



"Happy Holidays from all the SCO Staff"



# South Wind

The official newspaper of the Manitoba Southern Chiefs' Organization, Inc."

Message from

**Southern Grand Chief Chris Henderson**

**B**ooshoo, Tansi, Hoko Da, Greetings! Elders, Chiefs, and Community members. This year as the Southern Grand Chief of Manitoba, I humble myself and state that I have learned a lot and am grateful and honored to be elected in such an important role for our people.

I have travelled many roads and met many new faces and witnessed milestones achieved. Upon reflection, I feel confident that in the year 2005, we can continue to make great strides in our objectives.

We have a lot of work and places to go to fulfill our mandate and objectives. The Southern Chiefs' Organization staff deserve my gratitude for their continued support, we have come along way in a few months. When you are needing questions answered about SCO look out for our new updated website [www.scoinc.mb.ca](http://www.scoinc.mb.ca) launching in January 2005.

With that, have a safe and happy holiday and I look forward to visiting and meeting you all in the new year.

Until then take care... *Miigwech!* 

## First Nations Christmas Hampers



Grand Chief Chris Henderson showing support to the First Nation Charity Ball Christmas Hamper efforts. This year the organizers provided hampers to over 23 families in northern and southern Manitoba.

*Miigwech! Ekosi!*

Write and tell us how we are doing with *SouthWind*.  
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**Next Issue:** Year in Review -  
Interview with Grand Chief Henderson

## Framework Agreement Initiative (FAI) Education Table Lead

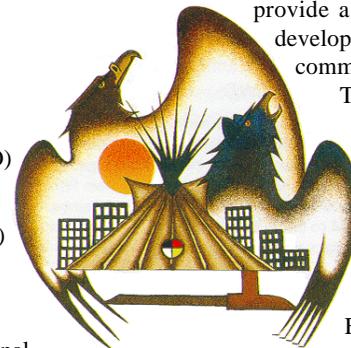
**G**reetings to all of our readers from the SCO/FAI Education Table during this holiday season. I take this opportunity to introduce the members of the education table, to provide you with a brief overview of the FAI Education Agreement-In-Principle, the objectives of the FAI (Bluebook 1994), and the next steps in this process.

The FAI Education Table is comprised of the following members representing all parties involved in this process:

- **Rod Young**, (Elder)
- **Chrissy Courchene**, Youth Representative (AMC)
- **Alan Letandre**, (IRTC Education)
- **Robert Bunn**, Director Education Table Lead (SCO)
- **Myrna Bushie**, Education Policy Analyst (SCO)
- **Sherri Daniels**, Education Admin. Assistant (SCO)
- **Joe Guy Wood**, FAI Education Director (MKIO)
- MKIO Education Analyst/Policy (Vacant)
- **Shirley Fontaine**, Manager of Education Institutional Development (AMC)
- Canada Representatives
- Province of Manitoba Representatives

The main objective of the FAI education process is to provide First Nations communities of Manitoba with an agreement on education that will enable them to improve the quality and cultural relevancy of their education systems for their children. It is anticipated that this will increase First Nations student's chances for success in their academic and personal lives. Another objective is to improve the success rate of First Nations students in post-secondary, vocational and adult education and training programs for First Nations citizens.

Two of the objectives of the Framework Agreement Initiative signed in 1994 are to "Develop and recognize First Nations Governments in Manitoba legally empowered to exercise the authorities required to meet the needs of the peoples of the First Nations; and Restore to First Nations Governments the jurisdictions (including those of the other federal departments); consistent with the inherent right of self government..."



The Education Agreement-in-Principle will provide a greater amount of control and development for Manitoba First Nations communities in the area of education.

The Education Agreement-in-Principle can thus be seen as a starting point to achieving these objectives.

The next step in this process is to take the Education Agreement-in-Principle to all First Nations communities for community consultation. It will be up to First Nations community members as to whether they chose to accept the Agreement, recommend changes, or to reject the Agreement. All feedback and input will be considered for inclusion in a Final Education Agreement. Any Final Education Agreement will have to be approved and endorsed by the First Nations Chiefs of Manitoba.

I remind our readers this is a very brief summation of the FAI Education Agreement-in-Principle. Should you desire more detailed information, please contact the SCO/FAI Education Director at the SCO sub-office in Winnipeg.

Have a *Merry Christmas*, a joyful and safe holiday and remember a blessing for those less fortunate; there are many.

*Robert Bunn, SCO Director of Education FAI*

## SCO Congratulates Sagkeeng "Mino Pimatiziwin" Family Treatment Centre

**O**n December 13, 2004 marked a new beginning and healing journey for the community members of Sagkeeng First Nation. The official grand opening of the Sagkeeng Mino Pimatiziwin Family Treatment Centre was held. The renovated centre is a comfortable 10-bed facility complete with living quarters for families who are in need of help with their addictions.



*l-r: A/Chief Sagkeeng First Nation Joe Daniels, FNIHB ADM Ian Potter, Chair, Board of Directors Chief Austin Bear, former Chief, Sagkeeng First Nation Gary Swampy, Southern Grand Chief Chris Henderson, and staff member Paul Daniels conduct the official ribbon cutting ceremony.*

**"living a good life"**