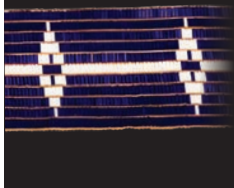


LANDS & RESOURCES FORUM

FEBRUARY 11 TO 13 • 2025

KINA-GEHO-NAABADOSIN
EVERYTHING IS CONNECTED





Ngo Dwe Waangizid Anishinaabe One Anishinaabe Family

**Debenjiged gii'saan anishinaaben akiing giibi dgwon gaadeni
mnidoo waadiziwin.**

Creator placed the Anishinabe on the earth along with the gift of spirituality.

**Shkode, nibi, aki, noodin, giibi dgosdoonan wii naagdowendmang
maanpli shkagmigaang.**

Here on mother earth, there were gifts given to the Anishinabe to look after fire, water, earth and wind.

**Debenjiged gii miinaan gechtwaa wendaagog Anishinaaben waa
naagdoonjin ninda niizhwaaswi kino maadwinan;**

The Creator also gave the Anishinabe seven sacred gifts to guide them. They are;

**Zaagidwin, Debwewin, Mnaadendmowin, Nbwaakaawin,
Dbaadendiziwin, Gwekwaadziwin miinwa Aakedhewin.**

Love, Truth, Respect, Wisdom, Humility, Honesty and Bravery.

Debenjiged kiimiingona dedbinwe wi naagdowendiwin.

Creator gave us sovereignty to govern ourselves.

**Ka mnaadendanaa gaabi zhiwebag miinwaa nango megwaa
ezhwebag, miinwa geyaabi waa ni zhiwebag.**

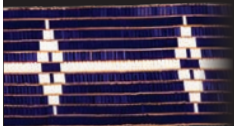
We respect and honour the past, present and future.

*(Preamble to the Anishinabek Nation Constitution - as adopted by
the Grand Council in June 2011) (UOI, 2012)*

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GOAL

The goal is to build positive working relationships with each First Nation, our citizens, government, industry, and academia.

A positive working relationship is where we can come to understand and respect each other's views and perspectives.

OBJECTIVES

To establish a regional framework that will allow Anishinabek leadership and technical expertise to gather and discuss the local and regional priorities, concerns, and opportunities.

To enhance decision-making that will act on matters that will protect our jurisdiction, traditional territory, and rights.

To increase communications and to understand each other's needs, priorities, and opportunities.



MESSAGE FROM GRAND COUNCIL CHIEF LINDA DEBASSIGE

Chi-Miigwech for joining us for our 9th Annual Lands and Resources Forum. It is a privilege to have each of you dedicate one of our most important resources – time – to come together and share knowledge, exchange ideas, and envision a sustainable and prosperous future.

With the theme of Kina-Gego-Naabadosin – Everything is Connected, this Forum is a testament to the strength of collaboration and the importance of our shared responsibilities. It provides an invaluable platform for our community leaders, government representatives, industry experts, and partners to engage in dialogue about the stewardship of our lands and resources.

As we navigate the complex challenges and opportunities before us, let us do so with unity, respect, and a shared vision. By working together, we can make meaningful change that upholds our inherent rights, preserves our cultural heritage, and ensures the well-being of our communities and ecosystems for the next seven generations.

Over the next two and a half days, you will hear from experts across key sectors involved in resource development and environmental stewardship. We hope this knowledge sharing will foster meaningful connections and create pathways that bring lasting benefits to your community.

Chi-Miigwech for your dedication to this critical work and for joining us at this event. May this Forum inspire new ideas, strengthen partnerships, and lead to lasting positive change.

Miigwech,

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief
Anishinabek Nation





Linda Debassige
Grand Council
Chief
M'Chigeeng First
Nation

Born and raised in M'Chigeeng First Nation, Linda Debassige is a devoted mother to two children and grandmother to one. Linda graduated with honours from Civil Engineering Technology in at Confederation College in Thunder Bay, and holds a Certificate in Negotiations from Osgoode Hall Law School.

First elected to M'Chigeeng First Nation Council in 2013, Debassige was Chief from 2015-2023. During her tenure within the governance of M'Chigeeng, she participated in numerous portfolios, committees, and boards locally, regionally, and nationally, across many sectors including but not limited to treaty, infrastructure, water, housing, environment, policing, mental health and addictions, community safety, economic development, education, health, emergency management, and community development. She is currently serving as the Grand Council Chief of the Anishinabek Nation following a Traditional Stand-Up Election in June 2024.

Linda is known for her strong leadership style, knowledge, dedication, and passion for all First Nations people and is often called upon for advice and advocacy for Indigenous communities, organizations, and leadership.

Notably, Linda was the first Indigenous Trustee to hold the position of Vice Chair of the largest school board in Northern Ontario, the Rainbow District School Board. She also serves as a co-lead for the Assembly of First Nations on the co-development of the First Nation Safe Drinking Water and Wastewater Legislation.

Current Profile of Grand Council Chief Debassige

- Ajiiaak (Crane) Doodem - Anishinabek Nation Government and Communications
- Maang (Loon) Doodem - Intergovernmental Affairs and Aboriginal Treaty Rights
- Giigoon (Fish) Doodemenhs - Lands and Resources
- Mukwaa (Bear) Doodem - Health and Healing
- Shiikenh (Turtle) Doodem - Legal, Justice and Aboriginal Treaty Rights



Chris Plain
Deputy Grand
Council Chief
Aamjiwnaang First
Nation

Chris Plain, Caribou n'dodem, currently serves as Deputy Grand Council Chief for the Anishinabek Nation. Previously, Chris has held the position of Southwest Regional Chief and Interim Southwest Regional Deputy Grand Council Chief for the Anishinabek Nation.

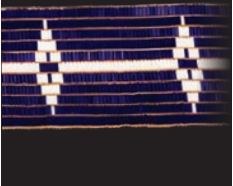
He has served as Chief of Aamjiwnaang First Nation from 2005-2024, save for the 2016 to 2018 term when he served as a councillor. A visionary in his community towards self-reliance; as Chief of Aamjiwnaang entered into a number of joint ventures and partnerships enabling community growth in many areas.

Chris is a father of two adult children and resides in Aamjiwnaang with his wife Tammy.

Current Portfolio of Deputy Grand Council Chief Plain

- Ajijaak (Crane) Doodem - Anishinabek Nation Government and Communications
- Maang (Loon) Doodem - Intergovernmental Affairs and Aboriginal Treaty Rights
- Giigoon (Fish) Doodemenhs - Lands and Resources
- Mukwaa (Bear) Doodem - Health and Healing
- Waabizheshii (Marten) Doodem - Revenue, Finance and the Economy
- Migizii (Eagle) Doodem - Employment, Training and Lifelong Learning





Scott McLeod

Lake Huron
Regional Chief
Nipissing First
Nation

Lake Huron Regional Chief Scott McLeod was born and raised in Ktigaaning (Garden Village). He graduated from Sir Sandford Fleming College in the Fish and Wildlife Technician Program. Scott is a father of three adult children, Mishomis of two boys, and an avid musician. He has also run a successful construction business on Nipissing First Nation (NFN) for over twenty years.

Scott was first elected to Nipissing First Nation (NFN) Council in 2003 where he carried the Natural Resources portfolio. Scott was very instrumental in creating our first fisheries management plan and the NFN Fisheries Law. In 2015, Scott was elected as Chief of NFN where he has maintained that role successfully for three consecutive terms. During his nine-year tenure as Chief, Scott has led NFN's growth, generating our own source revenues through award-winning businesses such as Nipissing Miller Construction, Mnogin Greenhouse, Nbisiging Power and the development of Bineshii Business Park.

Scott previously sat as the Indigenous Advisor to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission and currently sits as the Chair of the Inland Fisheries working Group to the Assembly of First Nations, Chair of B'Maakonigan and the Lake Huron Regional Chief of the Anishinabek Nation.

More recently, Scott has taken a lead role with the Chiefs of Ontario and the Assembly of First Nations in advocating against Bill C-53 and protecting First Nation Rights and jurisdictions in our respective territories against false claims and assertions of Indigenous identity.

Current Portfolio of Lake Huron Regional Chief McLeod

- Ajijaak (Crane) Doodem - Anishinabek Nation
Government and Communications
- Maang (Loon) Doodem - Intergovernmental Affairs and
Aboriginal Treaty Rights
- Giigoon (Fish) Doodemenhs - Lands and Resources



Mel Hardy
Northern Superior
Regional Chief
Biinjitiwaabik
Zaaging
Anishnawbek

Northern Superior Regional Chief Melvin Hardy is from Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek. He is a veteran of the Canadian Army, having served as paratrooper from 1979 to 1985. This service has shaped his work ethic, dedication, and commitment to the roles he takes on and has enhanced his leadership skills to the benefit of his community and the Anishinabek Nation.

Mel attended Lakehead University and Ryerson University in working towards a Bachelor of Arts degree and has worked in the areas of mental health, addictions, and social services. It was through this work that he developed a lifelong interest and passion for social advocacy for First Nations people.

In 2016, Mel was elected as Chief of Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek (formerly known as Rocky Bay First Nation). As Chief, RDGCC Hardy was instrumental in many community developments, initiatives, and economic development successes of Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek.

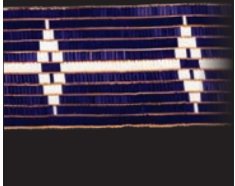
Mel is the proud grandfather of three grandchildren, and frequently volunteers his times at various speaking engagements and community events in order to draw awareness to social issues, Indian Residential Schools, and Child Welfare, among other topics.

Mel's Doodem (Clan) is Mukwa (Bear) and his name "Zhoongizi" means "strong one for the people" in Anishinaabemowin.

Current Portfolio of Northern Superior Regional Chief Hardy

- Ajjaak (Crane) Doodem - Anishinabek Nation Government and Communications
- Maang (Loon) Doodem - Intergovernmental Affairs and Aboriginal Treaty Rights
- Giigoon (Fish) Doodemenhs - Lands and Resources
- Mukwaa (Bear) Doodem - Health and Healing



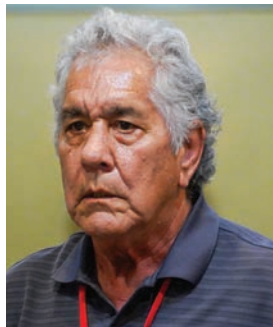


Marsha Smoke
Southeast
Regional Chief
Alderville First
Nation

Southeast Regional Chief Marsha Smoke is from Alderville First Nation and has been a longtime advocate of Indigenous Rights for decades. She takes on the pressing issues facing First Nations. She is also a successful entrepreneur, a knowledge keeper, and a loving great-grandmother.

Current Portfolio of Southeast Regional Chief Smoke

- Giigoon (Fish) Doodemenhs - Lands and Resources
- Mukwaa (Bear) Doodem - Health and Healing
- Waawaashkesh (Deer) Doodem - Social Development
- Waabizheshii (Marten) Doodem - Revenue, Finance and the Economy



Joe Miskokomon
Southwest
Regional Chief
Chippewas of
the Thames First
Nation

Southwest Regional Chief Joe Miskokomon served his community Chippewas of the Thames for more than 15 years as Chief and as councillor for another 10 years. He has served as Grand Council Chief of Anishnabek Nation for 12 years and a term as Ontario Regional Chief.

During his time serving his community and his Nation, Joe has many experiences with the challenges of developing infrastructure projects including the long timeline that it can take to complete them and the limited input that communities can have in the process.

For over 50 years, Chief Miskokomon has championed Indigenous rights, self-governance, and community development. His tireless dedication has made a profound impact on our community and beyond.

In 2024, Joe was awarded the Order of Canada and has an honorary degree from Nipissing University.

Current Portfolio of Southwest Regional Chief Miskokomon

- Maang (Loon) Doodem - Intergovernmental Affairs and Aboriginal Treaty Rights
- Waawaashkesh (Deer) Doodem - Social Development
- Waabizheshii (Marten) Doodem - Revenue, Finance and the Economy

THE FIRST BUTTERFLIES

Long ago, when human twins were born to Spirit Women, the Spirit Women relied on the animals to take care of them. All the animals loved the first human babies and did everything they could to help them. The dog watched over them, the bear gave fur to keep them warm, the wolf hunted for them, the doe provided milk for them, the birds sang lullabies, and the muskrat bathed them. The dog was an excellent guardian. The twins had only to cry and the dog jumped to his feet, his tail wagging. When he found out what was troubling the children, he set it right, or called somebody else who could help. When the babies wanted to be amused, the dog did the best tricks he could for them. He tickled the babies into delighted laughter by licking their noses. After a long time, it became clear that something was wrong with the children. This worried the animals, who had been summoned by the bear, gathering around the twins. "Brothers," the bear said. "The children cannot walk. They do not run and play like our children do. What can we do to help them?"



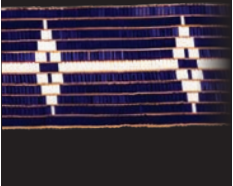
When Nanabush came to play with the children, the animals told him of their concern. Nanabush thought awhile and then he said. "You have cared for the children very well, in fact they never need to do anything for themselves. All little ones need to reach out for what they want, instead of always having everything handed to them. I shall find out what we can do to help the babies learn to walk."

Nanabush journeyed far to the west, he called to the Great Spirit who was the Creator of the children and had been watching over them. The Great Spirit would know what should be done to teach the children to walk. In reply the Nanabush's call, the Great Spirit told him to search along the slopes of the mountains. There he would find thousands of tiny sparkling stones. Nanabush did as the Great Spirit had said, he collected hundreds of stones, blue, green, red, and yellow ones. Soon he had a huge pile that gleamed through the clouds. Then he tossed a handful of stones into the air, catching them as they fell back. He threw a second handful, but nothing fell down into his stretched-out hands. Nanabush looked up, to his astonishment, he saw the pebbles changing and shapes. The butterflies followed Nanabush back to the twins, who crowed with pleasure and waved their legs and stretched out their arms to the beautiful creatures. But the butterflies always fluttered just beyond the grasp of the small, outstretched hands. Soon the twins began to crawl and then slowly started to walk, and even running in efforts to catch the butterflies. And these were the first butterflies.



Source: Tales the Elders told: Ojibway legends, Basil H. Johnston, 1980.





**Nmishomis
Leroy Dolson**

Getzidjig Advisory
Council - Southwest
Region

Munsee Delaware
Nation

Mishoomis Dolson graduated from H.B. Beal Technical and Commercial High School in May 1959 with a Grade 12 diploma. He began his career as an apprentice mechanic, working in this capacity for three years before advancing to an automotive mechanic role for another three years. He then worked as a production welder in Detroit, Michigan for four years. Following that, Mishoomis served as the Office Manager for the Munsee Delaware Nation for five years before being elected Chief, a position he held for 14 years.

During his leadership, he oversaw the construction of over \$8 million worth of infrastructure, including a retail mall, soap factory, daycare building, administration building, and a bingo hall that has been in operation for more than 27 years. He also ran a firewood business intermittently for a decade and provided leadership for the Anishinabek Nation on the ONFLP for 18 years. Mishoomis has been a member of the Leadership Council since 1989 and has served on Elders Councils since 2014.



**Ookomis Donna
Debassige**

Getzidjig Advisory
Council - Lake
Huron Region

Wiikwemkoong
Unceded Territory

Elder Bebibdikwedaang is Anishinabekwe of the Giigohn (Fish) Clan from Mnidoo Mnising (Manitoulin Island) and a member of the Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory.

Donna is a fluent speaker of Odawa and a member of the Raindance Lodge. She is also a member of the Anishinabek Nation Getzidjig Council representing Lake Huron Region, and is involved with the First Nations Womens Caucus, representing Anishinabek Nation Kwe-Wuk Council.

With an avid interest in research, Donna is an active member of the Manitoulin Anishinabek Research Review Committee, the Data Governance Committee at Chiefs of Ontario, and a new member of the Indigenous Research Council at Canadore College. She is a member of the Elders Advisory Council, Indigenous Justice Division-MAG.

Donna is also a survivor of the Spanish Indian Residential School, and retired with 35 years of lifelong work with aboriginal governance at United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising.



Evelyn Stone

Kwe-Wuk Advisory Council - Northern Superior Region
Michipicoten First Nation

Evelyn Stone, Blue Thunderbird Woman, is a proud member of Michipicoten First Nation. She has three adult children and four grandchildren, which brings an awesome journey of happiness. One special person who brings light to her journey is her mother, Agnes - she is her guiding light. Evelyn has two brothers in the community and one sister who lives on Squamish Nation, BC.

Evelyn has been in many leadership positions during her journey: Chief, Councillor, boards, committees and volunteered for several organizations. Over the past two years, she has contributed and participated on the Anishinabe Kwe-Wuk Advisory Council, which gives her pleasure to sit at this level.



Betsy Kechego

Kwe-Wuk Advisory Council - Southwest Region
Chippewas of the Thames First Nation

Boozhoo, Aaniin kina weya Betsy Kechego n'diznikaaz. Deshkan Ziibing n'doonjiba. Aajjaak n'dodem. Gaashkanaabagwe NiimidwinOgimaakwe. Midewinkwe. Anishinaabewek n'daaw.

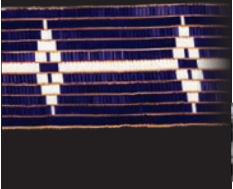
Betsey Kechego, a proud member of the Chippewa of the Thames First Nation, belongs to the Crane Clan and serves as a Sundance Chief. She is also a member of the Midewin Lodge. Betsy contributes her wisdom and experience as a member of the Anishinabek Nation Kwe-wuk Advisory Council and as the Elder-in-Residence at the Wampum Learning Lodge at Western University.

With a strong background as a social worker, teacher, and personal support worker, Betsy dedicated herself to fostering education and cultural preservation during her time as a Language Immersion Teacher at Bkejwanong and Anter River Elementary Schools.





WAA GIIGIDOJIG
OUR SPEAKERS



Heidi Whetung
2SLGBTQQIA+
Advisory Council
Curve Lake First
Nation

Heidi Whetung is an Executive Assistant to the Chief Operating Officer for Curve Lake First Nation Government Services and Anishinabek Nation 2SLGBTQQIA+ Advisory Council member. In her previous employment with the Nogojiwanong Friendship Centre, she held the title of Indigenous Mentor for 2SLGBTQQIA+ people of all ages where she spent over two years building this program, offering services such as mentoring, programming, ceremony, traditional teachings, cultural activities, helping with name change, gender-affirming gear, as well as working with parents and clients.

Some of the activities that she has been involved with include bringing Pride back to Curve Lake First Nation with annual Pride parades and raising the communities' first-ever Pride flag at its Government Services Building. Proudly, Heidi has had the privilege of bringing in the Pride flag during Grand Entry at its annual pow wow. Heidi has sat on panels at Trent University as a speaker at the Elder's Conference and was the keynote speaker at the KII-GA-DO-WAAK Earth Day Conference. Heidi believes that "We all belong in the circle, and when it comes to our culture, our ceremonies, and our language, that we must step away from the Western Society way of thinking and get back to accepting all our people for who they are and what their gifts are."



Katelyn Peters
Eshki-niigijig
Advisory Council -
Southwest Region
Munsee Delaware
Nation

Katelyn Peters is Eagle Clan from Munsee Delaware Nation and is proudly Anishinaabe and Lenape. She has worked with the Anishinabek Nation Eshki-niigijig Advisory Council since her appointment in the Fall of 2021 and represents the Southwest Region for the Anishinabek Nation as the female voice. She has an Honours Specialization degree in Indigenous Studies at Western University in 2022 and now works for Nshwaasngong Childcare and Family Centre in London, Ontario.

Katelyn is a proud Jingle Dress dancer, auntie, lifelong learner, and young academic. She will continue to represent the Anishinaabek Nation wherever she goes in her lifetime.





Lance Copegog
Eshki-niigijig
Advisory Council -
Southeast Region
Beausoleil First
Nation

Lance Copegog sits as the Anishinabek Nation's youth representative to the Ontario First Nations Young Peoples Council, and is a member of Beausoleil First Nation.

In 2016, he was appointed as the deputy youth chief of Beausoleil First Nation. In this role, Lance was consistent in meeting with federal and provincial governments and improved relations with local municipalities and school boards. He championed good governance and transparency. Lance also had the opportunity to address audiences in Canada and the United Kingdom on First Nations governance.

An active volunteer, Lance sits on the Board of Directors for the Indigenous Sports Body, the Indigenous Youth Advisory Committee at the Laidlaw Foundation, and is a member of the Anishinabek Nation Eshki-niigijig (Youth) Advisory Council. He has also volunteered his time with local initiatives and organizations.



**Brittnee
Waindubence**
Eshki-niigijig
Advisory Council -
Lake Huron Region
Sheguiandah First
Nation

Aanii boozhoo. Kina-wiyaa. Naagoohkwe n'dizhiniikaazs. M'Kwa miinwaa miingan doodem. Shugg Endah N'doonjibba

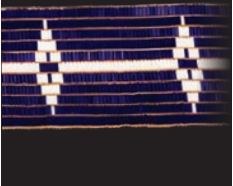
Brittnee Waindubence is the Lake Huron Female representative on the Eshki-niigijig Advisory Council.

She comes from Sheguiandah First Nation on Manitoulin Island. She is currently attending Kenjgewin Teg and once graduated, will train and go into the trades as a future welder.

In her role on the Youth Advisory Council, she attends meetings with the Ontario Minister of the Environment and is very involved on the advocacy and development of the "Personhood of Water" that is spearheaded by the Anishinabek Nation Lands Department in collaboration with the Youth Council.

Her key priorities remain to protect the lands, waters, culture and traditions, and her messaging for today's Anishinabek Youth is that "We are the future Knowledge Keepers and protectors of our lands for the future generations to come."





Terra Roy

Eshki-niigijig
Advisory Council -
Southeast Region
Beausoleil First
Nation

Mnaan mad kwe n'dizhnikaaz miinwa my'iingan n'dodem g'chi nme mmissing miinwa nbissing n'doonjibaa — Marcia miinwa Robert zhinikawuk n'gitzimuk — Martin miinwa Richard zhinikawuk n'mishomisak Iris miinwa Catheline zhinikawuk nookmisak naazhe kwe zhinikawuk shemeh miinwa Mason zhinkawuk wijkiehn miinwa sage zhinkawuk gaazhag. Terra Roy, anishinabenoozwin: Gentle Breeze woman, wolf clan coming from Beausoleil and Nipissing First Nations.

A Two-Spirited, multi-disciplinary artist, currently focused on the brain tanning method, Terra is actively sharing her knowledge within southern Ontario from Baawaating to Bucktown. A forever student learning from her mentors Hunter and Beze at Niizh Manidook Hide Camp (NMHC).

Terra is a former Youth Chief of her community, having created the Beausoleil First Nation Youth Council (BFNYC), alongside Lance Copegog. Shortly after, she became the carrier of an Eagle, gifted by the Anishinabek Nation. This Eagle was lovingly named Jennifer and travelled with Terra over the past seven years. After establishing the BFNYC, Terra went on to become a co-founder of the Georgian Bay 2 Spirit Pow Wow (GB2SPW) established by the grace of the community in 2018. After a very short break from politics in 2019, Terra joined the Anishinabek Nation Eshki-niigijig (Youth) Advisory Council, a part of the Nation Council in February 2023.



ESHKI-NIIGIJIG ADVISORY COUNCIL



Pictured from left to right: Katelyn Peters, Brittnee Waindubence, Terra Roy, Lance Copegog, Kingson Huff, Pierre Debassige. Not pictured: Mackenzie Courchene.

Lake Huron Region

Pierre Debassige - Lake Huron Region Male Representative and Bonnet Holder

Brittnee Waindubence - Lake Huron Female Representative

Northern Superior Region

Mackenzie Courchene - Northern Superior Region Female Representative

Marcus Alexander Hardy - Northern Superior Region Male Representative

Southeast Region

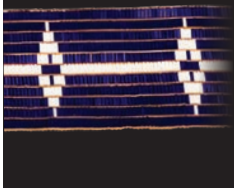
Lance Copegog - Southeast Region Male Representative

Terra Roy - Southeast Region Female Representative

Southwest Region

Kingson Huff - Southwest Region Male Representative

Katelyn Peters - Southwest Region Female Representative



**Dr. Alan Ojiig
Corbiere**

Assistant
Professor - CRC in
Indigenous History of
North America,
Department of
History, York
University
M'Chigeeng First
Nation

Alan Ojiig Corbiere, Bne wedoodemid (Ruffed Grouse Clan), is an Anishinaabe from M'Chigeeng First Nation on Manitoulin Island.

He was educated on the reserve and attended the University of Toronto for a Bachelor of Science, and then entered York University to earn his Masters of Environmental Studies and a PhD in History. During his Masters studies, Alan focused on Anishinaabe narrative and Anishinaabe language revitalization.

For five years, Alan served as the Executive Director at the Ojibwe Cultural Foundation (OCF) in M'Chigeeng First Nation, a position which also encompassed the roles of curator and historian. He also served as the Anishinaabemowin Revitalization Program Coordinator at Lakeview School in M'Chigeeng First Nation, where he and his team worked on a culturally-based second language program, focusing on Anishinaabe stories to teach language.

Alan is currently an Assistant Professor in the History Department at York University, and also holds a Canada Research Chair in History of Indigenous Peoples of North America.





Angel Ransom

Senior Vice
President of
Environmental
Services, First
Nations Major
Projects Coalition
Nak'azdli Whut'en
First Nation

Angel Ransom is a member of the Nak'azdli Whut'en First Nation (Northern British Columbia). She is an expert in Indigenous Planning with over 15 years of experience in land use planning and impact assessments across Canada. Angel is committed to advancing and advocating for Indigenous-led and designed projects that center on Indigenous rights, culture, and community well-being.

She joins us here as the Senior Vice President of Environmental Services for the First Nations Major Projects Coalition.



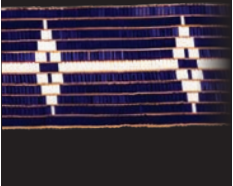
Derissa Vincentini

Northern
Ontario Regional
Coordinator -
Ontario Phragmites
Action Program
Invasive Species
Centre

Derissa Vincentini is the Northern Ontario Regional Coordinator for the Ontario Phragmites Action program at the Invasive Species Centre (ISC) where she provides support to mobilize collaborative action and build capacity for tackling the leading edge of Phragmites in the North. Derissa has been with the ISC since 2021, previously as the Community Science Coordinator, where she facilitated invasive species education and outreach initiatives, and structured community science projects.

She played supporting roles in many projects involved with mapping invasive species, indigenous support and engagement, and invasive plants and forest pests. Derissa has a background as a Forest Research Technician and a B.Sc. in Biology as well as a certificate in Geomatics from Algoma University.





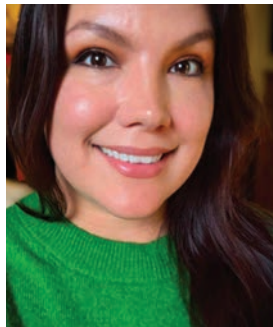
Chief Roger Thomas

Anishinabek Nation
Chiefs Committee
for Environment

Munsee Delaware
Nation

Chief Roger Thomas is the current chief of Munsee Delaware Nation. He has served as Chief from 2000 – 2005, 2013 – 2020, and then again since 2022 to the present.

He is the proud father of 3 sons, Rodger, Justin and Rain, and is married 41 years to the mother of his children, Jackie. His achievements include the Hockey Hall of Fame, a longtime employee now retired from Ford Motor Company, and a member of the Anishinabek Nation Chiefs Committee for Environment.



Alexandra Bridges

Project Manager
at Keepers of the
Circle

Mattagami First
Nation

Alex is an Oji-Cree woman of the Pike Clan and a member of the Mattagami First Nation located in Treaty 9. She has lived experience with impacts from resource development growing up in the districts of Sudbury and Timmins Cochrane during renewed mining exploration activities, as well as living and working in Northern Alberta during the tar sands boom.

Alexandra is a graduate student working towards her Planners Designation in the MSc. Rural Planning and Development program at Guelph University. She holds a B.A. in Indigenous Environmental Studies with an emphasis on Law and Policy from Trent University and has over ten years' experience working in Indigenous non-profit organizations.

Alexandra sits on the Board of Directors of several non-profits, cooperatives, and Indigenous-led organizations across Turtle Island and is a strong advocate for Mino-Bimaadiziwin and environmental and socio-economic issues in Northern Ontario.



Chief Taynar Simpson

Anishinabek Nation
Chiefs Committee
for Environment

Alderville First
Nation

Chief Taynar Simpson has dedicated his life and career to the advancement of First Nations causes in Canada. For nearly thirty years, Chief Simpson has been leading national reconciliation efforts and projects.

As a civilian employee at National Defence Headquarters in the mid-nineties, Taynar was part of the team that brought Employment Equity and gender integration to the Canadian Forces. Starting in 1999, Chief Simpson worked on the Indian Residential School (IRS) litigation, IRS Alternative Dispute Resolution and eventually the IRS Settlement Agreement (IRSSA) process. He would spend the next 25 years working on national IRS reconciliation initiatives. Simpson's other positions include Communications Analyst at both DIAND and the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), Policy Analyst at AANDC and field reporter for Windspeaker news magazine.

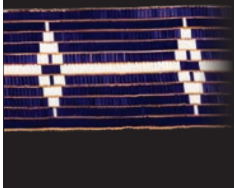
In 2000, Taynar consolidated his experience by founding his company, Wampum Records. Since then, the company has become Canada's premier research and consulting company on Indigenous issues. Wampum Records conducted the research for the Indian residential schools resolution, the day schools resolution, and the sixties scoop resolution national initiatives. Recently, Taynar was the project lead for the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR) Missing Children Phase 2 (MCP2) project that identified the thousands of children who perished at Canada's residential schools.

Chief Simpson has sat on several Boards and Trusts. Some of these Board positions include Chairman of the Board of Alderville Solar Inc. which is Canada's largest wholly Indigenous-owned energy project. He is currently the vice-Chair of the Dnaagdawenmag Binnoojiiyag Child and Family Services (DBCFS) Board of Directors. Chief Simpson is also the vice-Chair of the Ogemawahj Tribal Council (OTC). Taynar has been a Trustee on both the Alderville Williams Treaty Settlement Agreement Trust (AWTSAT) and the Alderville Community Trust (ACT). Chief Simpson recently joined the Board of Directors of the Anishnawbe Health Foundation. Taynar currently serves as the Chief of Alderville First Nation where he previously held the role of Councillor.





WAA GIIGIDOJIG
OUR SPEAKERS



**Dr. Jeannette
Corbiere-Lavell,
C.M.**

E'Niiganwidoon
E'Dbendaagzijing/
Citizenship
Commissioner,
Anishinabek Nation
Anishinabek Nation
Chiefs Committee
for Environment
Wiikwemkoong
Unceded Territory

Jeannette Vivian Corbiere-Lavell (Keewedanoung, “North Star”) is an Anishinabe activist, educator, principal, and community worker from Wiikwemkoong First Nation. She is a mother of three, Nimkii, Waubmemee and Ahzbik and a grandmother of seven. She is known for challenging gender discrimination in the Indian Act. In 1970, she lost her Indian status after marrying a non-Indigenous man and filed a lawsuit against the Canadian government, highlighting the sexist provisions of the Indian Act. Although her case was defeated in 1973 at the Supreme Court of Canada, her efforts helped lead to the 1985 Bill C-31, which restored status to Indigenous women. In 1985, Corbiere-Lavell was among many Indigenous women who regained their Indian status.

Keewedanoung is a founding member of the Ontario Native Women’s Association (ONWA) and has held leadership roles in International, National and Provincial Indigenous organizations including President of the Native Women’s Association of Canada from 2009 - 2012. She co-edited “Until Our Hearts Are On the Ground”, an anthology of Indigenous women’s stories. She has received numerous honours, including the Governor General’s Persons Award (2009), honorary doctorates from York University (2016), Nipissing University (2017) and Trent University (2019). She was inducted into the Order of Canada (2017) and her activism is featured in the Museum of Human Rights in Winnipeg.



Vince La Tassa
Program
Development
Coordinator
Invasive Species
Centre

Vince La Tassa is a Program Development Coordinator at the Invasive Species Centre who works predominantly with terrestrial and forest invasive species. In this role, Vince leads public outreach events and the development of educational resources.

He is the coordinator for the ISC’s Emerald Ash Borer and Ash Tree Preservation Project, a new initiative with the goal of mitigating the impacts of the Emerald Ash Borer on surviving ash trees, with a focus on Black Ash, a species at risk. He holds a Natural Environment Technologist diploma from Sault College and has previously worked with Natural Resources Canada.



Angela McEwen

Environmental Scientist and Owner, Waab-Shke-Bii-Saa Environmental
Batchewana First Nation

Angela McEwen is Anishinaabe, and Lakota with Arabian ancestry, a member of Batchewana First Nation from Obadjiwan, ON and Grand Marais in Minnesota. She currently works as an environmental scientist, owns and operates Waab-Shke-Bii-Saa Environmental and formerly as an investigative journalist. She grew up on the land hunting, fishing, foraging, berry picking, gardening, canning and harvesting. Angela comes from a direct line of Medicine people and Healers and carries and honours these gifts handed down from her Ancestors. Her Anishinaabe name is Rain Woman, she is Bear Clan, a Jingle Dress Dancer, Water Keeper, Spiritual Helper, Environmental Water and Soil Specialist, carries Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Teachings, and a Traditional Woman’s Hand Drum. Angela also incorporates land-based values, and land stewardship principles into her daily lifestyle and activities.

Angela has more than 30 years of experience working with First Nations as an environmental scientist, investigative journalist, construction and mitigation inspector, senior policy analyst, environmental consultant, project technologist and educator and volunteer. She specializes in water and soil investigation and remediation, transactional due diligence reports, scientific research reports investigating chemicals and contaminants in drinking and wastewater, source water protection investigation and analysis, and environmental plans studies and reports with an emphasis on Land-Based Values and Environmental Stewardship Principles.



Mathieu Levesque

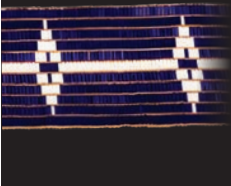
Indigenous Geoscience Liaison,
Ontario Geological Survey
Dokis First Nation

Mathieu Levesque is the Indigenous Geoscience Liaison for the Ontario Geological Survey. Mathieu was born and raised in Sturgeon Falls and is a member of the Dokis First Nation. After moving to Thunder Bay to attend Lakehead University he realized his passion for working with and helping Indigenous communities. On his own time, Mathieu enjoys spending time outside with his dogs and curating his large Indigenous woodland art collection.





WAA GIIGIDOJIG
OUR SPEAKERS



**Genevieve
Couchie**

Business
Operations
Manager

Nipissing First
Nation

Gen is the Business Operations Manager for Nipissing First Nation (NFN), drawing on two decades of experience in communications and economic development. After serving as the Nation's Communications Officer for seven years, she transitioned to her current role three years ago to support NFN's business ventures and partnerships, including the innovative Mnogin Greenhouse.

Guided by a strong commitment to creating value and opportunities for the Nation and its debendaagziwaad (citizens), Gen focuses on building community capacity and fostering sustainable economic growth that aligns with NFN's vision, values, and strategic objectives.



Joseph Goode

Manoomin
Coordinator

Chippewas of
Georgina Island

Joe is the Manoomin Coordinator for Georgina Island First Nation (GI), and will be entering his third year in his role in April. Joe's work background comes from environmental non-governmental organizations and advocating for environmental causes at the grassroots level. On GI, he is responsible for planting Manoomin, monitoring it, and engaging community members in knowledge sharing.

So far, Joe has gone through two planting cycles and is working hard to do anything he can to bring Manoomin back to Georgina Island. In his spare time, Joe likes to hike, fish, watch the NFL and NHL, and listen to and discuss sports analysis.





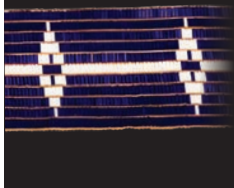
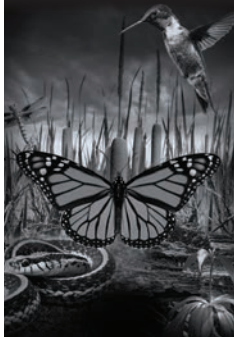
Silvia Sarapura

Associate Professor,
Rural Planning &
Development
University of Guelph

Silvia is from the Central Andes of Peru. Her academic work and personal experiences are closely connected to the landscapes, history, and traditions of the Quechua and Mestizo people in the region. Growing up in a place with great social, economic, and environmental diversity, she has witnessed both the strengths and struggles of Indigenous and marginalized communities. These experiences have deeply influenced her academic goals and commitment to promoting inclusion, diversity, representation, and equity. She is an agronomist specializing in capacity development, extension, and local innovation systems.

As an Andean woman, she recognizes both the advantages and challenges of her roles as a teacher and mentor. It helps ground her work in real experiences, encourages collaborative approaches to critically examine her research approaches and assumptions. Through her work, Silvia hopes to contribute to more inclusive and equitable food systems, reflecting the diversity and complexity of the communities she works with.





Ontario

Ministry of Mines (MINES)

Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR)

Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)

Ministry of Indigenous Affairs and First Nation Economic Reconciliation (IAFNER)

Canada

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC)
Indigenous Relations Sector

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)
Great Lakes Program

NATION COUNCIL

The Anishinabek Nation is supported by five Advisory Councils, which meet from time to time as individual groups or collectively to discuss areas of concern, review and provide advice on Anishinabek Nation program initiatives and engage in nation-building activities.

GETZIDJIG ADVISORY COUNCIL

Mishoomis Richard Assinewai, Anishinabek Nation Head Getzit

Mishoomis James Mishquart, Northern Superior Region

Ookomis Elsie Bissaillion, Lake Huron Region

Ookomis Donna Debassige, Lake Huron Region

Mishoomis Glen Marsden, Southeast Region

Mishoomis Leroy Dolson, Southwest Region

KWE-WUK ADVISORY COUNCIL

Donna Debassige, Lake Huron Region

Betsy Kechego, Southwest Region

Nora Sawyer, Southeast Region

Evelyn Stone, Northern Superior Region

ESHKI-NIIGIJIG ADVISORY COUNCIL

Pierre Debassige, Lake Huron Region Male Representative and Bonnet Holder

Brittnee Waindubence, Lake Huron Region Female Representative

Mackenzie Courchene, Northern Superior Region Femal Representative

Marcus Alexander Hardy, Northern Superior Region Male Representative

Lance Copegog, Southeast Region Male Representative

Terra Roy, Southeast Region Female Representative

Kingson Huff, Southwest Region Male Representative

Katelyn Peters, Southwest Region Female Representative

NINIWAG ADVISORY COUNCIL

NaWalka Greeshy Meegwun, Chippewas of Kettle and Stoney Point First Nation

Bryan Bellefeuille, Nipissing First Nation

Jack Trudeau, Serpent River First Nation

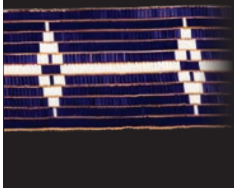
2SLGBTQQIA ADVISORY COUNCIL

NaWalka Greeshy Meegwun, Chippewas of Kettle and Stoney Point First Nation

Heidi Whetung, Curve Lake First Nation

Aaron Bowerman, Sheguiandah First Nation





Tuesday, February 11, 2025

8:30 am **Registration Opens**

Forum Welcome

- Thanksgiving - Ookomis Donna Debassige
- Mother Earth Drum performed by Nbiising Redhawks Drum Group

8:45 am

Opening Address

- Chief Cathy Bellefeuille-Stevens - Nipissing First Nation
- Deputy Grand Council Chief Chris Plain

9:10 am

Anishinabek Nation Leadership Panel

- Deputy Grand Council Chief Chris Plain
- Northern Superior Regional Chief Mel Hardy
- Southeast Regional Chief Marsha Smoke
- Southwest Regional Chief Joe Miskokomon

10:15 am

Health Break

10:30 am

Spirit of the Land

- Angel Ransom, First Nations Major Projects Coalition (FNMPC)
- Northern Superior Regional Chief Melvin Hardy
- Southwest Regional Chief Joe Miskokomon

11:15 am

Impact Assessment Act

12:00 pm

Lunch

Break Out Sessions (Livestream Ends)

	<i>Lake Huron</i>	<i>Northern Superior</i>	<i>Southeast / Southwest</i>
1:00 pm	<p>Cultural Burning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant Stevens 	<p>Creating an Invasive Species Management Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Derissa Vincentini • Vince La Tassa 	<p>Great Lakes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lorieann Whittaker
1:50 pm	<p>Great Lakes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lorieann Whittaker 	<p>Cultural Burning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant Stevens 	<p>Creating an Invasive Species Management Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Derissa Vincentini • Vince La Tassa
2:40 pm	Afternoon Break		
3:00 pm	<p>Creating an Invasive Species Management Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Derissa Vincentini • Vince La Tassa 	<p>Great Lakes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lorieann Whittaker 	<p>Cultural Burning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant Stevens
3:50 pm	Prize Draw and End of Day 1		

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

8:30 am **Registration Opens**

8:45 am **Welcome and Recap of Day 1**

9:00 am **Anishinabek Nation Councils Panel**

- Mishoomis Leroy Dolson, Getzidjig Advisory Council
- Ookomis Donna Debassige, Getzidjig Advisory Council
- Evelyn Stone, Kwe-Wuk Advisory Council
- Betsy Kehego, Kwe-Wuk Advisory Council
- Lance Copegog, Eshki-niigijig Advisory Council
- Katelyn Peters, Eshki-niigijig Advisory Council
- Heidi Whetung, 2SLGBTQQA+ Advisory Council
- Terra Roy, Eshki-niigijig Advisory Council
- Brittnee Waindubence, Eshki-niigijig Advisory Council

9:50 am **Wampum Belt Teaching**

- Dr. Alan Ojiig Corbiere, M'Chigeeng First Nation

10:45 am **Health Break**

11:00 am **Anishinabek Chiefs Committee on the Environment (CCE)**

- Northern Superior Regional Chief Melvin Hardy
- Chief Roger Thomas, Munsee Delaware First Nation
- Chief Taynar Simpson, Alderville First Nation
- Dr. Jeannette Corbiere-Lavell, Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory

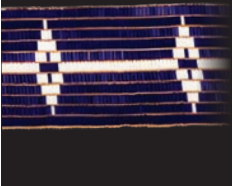
12:00 pm **Lunch**

Break Out Sessions (Livestream Ends)

	<i>Lake Huron</i>	<i>Northern Superior</i>	<i>Southeast / Southwest</i>
1:00 pm	Traditional Structure Framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alyssa Ray 	Incorporating Land-Based Values and Environmental Stewardship Principles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angela McEwen 	Ontario Geological Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathieu Levesque
1:50 pm	Ontario Geological Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathieu Levesque 	Traditional Structure Framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alyssa Ray 	Incorporating Land-Based Values and Environmental Stewardship Principles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angela McEwen
2:40 pm	Afternoon Break		
3:00 pm	Incorporating Land-Based Values and Environmental Stewardship Principles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angela McEwen 	Ontario Geological Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathieu Levesque 	Traditional Structure Framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alyssa Ray

3:50 pm **Prize Draw and End of Day 2**





Thursday, February 13, 2025

8:30 am **Registration Opens**

8:35 am **Welcome and Recap of Day 1 & 2**

8:40 am **Our Sacred Responsibilities: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) Calls for Justice in Impact Assessments**

- Alexandra Bridges, Keepers of the Circle
-

9:20 am **Agriculture and Food Security Panel**

- Genevieve Couchie, Nipissing First Nation
 - Joseph Goode, Chippewas of Georgina Island
 - Silvia Sarapura, University of Guelph
-

10:10 am **Health Break**

10:30 am **Robinson Huron Waawiindamaagewin**

- Stefanie Recollet
-

11:30 am **Closing Remarks**

11:45 am **Forum Closing**

- Thanksgiving - Ookomis Donna Debassige
 - Mother Earth Drum performed by Nbiising Redhawks Drum Group
-

12:00 pm **Forum Adjourned**







Jason Laronde

Director
Lands & Resources
and Economic
Development
Department
Anishinabek Nation

Jason Laronde is a citizen of Nipissing First Nation and the Director of the Lands & Resources and Economic Development Departments of the Anishinabek Nation.

During his long-standing tenure with the Anishinabek Nation, Jason has served on the frontline of managing natural resource issues. While on the senior management team for the Anishinabek Nation, he has contributed to nationhood priorities in the areas of self-government, jurisdiction, and socioeconomic development.

Jason practices what he preaches when it comes to exercising his communal rights as a harvester. One of his primary roles at the Anishinabek Nation is to support the advocacy of exercising and protection of rights. These rights have to be balanced with tremendous responsibility and maintain a healthy respect for Anishinabek principles, values, and teachings.

Jason's background in Civil Engineering plays a formative role when it comes to planning, designing, and managing projects, as well as overseeing the daily administration of the Lands & Resources and Economic Development Departments.



Rhonda Gagnon

Manager
Lands & Resources
Department
Anishinabek Nation

Rhonda Gagnon is an Ojibway from Dokis First Nation and is married with three children. She spends a lot of her time at camp in the Temagami Region where she is an avid hunter, fisher, and gatherer of medicines and berries.

Rhonda is the Manager of the Lands & Resources Department for the Anishinabek Nation and came on board in February 2007. She has been passionate about our environment and how human activities are affecting Mother Earth within the Anishinabek Nation.

Rhonda has an extensive background in the Environmental Sector; her educational background includes a college diploma in Environmental Protection and Compliance, and a Bachelor of Science Honours Degree in Environmental Science and Physical Geography. She obtained her Masters in Environmental Studies with a strong focus on "The Anishinabek Nation in the Great Lakes Basin and Government Perspectives on 'WHY' Consultation is Important", along with a Geomatics Certificate and a Watershed Management Certificate. During her university studies, she received two awards from the Natural Science and Engineering Research Council and the Presidential Gold Medal.



Elaine Commanda

Administrative
Services
Lands & Resources
Department
Anishinabek Nation

Elaine Commanda is the Administrative Services Assistant with the Lands & Resources Department for the Anishinabek Nation. Her administrative and educational background includes: Indigenous Social Services, Nipissing First Nation, Health Centre, Anishinabek Educational Institute, Canada Employment Centre, Canada Post, and the Department of National Defence.

Elaine is a member of many committees that focus on topics such as Natural Resources, Citizenship, Culture, Health, and Social Services. Her land-based teachings include Feather Carriers training, Traditional Medicines, and Cultural Teachings of which honours and takes guidance of the Medicine Wheel components and of the land, water, fire, and air.

We honour and acknowledge the ancestors (original ecologists) who provided Gikino'amaadiwinan (teachings) and Gikendaasowin (knowledge) of Mother Earth. These are both essential to achieving Mino-bimaadiziwin (long and wholesome life) and to uphold and share the original instructions for the future and the protectors of natural resources.



**Jenny-Lou
Campbell**

Policy Analyst –
Mining, Geographic
Information System
(GIS)
Lands & Resources
Department
Anishinabek Nation

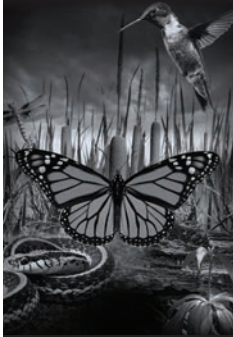
Jenny-Lou joined the Anishinabek Nation Lands & Resources Department in 2022 as a Policy Analyst for the Mines and Minerals file.

Growing up in Elliot Lake and Marathon, Jenny is the daughter of a miner and spent her summers working as a student at the Hemlo gold mines. She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Natural and Environmental Studies from Lakehead University and a Child and Family Worker diploma from Sault College and has held various technical roles as both a proponent and consultant in the mining industry.

Jenny has over 15 years of experience working on-site at operating mines in the engineering department, as well as project controls for developing capital and operating cost estimates and productivity for major mining projects. She also continues to advocate for women in verticals of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) as well as Mining, which is an area of special focus for her. Jenny has recently joined the Board of Directors at the Canadian Land Reclamation Association - Ontario Chapter.

Jenny is a member of Serpent River First Nation and currently resides in Sudbury. She enjoys spending any spare time on the land - snowshoeing in the winter and paddling in the summer!





GA A NOKIITMAJIG
OUR ORGANIZERS



Alyssa Ray

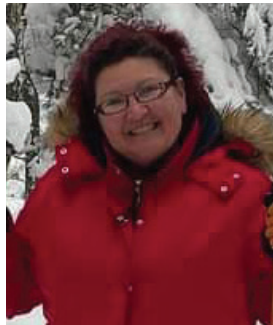
Policy Analyst –
Spirit of the Land,
Impact Assessment,
Anishinabek/
Ontario Resource
Management
Council (AORMC)

Lands & Resources
Department
Anishinabek Nation

Alyssa Ray is a proud member of the Red Rock Indian Band and recently joined the Lands and Resources Department, in May 2024, as a Policy Analyst working out of the Thunder Bay satellite office. She is the lead on the Impact Assessment/Spirit of the Land project and supports various other portfolios including AORMC and the Trapping Harmonization Agreement.

Before obtaining a Social Service Worker Diploma from Confederation College, Alyssa studied Aboriginal Law and Advocacy. Her education, lived experiences and early, rights-based teachings from her father, a residential school survivor, have guided her work in supporting the exercise and protection of Aboriginal and Treaty rights. Before joining the team at Anishinabek Nation, she worked in her community for 10+ years in many capacities, most recently as Director of Lands and Resources.

Alyssa lives in the small town of Nipigon, ON with her wife and teenage daughters. She enjoys coaching and playing hockey, attending powwows and spending time on the land.



Lorieann Whittaker

Policy Analyst –
Environmental
Issues, Great Lakes,
Climate Change

Lands & Resources
Department
Anishinabek Nation

Lorieann Whittaker joined the Lands & Resources Department as a Policy Analyst in 2021 and has been with the Anishinabek Nation since 2019, working in Education and Health before joining the Lands & Resources Department. She brings an extensive background in law, having worked 13 years as a sole practitioner in the North Bay area, practicing family, criminal, and child protection law.

In addition to her legal background, Lorieann has experience and training in several areas including health, mediation, program development, leadership, human resources, policy development, social welfare, Indigegogy practices, adult education, professional development, and community support services.

Lorieann volunteered as a member of the Board of Directors for the North Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre, John Howard Society, and Native People of Nipissing. She is currently the Treasurer for NorthStar Guardians Group in North Bay, a non-profit community service group serving disadvantaged individuals and families, which she helped to establish in 2021.



Francis Gallo

Program
Coordinator
– Agriculture,
Food Security,
Anishinabek/
Ontario Resource
Management
Council (AORMC),
Invasive Species
Lands & Resources
Department
Anishinabek Nation

Francis has been a Program Coordinator with the Lands & Resources Department since July 2023 and is the program lead for Anishinabek Nation's Agriculture and Food portfolio, as well as a coordinator for the Anishinabek/Ontario Resource Management Council (AORMC). Francis is deeply motivated by meaningful co-creation, driven by the belief that alone we are one drop, but together an ocean. Since obtaining a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Environmental Geography, coupled with a Certificate in Geomatics, this foundation has allowed Francis to build over 13 years of work experience in sustainable development - including roles in water resources management, renewable energy and planning, and biomass innovation.

In his spare time, you will find Francis most happy outdoors – cycling on his bike, paddling in rivers and lakes, backcountry camping, and growing hot peppers that he uses to create delicious hot sauces and other spicy items.

Francis is eager to support Anishinabek communities to achieve their food security and sovereignty goals and looks forward to growing a sector that will have a positive impact for generations to come.



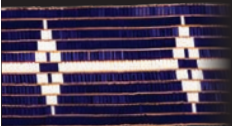
Grant Stevens

Program
Coordinator
– Emergency
Management
Lands & Resources
Department
Anishinabek Nation

Grant Stevens has been an Emergency Management Coordinator with the Anishinabek Nation Lands and Resources Department since July 2023.

Grant is from Nipissing First Nation, and grew up learning from his father the traditional practices of hunting, fishing, and trapping. Grant graduated from Sir Sandford Fleming College's Fish and Wildlife Technician Program in 2007 and has experience working in the fields of fisheries, forestry, mining, environment protection, and infrastructure.





Faith Ezeazolo

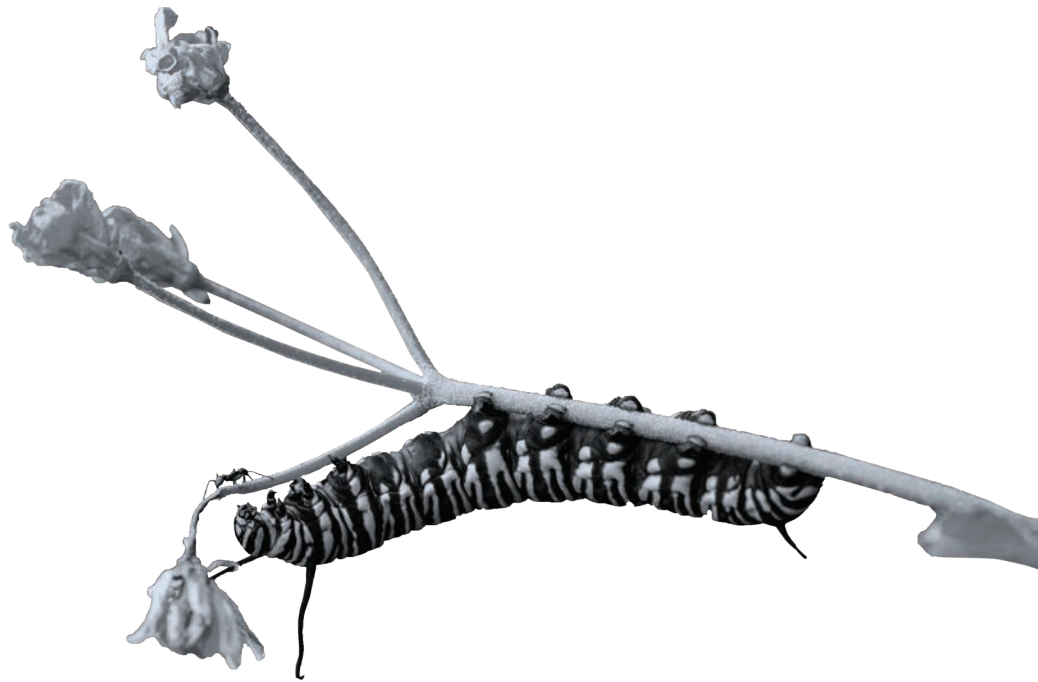
Program
Coordinator
– Emergency
Management

Lands & Resources
Department
Anishinabek Nation

Faith Ezeazolo is an Emergency Management Coordinator with the Anishinabek Nation Lands & Resources Department. She has over five years of experience as an Emergency Manager and has a Master's Degree in Disaster and Emergency Management from York University. She is originally from Nigeria, Africa, and is currently residing in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

Faith's interest in Emergency Management stems from experiencing flooding while growing up, where her home was usually flooded every other year due to living in a hazard-prone area. She grew up with a desire to make a change through education and promoting preparedness for undeveloped communities.

Faith continues to create awareness and strives to ensure First Nations are not exempted from future nationwide emergency planning with consideration for their culture, people, and beliefs.



RESOURCES



Aki-Gittagim-Magoon (Lands & Resources) GeoHub

This is the main hub for the Lands & Resources Department and serves as a central depository for a suite of geospatial data, tools, applications, and resources developed for Anishinabek First Nations. A wide range of data and information is available here on land use and occupancy, harvesting, place names, infrastructure, and resource development activities. It also hosts the Mining and Great Lakes hubs.

For more information, visit: aki-gittagim-magoon-anishinabek.hub.arcgis.com



Biiwaabikoke (Mining) GeoHub

This hub offers interactive maps and applications, data visualizations, and informative content on mining activities throughout the Anishinabek Nation. This resource serves as a tool for anyone seeking a deeper understanding of the complexities associated with mining, fostering awareness, and facilitating informed discussions.

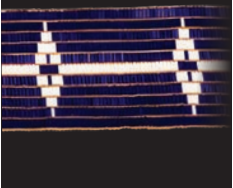
For more information, visit: mining-anishinabek.hub.arcgis.com



Nayanno-nibiimaang Gichigamiin (Great Lakes) GeoHub

This hub contains information about the Great Lakes, encompassing Lakewide Action and Management Plans (LAMP), the Great Lakes Guardians' Council, and lake-specific geospatial data. The platform serves as a space for users to explore and download data, discover applications, and collaborate with others to address significant challenges confronting the Great Lakes.

For more information, visit: nayaano-nibiimaang-gichigamiin-great-lakes-anishinabek.hub.arcgis.com



Anishinabek
Agriculture & Food

Anishinabek Agriculture & Food is a resource hub aimed at fostering agricultural development and food security within the Anishinabek Nation. It covers a wide range of topics including food security and sovereignty, traditional agriculture, aquaculture, environmental sustainability, climate change, and many others. The site also provides information on funding opportunities, agricultural organizations, and agricultural law. Bookmark this website and be sure to visit regularly as we have several exciting updates in the works.

For more information, visit: www.anishinabekagriculture.ca



Anishinabek
Agricultural Asset
Inventory

The Anishinabek Agricultural Asset Inventory is an online interactive mapping tool displaying food and agriculture related initiatives within the Anishinabek Nation. With this tool, users can identify the locations of 25 unique subsectors of agriculture activities, ranging from aquaculture to wild rice. Users can also search for specific communities and learn about the activities happening within. Additional layers are also available for informational and planning purposes, including soil layers, water well locations, utility lines, reserve boundaries, and others. If you would like to suggest activities to add to this map, please contact us.

This publicly available resource can be accessed by visiting: bit.ly/anagri



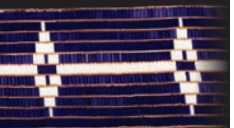
The Spirit of the
Land Toolkit

The Indigenous Cultural Rights and Interests Toolkit (“ICRIT”, or the “Toolkit”) represents a series of integrated policy and technical guidance (“Tools”) for characterizing and exploring compensation for project-specific and cumulative effects on Indigenous cultural rights, in support of consent-based decision making on major projects and the protection and promotion of Indigenous cultural rights.

For more information, visit: https://fnmpc.ca/wp-content/uploads/FNMPC_SOTL_Toolkit.pdf



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NOTES**



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A series of horizontal lines for taking notes, starting with a dotted line and followed by solid lines.



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