

May 2015



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"Some old-fashioned things like fresh air and sunshine are hard to beat. In our mad rush for progress and modern improvements let's be sure we take along with us all the old-fashioned things worth while."

~ Laura Ingalls Wilder

Source: Goodreads

Outstanding Achievement!

Katie Stewart Named 2015 CPRS/CNW Public Relations Student Award of Excellence Winner



"'Spirited' aptly describes Katie," said Ramsay. "With infectious energy and enthusiasm, Katie has the remarkable ability to make even the most daunting task seem manageable. Katie demonstrates the capacity to work cooperatively, maintaining a high degree of honesty and integrity."

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"If you have a dream, don't just sit there. Gather courage to believe that you can succeed and leave no stone unturned to make it a reality."

~ Roopleen

First Nations' Economic Clout the Result of Decades of Court Decisions

"The history is that the province ignored First Nations for 120-some years," says associate professor Gordon Christie, director of the indigenous legal studies program at the University

The University of British Columbia Beats Target for Aboriginal Medical School Graduates

Goal of 50 doctors exceeded in 13 years, five years before target



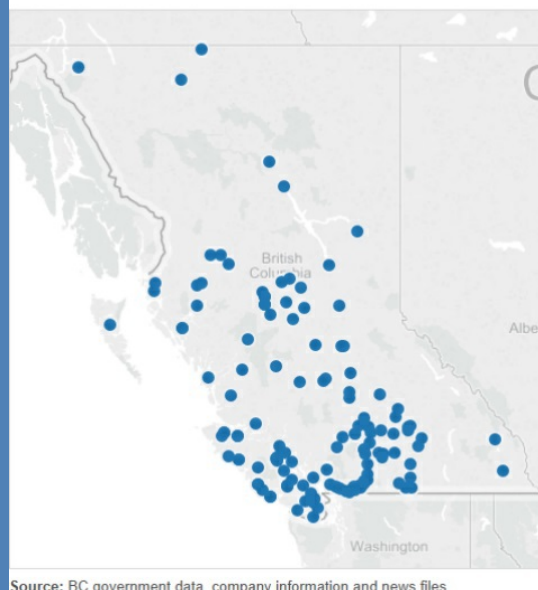
James Andrew, right, the UBC Aboriginal Student Initiatives co-ordinator, with Ryan Leblanc, a Metis who just graduated in medicine from the Northern Medical Program in Prince George. Leblanc is moving to Victoria to do further training in internal medicine.
Photograph by: UBC

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of B.C. "That's why we're at this point now. They can no longer ignore the problem."

First Nations & the BC economy: revenue-sharing, benefit agreements, partnerships

Select Agreement Type
Forestry



Source: BC government data, company information and news files.

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The Drum Calls Softly by David Bouchard



The Drum Calls Softly

A cultural book I wrote with my friend Shelley Willier. Together with Jim Poitras and Northern Cree, Shelley and I share the beauty of the popular Round Dance. Readers hear the book read in English and in Cree. They also hear Steve Wood and Northern Cree drum and sing their hugely successful Round Dance song. And readers are

A Little Advice, Don't Try To Outrun A Tarahumara Indian

A Short Story By: Skook Casa Del Lobos

I am a little past my prime, I have snow on the roof year round and the governments of two countries think it is time for me to retire, but I have all my teeth, and I still consider myself to be a fairly dangerous man.

Thankfully, I have a beautiful lady from the Tarahumara tribe of Northwestern Mexico. They are the running Indians from the high mountains. I've heard the stories of them running down deer, elk, and horses, but I've always taken such stories with a grain of salt.

When my woman and I first locked belt buckles, I was fit and strong at fifty and she was fifteen younger than me. We were both good physical specimens; she still is, but I've packed on a few ounces. I think it is part of the aging process.

I have never considered myself to be a macho man, but I like to run and swim farther, stay in the saddle longer, carry the heaviest pack, wrestle and box like a champion, and generally do everything better than anyone else. First place is almost good enough for

blessed with the spectacular art of Cree friend Jim Poitras.

Written and Read by David Bouchard

The Secret of Your Name by David Bouchard



"It has taken nearly 50 years to come to know of you, the secrets finally out and now I know that I am Metis, and the world knows too through all I do."

"This is a cultural book I wrote for my Grandmothers, my Kokums. In this book, I tell my story which is the story of so many Metis whose Grandmothers names were kept hidden so that we might not know of our Native ancestry. Like many I know, my genetic memories moved me to action. After much searching, I found her."

Written and read by: David Bouchard

Dedicated to David's grandmothers

Explore Careers by Occupation



Here are a few examples:

Administrator - Toronto, ON 136 results

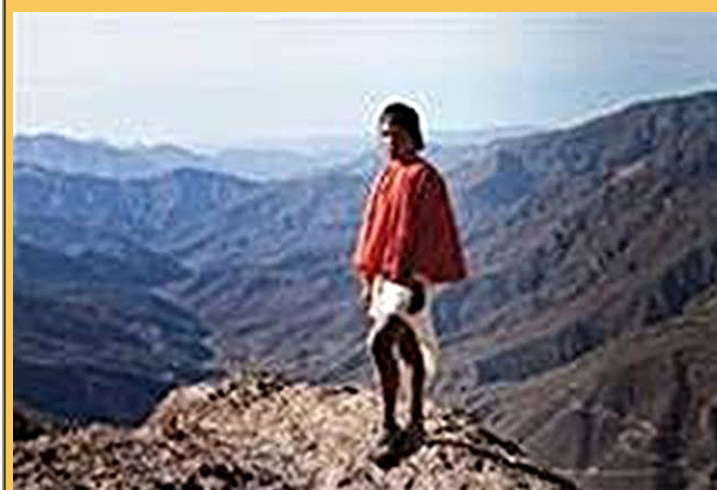
Retail Sales - North Bay, ON 8 results

Vet Tech - Calgary, Alberta 500 results

Welder - Edmonton Alberta 29 results

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me; you could say, I have a competitive nature.



[Read More](#) - read the complete story

Aboriginal Awareness Day

Student Participate in Ceremonies

On May 20th, of this year 42 students from East Northumberland Secondary School - Grade 9 and 10 Native Studies, a Grade 10 Civics class and a Grade 11 Sociology class visited CFR Trenton for Aboriginal Awareness Day.

The students took part in the Opening and Closing ceremonies by using the six person ceremonial drum to accompany Mohawk Singer/Drummer, Dustin Brant from the Tyendinaga Reserve. ENSS Drummers also led the Round Dance. Workshops were offered in drum making and leather crafts.

Black Voyageurs: African Americans in the Fur Trade

Pierre Bonga was considered extremely trustworthy by Alexander Henry and was invested with authority enough to be left in charge of the fort in Henry's absence. He eventually married an Ojibwe woman and later worked as an interpreter. Their son George was born near Duluth, Minnesota in 1802 and was educated at Montreal. He later joined the fur trade, serving as a voyageur, interpreter, and ultimately becoming an independent trader in his own right.



George Bonga in his retirement, from Making Minnesota Territory, 1849-1858. St. Paul, MN: Minnesota Historical Society.

[Read More](#)

Source: [theredcedar/black-voyageurs-african-americans-in-the-fur-trade/](#) sent to us by Paul Allaire

ENSS Students also created poster boards of the Eastern Woodland Clans that were displayed at the event.



[Read More](#) - A student writes about her visit to CFR Trenton on Aboriginal Awareness Day



This month the CBC Reported

**"Inside one of Canada's most decrepit prisons:
Baffin Correctional Centre in Iqaluit"**

"God Bless the Peacekeepers"

***One man's story written from another
perspective***

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!

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We're on the web!
See us at:

www.aboriginalstatus.org
www.omfrc.org



The battered building known unaffectionately as BCC reveals why, in 2013, a federal investigator said it was unsafe for inmates and staff. (Vincent Desrosiers/CBC)

"Recently saw the story on Baffin Island Correctional facility and felt I would like to share my experience. I worked in provincial corrections at Baffin Island for 6 years. That job consumed my soul. It was difficult and dangerous. I dealt with many dangerous people from medium security all the way to super-maximum security."

[Read More of this story](#)

[Read More](#) - Alarming number of aboriginals in Canada's prisons

[Read More](#)- Aboriginals in prison rise 23%


[Read More](#) - Office of the Correctional Investigator



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.

 Like us on Facebook

The articles in this Newsletter are the opinions of the authors and not necessarily those of the producers of The Feathers In the Wind Newsletter.

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.