

DECEMBER 2020

"Serving Aboriginal people in the City of Kenora for over 44 years"

# The Red Eagle

*Nechee Friendship Centre Newsletter*

Little Spirit Moon  
MANIDOO-GIIZISOONS

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## Vision Statement

To improve the quality of life for Aboriginal People living in an urban environment by supporting self-determined activities which encourage equal access to and participation in Canadian Society and which respects Aboriginal cultural distinctiveness.



# Ne-Chee Friendship Centre

## Honours our Street Patrol Program

The Ne-Chee Friendship Centre's Street Patrol program was one of the very first Friendship Centre programs. It started as a pilot project over the winters of 1975-1976 and 1976-1977 because of concerns over the high rate of deaths among the Native population due to freezing or drowning from alcohol consumption.

In 1978 the pilot program was such a success it was extended to a full year and became a full-time program which was funded by the Ministry of Community and Social Services until 2013 when it was downloaded to the Kenora District Services Board. In 1984 a plaque was awarded to the Street Patrol Program and it was the only local community group to receive this from the Solicitor General's Crime Prevention. Once again in 1989 they were awarded again by the Ontario Solicitor-General.

Ne-Chee Friendship Centre operated the Street Patrol Program from its inception until 2019 which ran 365 days a year from 5:00 pm to 7:00 am typically. When Ne-Chee took over the operation of the Kenora Emergency Shelter July 1, 2016, funding that was provided by KDSB for both the Emergency Shelter and Street Patrol was combined and due to the Kenora Emergency Shelter requiring most of the budget we had no choice but to decrease the hours of Street Patrol. This resulted in Street Patrol only being able to operate from 6:00 to 10:00 pm which we knew could have detrimental effects for those on the street. We had hoped to acquire additional funding to get the program at least back to the hours it was originally and to make it more comprehensive than it had been, but unfortunately this did not

come to be.

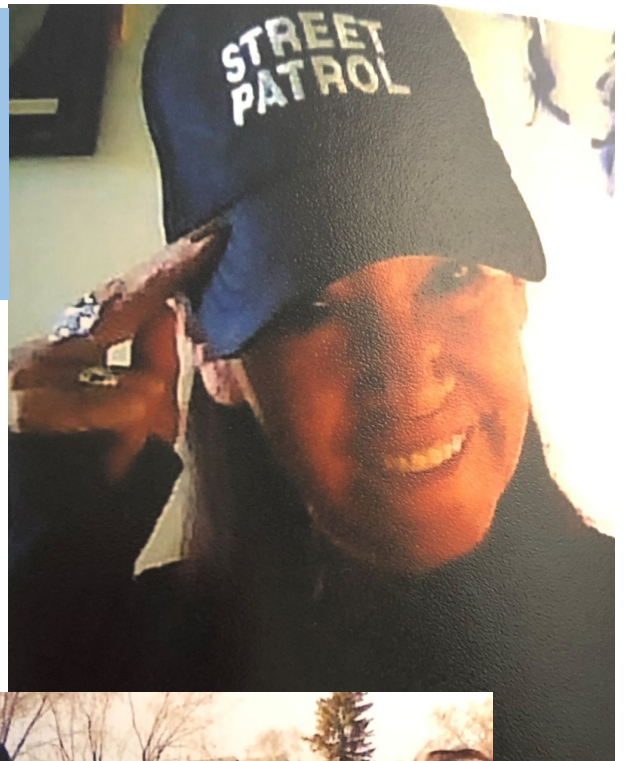
In January of 2019 our funding was cut for the Street Patrol Program as the funding we did receive needed to be allocated completely to the operation of the Kenora Emergency Shelter. Ne-Chee was asked to be a part of the Advisory Committee for the newly formed Kenora Makwa Patrol (formerly Bear Clan) in Kenora which is greatly needed in our community for our most vulnerable population. We have provided support to them by purchasing office supplies, providing on-call crisis-line staff and hygiene products for patrollers to distribute.

We feel it is important to recognize those that worked as Ne-Chee's Street Patrollers for many years, who walked the streets of Kenora in diverse weather conditions to ensure the safety of our Street people.

Some of the Street Patrollers have passed on: David Chicago, Ron Cobiness, Marie Morrison and we honour their memories. We also acknowledge Jim Chicago, Cathy Jack, Lisa Savoyard, Vivian Landon, James Jack, Sam Kent, David Beaulieu, Gary Copenace, Melissa Kent, Rosemarie Jack, Alice Chisel, Barney Petiquan, Cathy Lindsay, Percy Cameron, Parnell Jack, Hilary Scott, Dalaney Smith, and the many others that worked for our Street Patrol program over the 40+ years that we had this very important and vital program.

We say miigwetch to all of you for your contribution and dedication to the safety of our most vulnerable population.

# Spotlight on Street Patrol





# Things to Remember



## OFFICE CLOSURE

We will be closed from December 18th, 2020 at 12:00pm to January 4th, 2021. We will be operating with a skeleton crew taking calls ONLY. Sorry for any inconvenience. There will be no FOOD HAMPERS during this time.

We'd like to wish everyone Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!

### Indigenous Healing & Wellness

December is a time of healing, with the twelfth moon of creation, the Little Spirit Moon or Manidoo-Giizisoons (*Min-ah-do Gee-soonhs*). It is a special time to share positive thoughts and energy with our friends and family, especially during these unprecedented times. It is important to practice self-care, as we cannot give from an empty bank. Please check out our Indigenous Healing and Wellness Facebook page or the NFC website to participate in self-care bingo. All are welcome to participate.

Chi Miigwetch

Emily O'Connor, BA

Indigenous Healing & Wellness Coordinator



For **COVID-19** updates please check our Facebook page-COVID-19 Ne-Chee Friendship Centre OR our Website for information on what the NFC is doing to help in the struggles with the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Keep posted to our Facebook page as we post Employment Opportunities, Updates to upcoming events, office closures, etc. You can find us by typing in Ne-Chee Friendship Centre in the search and we should pop up.

If you would like to **ADVERTISE** in our Newsletter please feel free to contact us with your advertisement details.

# Akwe:go

Akwe:go Children's Program were busy this month painting hundreds of Christmas tree ornaments. Sheri McNeill, the programs coordinator, will deliver the ornaments to Pinecrest Home for the Aged, and Birchwood Terrace in hopes of bringing a smile to the residents who are in long term care.







## Indigenous Children's Wellness

With all the changes that have occurred as result of the pandemic, now more than ever it's important that we do what we can to care for our mental health.

Many kids have struggled with the isolation in the last several months, missing their activities such as hockey, and missing their friends at school. The Christmas holidays might also look very different this year.

It's important to teach children about the importance of self-care.

For the month of December, the Indigenous Children's Wellness program is hosting "December Self-Care Bingo".

Kids can simply cross off the activities they have completed - and write the date completed inside the circle.

Once they have completed a line in any direction, they can take a screen shot and email it to [icw@nechee.org](mailto:icw@nechee.org), along with their name and contact info.

All entries will be entered into a draw for a prize! The prize will be a wellness kit with a value of over \$200!

This contest is open to the public to anyone under the age of 18!

\* if you are unable to print the attached bingo cards - email [icw@nechee.org](mailto:icw@nechee.org) and they can be delivered to your home!

Deadline for submissions is December 18, 2020.

\*\*\*See next page for Bingo card\*\*\*

# Indigenous Children's Wellness

## December Self-Care Bingo for kids



CROSS OFF WHAT YOU HAVE DONE AND WRITE DOWN THE DATE IN THE CIRCLE. ONCE YOU HAVE A LINE (ANY DIRECTION) TAKE A PHOTO OF YOUR BINGO CARD AND EMAIL TO [ICW@NECHEE.ORG](mailto:ICW@NECHEE.ORG) FOR THE CHANCE TO WIN AN AWESOME PRIZE!

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS DECEMBER 16TH.

Played with my  
pet

Wrote in a  
journal

Smudged

Unplugged and  
read a book

Listened to  
music

Went for a walk  
outside

Exercised

Did a drawing,  
painting or craft

Had a face time  
call with friends  
or family  
members

INDIGENOUS CHILDREN'S WELLNESS



# Ne-Chee Staff & Board



## COURT WORKERS

Amy Kristalovich	Criminal Courtworker	criminalcourtwork2@nechee.org
Marvin Tom	Criminal Courtworker	criminalcourtwork@nechee.org
Sherman Kabestra	Family Courtworker	familycourtwork@nechee.org

## JAIL WORKERS

VACANT	Native Inmate Liaison Officer	Kenora2-Nilo@ontario.ca
Jasmine Scheurmann	Native Inmate Liaison Officer	Kenora-Nilo@ontario.ca
Jasmine Scheurmann	Drug, Education And Living Worker	Kenora.DEAL@ontario.ca

## JUSTICE PROGRAMS

Kristine Everett	BVSP Supervisor	bvsp@nechee.org
Breena Kokopenace	Bail Coordinator/Discharge Planning	bailcoordinator@nechee.org
Curran McLeod	Bail Supervision Case Manager	bailcasemanager@nechee.org
Elizabeth Wilson	Bail Verification and Supervision	bvsp2@nechee.org
Erin Beach	Indigenous Community Justice	communityjustice@nechee.org
Michael King	Kizhaay Anishinaabe Niin	kizhaay@nechee.org
Erin Beach (Temp)	Restorative Justice Liaison	RJLiaison@nechee.org

## CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Kristin Ross	Wasa-Nabin Program	wasanabin@nechee.org
David Friesen	Youth Life Promotion Program	youthlife@nechee.org
Sheri McNeill	Akwe:go Children's Program	akwego2@nechee.org
Sunny Copenace	Family Support Coordinator	familysupport@nechee.org
Savannah Morrison	Family Support Assistant	familysupport2@nechee.org
Ashlynn Surovy	Indigenous Healthy Babies Program	healthybabies@nechee.org
VACANT	Early ON Coordinator	earlyon@nechee.org
Lauren Hanson	Early On/Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls	earlyonsn@gmail.com
Amber Vanasse	Indigenous Children's Wellness Program	icw@nechee.org

## HEALTH PROGRAMS

Crystal Page	Lifelong Care Program	lifelongcare@nechee.org
Kandida Morrison (On leave)	Lifelong Care Program	lifelongcare2@nechee.org
Emily O'Connor	Healing & Wellness Coordinator	healingandwellness@nechee.org
Alan Sayers	Cultural Resource Coordinator	culture@nechee.org
Calisha Wilcott	Urban Aboriginal Healthy Living	uahl@nechee.org

## EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION

Amanda Bennett	Apatisiwin Employment Counsellor	employmentcounsellor@nechee.org
Melissa Normand	Apatisiwin Youth Employment	youthemployment@nechee.org
Becky Gartner	Alternative Secondary School Counsellor	education@nechee.org

## BAIL RESIDENCY

Steve Carnegie	Bail Residency Supervisor	brp@nechee.org
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## RANDOM FUN FACTS:

Did you know long before the advent of the Christmas Tree early civilizations would decorate their homes with boughs of evergreen. Some cultures believed the foliage would ward off evil spirits, while other cultures used the boughs to celebrate the solstice and ever lasting life.



## ADMINISTRATION

### Patti Fairfield

Executive Director  
aces@nechee.org

### Dalaney Smith

Executive Assistant  
executiveassistant@nechee.org

### Aurea Dufresne-Fedus

Finance  
finance@nechee.org

### Janet Shodin

Administrative Assistant  
reception@nechee.org

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ashlee Tom	President
Marlene Elder	Vice President
Terence Douglas	Treasurer/Secretary
Vanessa Baxter	Board Member
Keith Singleton	Board Member
Colin Wasacase	Board Member
Email:	bod@nechee.org