



Message from
Southern Grand Chief
Chris Henderson



l-r: Southern Grand Chief Henderson, First Nations Veteran Tom Eagle, and Chief Morris Shannacappo, Rolling River First Nation attend the Assembly of First Nations AGA in the 'midnight sun' Yellowknife, NWT held recently on July 5-7th, 2005.

Booshoo! Washte! Tansi! Greetings to our Southern Chiefs, Elders, Veterans, Youth and First Nations citizens.

First of all, I would like to acknowledge the following nominees for the upcoming Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Grand Chief election being held on July 27, 2005. Nominees are: Mr. Pascall Bighetty, Chief of the Mathias Columb First Nation; Mr. Lorne Cochrane, member of the Fisher River Cree Nation; Mr. Ron Evans, Chief of the Norway House Cree Nation; Mr. Larry Soldier, member of the Swan Lake First Nation; and Mr. Bill Traverse, member of the Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation. Good luck to all.

Secondly, I congratulate Chief Dennis Meeches and Council of the Long Plain First Nation for hosting the successful Indian Residential School Benefit Concert performed by Marty Stuart! It was a great evening filled with classic songs and good times.

And lastly, I recently attended the Swan Lake First Nations' Pow Wow. Meegwetch to Chief Robert Daniels and the Pow Wow Committee for a successful event. Until next time take care and stay cool. Meegwetch!



South Wind

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

OVERVIEW SOUTHERN FIRST NATIONS AGRICULTURE FORUM

On July 14, 2005, on the Waywayseecappo First Nation approximately 55 participants were in attendance to discuss First Nations Agriculture issues. The day concluded with a Resolution to form a Task Group with the lead stemming from SCO Special Projects.



This Task Group consists of Chief Morris Shannacappo, Rolling River First Nation; Chief Ralph Beaulieu, Ebb & Flow First Nation; Chief Murray Clearsky, Waywayseecappo First Nation; and producers Louis Malcolm, Joe Abraham and Joe Missyabit. This

group will seek funding from federal programs to provide a voice to represent all First Nation Agriculture producers in lobbying and moving forward First Nation issues.



Several Southern Chiefs, Council Members and Producers were in attendance for the Southern First Nations Agriculture Forum, held on the Waywayseecappo First Nation.

Snapshots of the AFN's 26th AGA held recently in Yellowknife, NWT.



Chief Tina Leveque, Brokenhead Ojibway Nation reports on the AFN Women's Council.



Elder Lawrence Smith, Brokenhead Ojibway Nation speaks to NDP Leader Jack Layton.



Chief BillyJo DeLaRonde, Pine Creek First Nation shares a moment at the AFN AGA.



SOUTHERN CHIEFS' ORGANIZATION INC.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY CHIEF OF STAFF

This major First Nations organization has just restructured and is searching for a highly motivated individual who is excited about the opportunity to move the organization forward to achieve its ambitious goals. This newly created position reports directly to the Grand Chief and implements his political directives.

THE CANDIDATE:

The Chief of Staff will play an integral role in the transition of the organization. As the administrative and operations lead for the SCO this individual will take on a variety of challenges and opportunities and will implement the Grand Chief's political directives. The successful candidate will direct, coordinate and manage all project, operational and administrative matters including staff, budgets, administration, strategic and political advice, policies and procedures, achievement of projects and resolutions and implementation of core organization initiatives. The Chief of Staff will lead the staff to ensure seamless delivery of services in support of the achievement of SCO resolutions, the GC's mandate and the objectives of the SCO. This opportunity requires a respected leader with following requirements:

- Post secondary education, ideally at the Masters level, in Political Science or relevant discipline, or equivalent combination of education & experience;
- A minimum of 10 years of directly relevant experience at a senior staff or political level;
- Extensive and demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the SCO political, government, governance, socio-economic and community issues;
- Superb verbal and written communication skills, and the ability to interact professionally and effectively at the most senior levels of governments;
- Demonstrated leadership, administrative and project management skills;
- Ability to travel extensively for significant periods of time; and
- Belonging to a SCO Member First Nation and/or the ability to speak a Member First Nation's language is a definite asset.

A comprehensive compensation package is offered for this **Winnipeg, MB** based position. If you are qualified and attracted to the opportunity to assist the Southern Chiefs Organization Inc. achieve their goals, please provide your resume in confidence by **August 15, 2005** to Brenda LaRose, C.H.R.P., Higgins International, Inc., 15 Zachary Drive, St. Andrews, Manitoba R1A 3B8, Phone: (204) 257-9929, Fax: (204) 257-9707 or E-mail: bhiggins@higginsinc.com.



AFN National Chief Signs Historic Political Agreement to resolve the Legacy of Residential Schools



On May 30, 2005, National Chief Phil Fontaine and Deputy Prime Minister The Honourable A. Anne McLellan signed a Political Agreement regarding Indian Residential Schools.

Whereas Canada and First Nations are committed to reconciling the residential schools tragedy in a manner that respects the principles of human dignity and promotes transformative change;

Whereas Canada has developed an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) process aimed at achieving that objective;

Whereas the Assembly of First Nations prepared "The Assembly of First Nations Report on Canada's Dispute Resolution Plan to Compensate for Abuses in Indian Residential Schools" (the AFN Report) identifying the problems with the ADR process and suggesting practical and economical changes that would better achieve reconciliation with former students;

Whereas the Assembly of First Nations participated in several months of discussion with Canada, the churches and the consortium of lawyers with respect to the AFN Report, moving the process towards settlement and providing education and leadership for all the people in the residential schools legacy;

Whereas Canada and the Assembly of First Nations recognize that the current ADR process does not fully achieve reconciliation between Canada and the former students of residential schools;

Whereas Canada and the Assembly of First Nations recognize the need to develop a new approach to achieve reconciliation on the basis of the AFN Report;

Whereas Canada announced today that the first step in implementing this new approach is the appointment of the Honourable Frank Iacobucci as its representative to negotiate with plaintiffs' counsel, and work and consult with the Assembly of First Nations and counsel for the churches, in order to recommend, as soon as feasible, but no later than March 31, 2006, to the Cabinet through the Minister Responsible for Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada, a settlement package that will address a redress payment for all former students of Indian residential schools, a truth and reconciliation process, community based healing,

commemoration, an appropriate ADR process that will address serious abuse, as well as legal fees;

Whereas the Government of Canada is committed to a comprehensive approach that will bring together the interested parties and achieve a fair and just resolution of the Indian Residential Schools legacy, it also recognizes that there is a need for an apology that will provide a broader recognition of the Indian Residential Schools legacy and its effect upon First Nation communities; and

Whereas the Assembly of First Nations wishes to achieve certainty and comfort that the understandings reached in this Accord will be upheld by Canada:

The Parties agree as follows:

- 1) Canada recognizes the need to continue to involve the Assembly of First Nations in a key and central way for the purpose of achieving a lasting resolution of the IRS legacy, and commits to do so. The Government of Canada and the Assembly of First Nations firmly believe that reconciliation will only be achieved if they continue to work together;
- 2) That they are committed to achieving a just and fair resolution of the Indian Residential school legacy;
- 3) That the main element of a broad reconciliation package will be a payment to former students along the lines referred to in the AFN Report;
- 4) That the proportion of any settlement allocated for legal fees will be restricted;
- 5) That the Federal Representative will have the flexibility to explore collective and programmatic elements to a broad reconciliation package as recommended by the AFN;
- 6) That the Federal Representative will ensure that the sick and elderly receive their payment as soon as possible; and
- 7) That the Federal Representative will work and consult with the AFN to ensure the acceptability of the comprehensive resolution, to develop truth and reconciliation processes, commemoration and healing elements and to look at improvements to the Alternative Dispute Resolution process.

Signed on May 30, 2005 in the City of Ottawa, Ontario,

**FOR HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
IN RIGHT OF CANADA**

**Deputy Prime Minister
The Honourable A. Anne McLellan**

**ON BEHALF OF THE ASSEMBLY
OF FIRST NATIONS**

**National Chief Phil Fontaine
Assembly of First Nations**



Photo: The Shingwauk Project - Jane Mundy Collection



Portage Indian School, Portage la Prairie, MB - 1940's.
© Indian Residential School Museum of Canada

"With this Political Accord, Canada has recognized that the AFN must play a key and central role in the resolution of the Indian Residential School legacy."

**Assembly of First Nations
National Chief Phil Fontaine**



Visit www.afn.ca for further information regarding Indian Residential School Political Agreement.

