



South Wind

"The official newspaper of the Manitoba Southern Chiefs' Organization, Inc."
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Winnipeg city council committee rejects name-tags for police officers

On Monday January 9, 2006, the City of Winnipeg's Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services rejected the use of name tags for the Winnipeg Police Services officers.

wear name tags. Even the Royal Canadian Mounted Police force (RCMP) use name tags for their officers.

Following Grand Chief Henderson's presentation, committee members asked the Grand Chief if the current badge numbers worn by city police is a sufficient means of identification for the public. In his response, Grand Chief Henderson said no this was not sufficient, as most officers are not compelled to produce or show their badge number when asked by a member of the public.



During the rest of the committee meeting, WPS Chief Jack Ewatski convinced the committee not to support the use of name tags for his police officers. He stated that badge numbers are a sufficient means of identifying the police, and that it was a matter of balancing accountability and safety for his officers. In the end, the committee voted against Councillor Smith's motion. When asked by the media what he thought of the committee's decision, Grand Chief Henderson said he was "baffled and disappointed" with the committee's decision.

In a motion made by committee member Councillor Harvey Smith (Daniel McIntyre Ward) to support the use of name tags, other committee members voted against Councillor Smith's motion. City Councillors Jenny Gerbasi, Donald Benham and committee chairman Gord Steeves did not support the use of name tags for city police, citing personal and family safety risks for police officers.

Prior to the committee meeting, Southern Grand Chief Chris Henderson urged the committee to support the use of police officer name tags. "In support of greater community policing within Winnipeg and building the lines of communication between the WPS and the Aboriginal community, I am urging this committee to support the use of name tags for WPS officers," stated Grand Chief Henderson.

What do you think? Should Winnipeg Police officers wear name tags? Contact the members of the City of Winnipeg's Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services and let them know what you think.

In making a case for the use of name tags, Grand Chief Henderson cited other city's that already employ name tags for their police officers. Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Regina, Hamilton, and Montreal require that their officers

In Memory



Mathew Adam Joseph Dumas — 1986-2005

This January 31, 2006, will mark the one year anniversary death of the late Mathew Dumas. Last January 31, 2005, Mathew was shot and killed by a Winnipeg police officer. We will continue to offer our support to Mathew's family in their search for the truth and justice.



Congratulations



Chief Viola Eastman

Congratulations to Chief Viola Eastman on being re-elected in the community of Canapawakpa Dakota Nation.



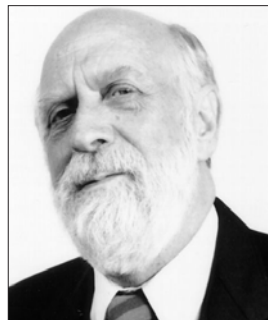
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Daniel McIntyre Ward
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Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation hosts SCO Summit



Chief Irvin McIvor, Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation speaks to the Summit.



Grand Chief Henderson presents Opening Remarks to the SCO Summit.



Rolling River First Nation, Chief Morris Shannacappo.



SCO Summit Grand Entry on Day One, January 18, 2006



Fisher River Cree Nation Elders; Mrs. Lena Murdock and Mrs. Helen Cochrane.



Grand Chief Henderson presents Chief Irvin McIvor an appreciation starquilt.



Manitoba Treaty Commissioner, Mr. Dennis White Bird

On January 18 & 19, 2006, the Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation (SBOFN) hosted the SCO Chiefs-in-Summit.

The SCO Summit consists of the Southern Chiefs of Manitoba and it is the forum where they discuss and dialogue on the political issues of the day. It is also the primary governing body of the SCO.

Initially, Chief Irvin McIvor of the SBOFN was set to host the Summit last November. This was cancelled due to a winter storm and numerous highway closures. A commitment was made that the cancelled Summit would be rescheduled in January 2006 in Sandy Bay.

Over the course of this two-day Summit, the SCO Chiefs heard from a variety of presenters and special guests that included the Manitoba Treaty Commissioner Dennis White Bird and the five (5) nominated candidates for the Assembly of First Nations Manitoba Regional Chief's position.

On behalf of the Southern Chiefs and the staff of SCO, we want to thank Chief Irvin McIvor, the Council Members, the Elders and the fine Anishinabe people of Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation for hosting this Summit.

Meegwetch!



*Meegwetch
Southern Chiefs and
Sandy Bay Ojibway
First Nation!*