



TUMBLEWEED

June 2004 Edition

Three Communities... One Goal.

Three First Nation communities recently banded together to complete the massive undertaking of training three community justice committees on the entire FSIN Training Curriculum for Community Justice Committees and Workers. This undertaking was completed in record time by Ochapowace First Nation, Ocean Man First Nation and White Bear First Nation. The training was facilitated by Susan Jolly-Maxie of Southeast Treaty #4 Tribal Council and Nola Mahingen of Yorkton Tribal Council with assistance from the F.S.I.N. Training office.

This training initiative was a part of the South East Treaty #4 Tribal Council's 5-Year Strategic Plan for Healing. The Healing Plan is an Elder guided process working towards the goal of exercising our inherent right to administer within the Treaty #4 territory. We would like to honour and recognize the eight Elders within the three com-

munities who completed this training.

At the completion of the training, an Honouring Ceremony for the three Community Justice Committees was the next task undertaken by these determined and dedicated communities. The ceremony took place on April 18th at White Bear First Nation and included a Feast, the Honouring Ceremony and a Round Dance. The turn out for the event was unprecedented and the community pride and warmth was apparent to all who attended.

Justice is a high energy field that requires passion, commitment and a desire and on-going care for your community's physical, mental and spiritual well-being. As volunteer members of the justice committees these community members' concern for their communities and their commitment to make a difference is apparent and admirable and for

that we all thank you!

PARTICIPANTS

Ocean Man First Nation

- Chief Connie Bigeagle
- Margaret Bruce
- Roy Bison
- Linda Bigeagle
- Trevor Ewack
- Lillian Bigeagle
- Denise Lonechild

Ochapowace First Nation

- Sam Isaac
- Gerald Kenny
- Brenda Still
- Delbert Still
- Debbie Manhas
- Tessa Kinistino
- John Watson
- Audrey Isaac
- Rosalee Kinistino
- Orval Bear
- Margeret Bear
- Julia Belanger
- Wanda Watson
- Sharon Bear

White Bear First Nation

- Marion Littlechief
- Russell Standingready
- Darelene Redwood
- Denise Lonechild
- Chad Pasap
- Elva Shepherd
- Phyllis Gibson
- Debbie Ann Maxie
- Crystal Maxie

Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Staff Sgt. Charlie Wood

June 2004 Edition

Inside this issue:

<i>Community News</i>	1
Three Communities, One Goal.	
<i>Training</i>	2
Service Delivery, No More!	
<i>Corrections</i>	2
Reintegration—An Introduction	
<i>Special Investigations Unit</i>	2
SIU—Expansion is the Future.	
Justice Reform	3
<i>Policing</i>	3
Communities Taking Action	
<i>Administration</i>	3
The Backbone!	
F.Y.I. & Contact Numbers	4



For more info. Please contact:

Suite 200-103A Packham Avenue
Saskatoon, Sk.
S7N 4K4

Phone: 306-956-6931
Fax: 306-665-0134
Website: www.fsin.com

Service Delivery, No MORE!

For five years F.S.I.N.'s Training Office has maintained a partnership with Saskatchewan Justice and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The partnership coordinated workshops focused on facilitating Victim-Offender Mediations.

The original spirit of the partnership was to build capacity within Saskatchewan First Nations. This training was intended to develop a local trainer in each community. These local trained community individuals could then facilitate specialized workshops relevant to the community upon request. Unfortunately, this occurred at a minimum level so FSIN has

stepped away from the partnership.

The 2004-2005 Training work plan empowers communities by directing funds to centralized Tribal Councils who will coordinate and complete trainings at their local community level. This allows for better access to training by First Nations as well as possible funds generated by charging individuals or organizations a fee for participation in the workshops.

The plan is a common sense approach to empowerment and capacity building within our First Nation communities. It will allow communities to tailor the training so it is relevant to them at the local level,

while respecting that different communities grow at different rates.

Steps have already occurred as a result of this plan. The File Hills and Yorkton Tribal Councils have already established an observational/mentoring partnership which is a great start to a promising year.

We encourage all communities to start establishing relationships with other communities to promote our own First Nation talents.

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact us. See back page for staff contact numbers.

Reintegration—An Introduction.

The Reintegration of incarcerated people to First Nation communities and urban areas is on the rise in Saskatchewan.

Reintegration is a method of returning an incarcerated individual back to the community through a process that is in direct consultation with the community. Communities need to be aware of their rights, roles and responsibilities in the reintegration process.

First Nation communities across Saskatchewan, no doubt, have been exposed to corrections statistics and know that First Nations have the highest rate of incarcerated individuals. What others

seem to forget, is that these "incarcerated individuals" are people who have families and loved ones in our communities. First Nations are starting to realize that they can assist these individuals to find their healing path.

Reintegration acknowledges that people make mistakes; a more effective way to deal with them is for them to take responsibility for their mistakes instead of locking them up. Many incarcerated youth feel that youth facilities are like high schools for criminals and University is when you are sentenced to an adult correctional centre. This must be avoided at all costs.

Many community members feel that the problems of today are overwhelming but through the direct intervention of caring citizens, problems can be remedied. You can become involved by keeping in touch with your local committees or boards.

Developmental plans for a First Nation oriented reintegration plan for our First Nation communities is underway at the F.S.I.N. We will keep you posted on this latest Corrections project.

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact us. See back page for staff contact numbers.

S.I.U.—Expansion is the Future.

The Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) Special Investigation Unit (SIU) handles complaints for First Nations with regards to law enforcement agencies. It was established in response to the numerous frozen bodies of First Nations men found in the Saskatoon area.

Since the SIU opened its toll free line it has received a flurry of phone calls that range from inquiries for advice to requests for assistance regarding major incidents that have occurred. It has become quite obvious that this process is not only for complaints but also provides confidence and assurance for First Nations that their complaints will be taken seriously and will be investigated further, if warranted.

The SIU has firmly established itself provincially and globally as an excellent process for First Nations to access when an incident occurs with law enforcement officers, whether municipal or RCMP. It is the only First Nation focused and driven complaints office in Saskatchewan. It is also a credit to the Saskatchewan First Nation communities who provided the strength and unity to make a goal like SIU happen.

This success has come with an unexpected result; the complaints area has expanded. SIU has received various calls regarding housing complaints, Saskatchewan Environment & Resource Management (SERM) complaints, Indian Child & Family Services (ICFS) com-

plaints and medical complaints.

As such SIU is exploring options for expanding the office in order to address complaints in these important areas. We will keep you posted as to their progress.

We, at FSIN, strive to make everyday circumstances better for First Nations across Saskatchewan and SIU is a giant step in that direction.

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact us. See back page for staff contact numbers.

The SIU Toll Free Number is:
1-877-353-3746

Justice Reform

As you are aware, the Commission on First Nations and Metis Peoples and Justice Reform (JRC), publicly released its final report on June 21st, 2004. JRC's mandate was to review the current justice system and to find solutions to overcome discrimination and racial 'practices' against First Nations and Metis peoples.

FSIN presented its submission to the JRC in February 2004. The submission focuses on Treaty and First Nation jurisdiction. These focus areas lay the groundwork for the First Nation designed and administered justice and governance structure.

The JRC Final Report contains many excellent recommendations that will provide much needed support for First Nation community justice programs. Over the years the FSIN has advocated for many of these same changes that are now included in the report's recommendations.

First Nations were very clear throughout the community dialogues that they have the answers to solve many of their own justice issues; what they need now are the resources to implement their solutions.

Our forefathers negotiated Treaty to se-

cure a position for future generations to come, and to live in peace with all people who came to this country to live.

These nation-to-nation agreements were based on the Treaty relationship that was to mutually benefit both parties. First Nations must be equal partners in this relationship.

Meaningful change can happen if we build on the original intent of Treaty & the Treaty relationship. We can make a better tomorrow for future generations.

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact us. See back

Policing—Communities Taking Action

Policing is hitting new heights within Saskatchewan First Nations and exploring new territory for stand alone First Nation policing that can be tailored to fit community needs.

This is an exciting and dynamic time where changes to current systems and history making agreements are being explored and, in some cases, negotiated.

The FSIN Policing Office, in an equal and balanced partnership with First Nation communities, is committed to finding a clear path towards an independent First Nation policing model.

For twelve years, the Policing Office of the FSIN Justice Secretariat has been involved in a partnership with the Solicitor General's Office and Saskatchewan Jus-

tice. The partnership has not enjoyed the benefits of a balanced relationship.

As a result, the Policing Office is taking a new path and devoting attention and energy on "big picture" framework development in direct consultation with First Nation communities.

The two most important factors in determining the direction for the First Nation policing are:

- #1 Community Input & Direction, and
- #2 Chiefs Resolutions regarding policing.

With these voices providing direction and focus the Policing Office will achieve the goals that have been set down for them. The FSIN draws its strength and takes its

direction from the 74 Saskatchewan First Nation communities and is very much aware that its role in the provincial justice structure is defined and held by this strength.

The only method to truly find an answer to any community's problem is to empower the community to find its own solution. A healthy and respectful relationship, like the one between FSIN and First Nations, is the perfect environment to foster the kind of success stories and results that we envision for the future of our communities.

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact us. See back page for staff contact numbers.

Administration—The Backbone!

The Administrative core of the FSIN Justice Secretariat is acknowledged as the "backbone of the Justice Secretariat" and is currently staffed by three efficient, multifaceted and outgoing administrative employees. All three ladies are relatively new which did not prevent them from jumping head first into their duties while managing to make "not a ripple" during their adjustment period.

Christine Clarke is the Administrative Officer for the Justice Secretariat and handles duties pertaining to the F.S.I.N. Justice Commission and the Policy &

Planning office.

Rebecca Constant is the Policing Administrative Assistant and is charged with the responsibility of handling duties and requests pertaining to the area of First Nations policing.

Crystal Rokosh is the Training Administrative Assistant and is responsible for handling duties and requests in the area of training as well as being the liaison for the Saskatchewan Indian Justice Council.

The Administrative work-plan for the 2004-2005 year includes the develop-

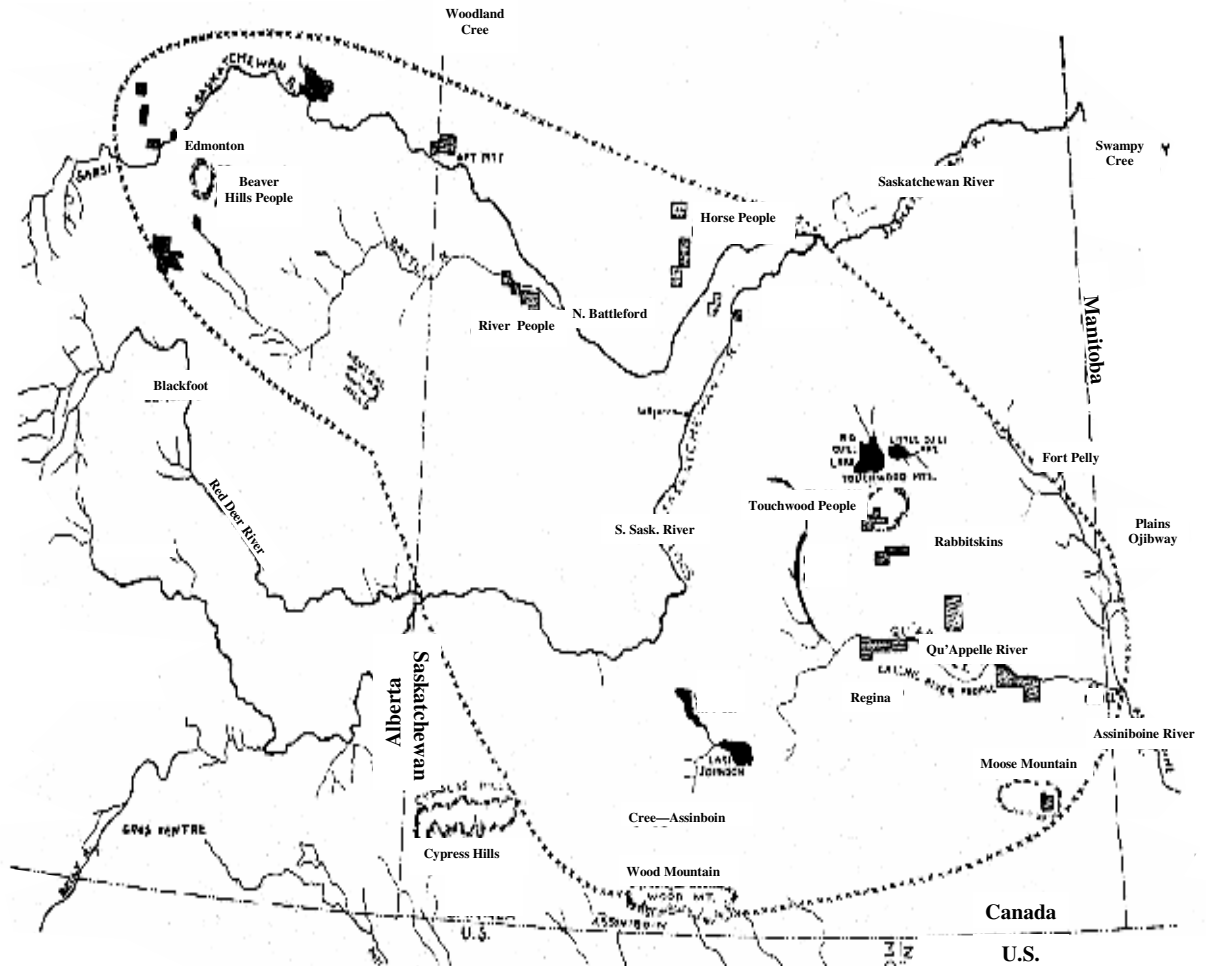
ment of an Internal Procedure Manual designed specifically for day-to-day operations within the F.S.I.N Justice Secretariat and the development and distribution of the quarterly newsletter "Tumbleweed".

Their focus is to increase office efficiency and to promote a team building approach to administrative developments. We have every confidence they will excel and look forward to a successful year.

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact us. See back page for staff contact numbers.

Map of First Nation Territory—1860 to 1870

Area inside the circle—The original map was poor quality and we have tried to fix it up but were not able to retain all original information. As a result, the map is missing some relevant information and for this we do apologize.



Let us put our minds together and see what kind of life we can make for our children."

~Sitting Bull~

F.S.I.N. Justice Secretariat—Staff Listing (as of: July 9, 2004)

NAME	TITLE	DIRECT LINE
Lawrence Joseph	Vice Chief	956-6937
Josephine Williams	Administrative Assistant to V/C	956-6937
Doris Greyeyes	Executive Director-Justice	956-1030
Christine Clarke	Administrative Officer - Justice	956-6909
Marc Longjohn	Corrections Program Manager	956-1021
Lesley Whiteman	Policing Liaison Officer	956-6911
Oliver Williams	Senior Special Investigator - SIU	665-1215
Janice Linklater	Data Entry - SIU	665-2240
Rebecca Constant	Administrative Assistant - Policing	956-6901
Crystal Rokosh	Administrative Assistant - Training	956-6943
Crystal Albert	Researcher - Justice	956-6931