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### A True Life Success Story



### Dug-out Canoe - A Rare Find



#### **New tests confirm Lake Minnetonka canoe is 1,000 years old**

Truly a rare find: A dugout canoe unearthed from Lake Minnetonka, MN, in 1934 was thought to be 200 - 300 years old. Now new tests confirm canoe to be 1,000 years old.

Fact: Currently Lake Minnetonka in Minnesota is a very exclusive area. Much of the Real Estate in the area runs between 1M and 22M dollars. We wonder what the original owners of this canoe would have thought about that!

Source photo: Wikipedia

[Read More.....](#)

### Pride of Peterborough

## Congratulations

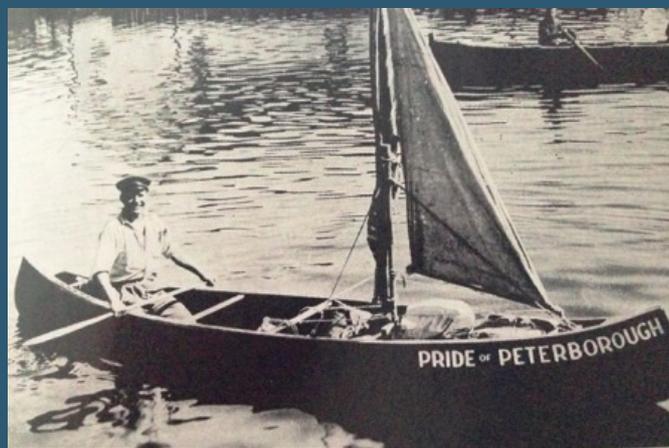
One of the first calls the OMFRC received early in 2007 was from wonderful young woman who introduced herself to us as Corrina. We are very proud of Corrina who is not only a member of the OMFRC we consider her family - as we do with so many of our members. We'll let Corinna tell you her story in her own words:

I am a mother of 3 young boys, and a traveling husband who decided to go back to school when my youngest was only 10 weeks old. I attended Niagara College NOTL in the Business Accounting program, after 16 continuous months I have completed my program and am graduating in June with honors. It was a long and busy journey but I was determined to succeed, and I did... I am now looking to find a full time position in the accounting field. I hope to fulfill this next journey soon. I am looking to seek employment within the Niagara region or Hamilton area. This would not have been possible if I didn't receive FULL funding for my education in the form of a Metis bursary. I was determined to prove that I was sincere about my education so I studied hard and received great grades for my hard efforts. It took a lot of patience and hard work and above all a lot of support from family and friends. I look forward to a successful future.  
Corrina Miles

Two days later Corrina wrote: "I just wanted to inform you that I landed a job at a printing company in the accounting department doing accounts receivable and accounts payable. I'm super excited."

Congratulations Corrina, the OMFRC is very proud of you and wishes you continued success!

**Brenda Henry**  
**Teacher aka Métis**  
**Author**



In 1934 my Great Uncle John Smith, after spending the last five years of his life as a whaler and merchant mariner, returned home to Peterborough, Ontario. As a young adult John had worked at the Peterborough Canoe Company and had always had a dream of paddling a 16 foot cedar-canvas canoe, from Peterborough Ontario to Peterborough, England sol across the Atlantic. In the summer of 1934 that dream became a reality.

Sadly, my Great Uncle John did not complete his amazing journey; his body was found washed up in Stephenville, Newfoundland. Later his surf-bashed canoe would be found and eventually a lonely tin can containing his journal - all pieces of his impossible dream.

Source: This story and photo were sent to us by one our members J. Smith, who just happens to be John Smith's great niece.

Source: Metrolandmedia - My Kawartha May 2, 2014

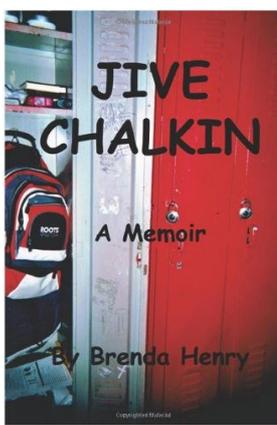
[Read More.....](#)

## My Algonquin Heritage



### Memories From Golden Lake

Wanita Avery (nee Lavalley) was born March 25, 1935 on the Golden Lake Reserve (Pikwakanagan), an 1818 acre First Nations community bought by Crown Patent in 1873, south of Pembroke on Hwy 60. After a lifetime in Whitney, running Opeongo Outfitters with her husband, she retired back to



### Book Review:

The book is a comedic memoir about teaching in Quebec public schools that throws open the doors of today's public school system.

[Read More.....](#)



### A MEMBER WRITES:

*I just wanted to let you know that I'm very grateful for my Metis Status Card. I was honoured with an grant from the Ontario Arts Council for aboriginal artists in the schools this will be my second year. I work with an organization called Darearts and help raise awareness and money to send artist and teacher to work with the children of Attawapiskat and Webeque. Because of my Metis Card I have found the piece of myself that was missing. All my life growing up I felt different and could not understand why I didn't fit in to this crazy world. My dad said that my mom was to afraid to tell me for fear that it would cause me grief as it did to her family. She called me her earth child I have always walked the way of the natural world and now I do it with my head held high with honour to my family and proud to be aboriginal.*

*Miigwech for your help in the*

her birthplace. She told her story for [www.memoriestomemoirs](http://www.memoriestomemoirs) in 2004.

*Photo: This is a full-scale replica of a cano t de ma tre or a Montreal Canoe which the early fur-traders used. Built by Wanita's brother-in-law Chief Matt Bernard and his kin in 1957 on the Algonkian Indian Reserve at Golden Lake ON.*

*Photo Source: <http://goo.gl/Fe6AOr>*

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## Educational Funding 2014



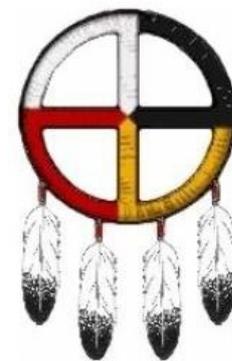
There are many members of the OMFRC community who have been successful in obtaining support through several of these programs.

**Please Note:** Each organization has its own guidelines for qualification.

[Click here for links.....](#)

## Natives and Nature Bonding Into One The Art of Storytelling

I am currently a teacher of a grade 10 native studies class that has been working on the Art of Story telling. As is the ancient tradition and of utmost importance to the preservation of the First nation culture, my class was given the task of creating a teaching and delivering it through the modern technology of photo-story. Through this method, they created a story and used modern methods to deliver the teaching through music, and voice.



I have included the text and some of the photos. They also had to create a mask and give it human characteristics to demonstrate the close bond between the First Nation People and animals and nature. This is evident in their stories. The reverence to nature is paramount for students to understand if we are to save our environment and reverse the damage that mankind has inflicted on Mother Earth.

**Pamela Vanderburg**  
Native Studies Teacher

[Read More.....](#)Experience the story, photos and follow the link to watch the video

return of my spirit!

G. Hope

**A Young Man Speaks From His Heart About What Being Métis Means To Him**



*Métis family - 1899  
Glenbow Archives NA-949-  
118 Métis family, Fort  
Chipewyan, Alberta. During  
Treaty No. 8 expedition*

**Proud to be Métis!**

**Proud!!! 30 years old and excited to be a Métis!!! I now know the real truth behind my Métis bloodline.**

**We as Métis owe it to our ancestors, for fighting for our rights!!! It's not the material benefit that they fought for, it was acceptance!**

**Our Métis ancestors gave us the opportunity to hold our heads up high as Métis should. It's our job to show the world who we are "strong loving people" who love the earth and of course our beloved Canada!**

**We as Métis in my opinion are obligated to further our knowledge about our race, not just to reap benefits. We need to come together as much as possible and give more knowledge to our fellow Métis and Canadians. We owe that to our ancestors. I am proud to be a part of our beautiful Painted Feather Woodland Metis Tribe and intend to further my knowledge to teach the truth too others!**

*Sal Calleri*

*Sal, as a member of the OMFRC you are not just*



**The OMFRC would like to thank everyone that is standing with us to support the Ontario Metis Family Records Center Community Facebook Page.....your response is nothing short of incredible!**

**Stay connected and celebrate your heritage! Share that you're a member of the OMFRC Community with your family members on Facebook. It has never been more important to stand up and be counted!**

**Have you visited our Facebook page? We welcome you to join our OMFRC Community - we want to hear from you.**



**New Submissions**

**Our editors are always looking for original submissions that would be of interest to our community. Do you know of any upcoming events that you would like to share either through the Newsletter or Facebook?**

**If you have something you would like to add to future issues we would be happy to consider it; please call or email putting Facebook or Newsletter material in the subject line!**

**613-332-4789**

**omfrcinfo@gmail.com**

**Is Your Membership Coming Up for Renewal?**



**If it is, call 1-613-332-4789 and you can do it right over the phone in just a couple of minutes.**

*speaking for yourself, you are speaking on behalf of so many of our community. Thank you.*

Photo Source:  
<http://goo.gl/qVHbkz>

**Ontario Metis  
Family Records  
Center**



**We're on the web!  
See us at:**

[www.aboriginalstatus.org](http://www.aboriginalstatus.org)  
[www.omfrc.org](http://www.omfrc.org)



**Ontario Metis Family Records Center**

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