schools, colleges and universities a very important first step will have been taken in the process of recognition, acknowledgment, acceptance and responsibility for the Native American Holocaust. Our two

peoples may yet meet on that common ground of mutual respect, understanding and acceptance where our people have been waiting for the past 500 years.  
All My Relations, Dan Ennis June 30, 03.