



We are glad to have celebrated our Spring Feast and Graduations for the Elementary and High Schools. Gaagizidowad gikino'amaadiwin (they have finished school). As we enter the summer months, we are excited to continue the work our teams do to strengthen our Anishinaabe way, with the purpose of building a better, stronger, healthier life for the Anishinaabeg — Mino-Bimaadiziwin.

We are happy to share our Spring Newsletter with you.



Departmental Updates



David Brotherston
IT/Administrative Support, Bimose HUB

Leading up to Spring 2023, Wabaseemoong had a critical emergency with their clear well building that resulted in complete loss of water services for the entire community. The response efforts required extensive coordination with external contracting services, as well as an immediate call to action for the HUB Operators. HUB Staff were heavily dedicated to providing emergency support for an extended period until a solution was found and water services were restored.

The HUB’s efforts required staff to compromise holiday time with families and devoted nearly 300 hundred service hours to the community until the situation was resolved. The HUB Operators dedication was instrumental to the successful resolution of the issue and we are happy to report that water services have stabilized following the event.



Ashlee Tom
Education Administrative Assistant, Anishinaabe Student Achievement

Boozhoo Nindiwemaaganag!

Spring is always a busy time in the Bimose Education department. Whether we are wrapping up year-end projects or diving into our new year activities, our team is always on the move.

New Staff

- Jasmine Darling - Administrative Assistant
- Jeff Qi - IT Systems & Service Technician

Activities

- IIFN Cultural Week Activities - Language Bowl, Falconry Presentation and outdoor games
- Anishinaabemowin! Ever Fun Conference (March 4 &5) - Highlights 110 participants and 20 staff and facilitators. Signed Language Declaration
- Anishinaabemowin PD - Every Thursday at 3:15 PM
- Bear Witness Pow Wow
- Language Bowl- Eagle Lake Winner - Sol Mamakwa in attendance

Training

- Lexia Training
- Cultivating Safe Spaces Training





Anishinaabemowin Declaration

Anishinaabemowin is crucial in the understanding of our Ancestral Histories, Ceremonies, Teachings, Traditions, Philosophies, Writing Systems and Literatures. Anishinaabemowin teaches us things that are solely Anishinaabe.

We are the Anishinaabeg of Turtle Island, we undertake to use, revitalize and strengthen Anishinaabemowin in our communities and organizations, to ensure our future generations know who they are, and their roles and responsibilities as Anishinaabeg.

On this 5th day, in the month of March, in the year of 2023 at the Bimose Tribal Council Anishinaabemodaa Conference in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

We the Anishinaabemowin...

... **SPEAKERS** make a commitment to teach and share our language and knowledge with Anishinaabeg; the Unborn, Children, Youth and Adults to honour, revitalize and ensure the growth of our language.

... **LEARNERS** make a commitment to seek out, sit with and learn from language speakers and knowledge keepers to honour, revitalize and ensure the growth of our language.





Samantha Cameron
Jordan's Principle Navigator, Jordan's Principle Regional HUB

Meet the Bimose Jordan's Principle Regional Hub team!



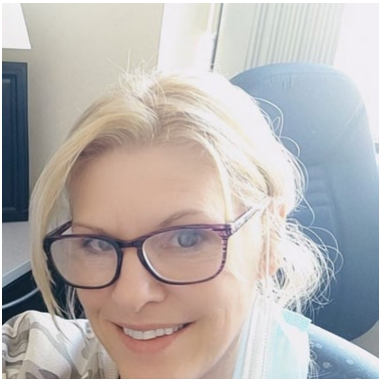
Samantha Cameron
Navigator/Manager



Amanda Gray
Support Worker



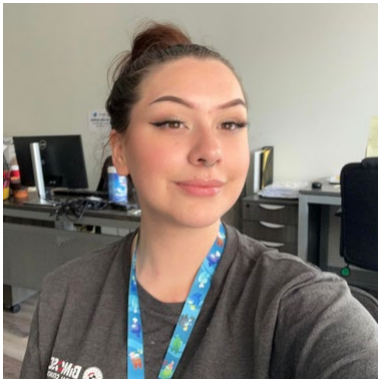
Cathy Cameron
Service Coordinator



Delane Kapera
Service Coordinator



Miigwan Cameron
Technical Writer



Cassandra Hall
Summer Student

Missing photo of team member Pamela Gillman, Support Worker.





Saleem Memon
Senior Engineer, Technical Services Department

Bimose Tribal Council's (BTC) technical expertise is promoted through the presence of relevant resources, and experienced staff in the Technical Service Department (TSD). All staff within the TSD work collaboratively to provide technical services for BTC-affiliated First Nation Communities.

The promotion of interdisciplinary teamwork combined with senior management support provides means to deliver timely service to gain the confidence and trust of the affiliated First Nation Communities.

The TSD group comprises positions that are primarily involved in the performance, inspection, and leadership of skilled technical activities. Notwithstanding the generality of the foregoing, for greater certainty, it includes positions that have, as their primary purpose, the responsibility for the following activities:

1. The Engineering staff in TSD is responsible for acquiring funds for First Nation Communities involving major capital projects, seeking consulting services for the design and contract documents. In addition to the above, engineering staff provide project management services, which involve general project oversight, correspondence, financial management, physical progress inspections, reporting, and the management of prime consultants & general contractors.

Major infrastructure ongoing projects are water distribution renewal in SL39, Water Treatment Plant upgrade and water main replacement in Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation, and 63-lot subdivision in Wabaseemoong Independent Nation.

The Technical Services Officer for Housing in the TSD is responsible for securing funds for new construction, renovation, and lot servicing under various funding programs. As required, the TSD for Housing prepares the physical and financial progress of the funded projects under construction, including housing inspections.

TSD has submitted the funding application for houses in all affiliated FN communities under Rapid Housing Initiative.

2. The Fire Prevention Officer in the TSD endeavors to advise on measures to reduce the likelihood of fire-related incidents happening in the First Nation Communities. Where reasonable, prevention measures are taken in preference to protective measures like mitigation, reducing the severity of any incidents that occur.

Presently, the National Indigenous Fire Safety Council (NIFSC), in collaboration with Indigenous Service Canada (ISC), and Bimose Tribal Council (BTC), is working on a firefighting pilot project for BTC-affiliated FN communities. One of the project's key deliverables is to assist First Nation Communities with developing a fire and safety assessment and Action Plan.

NIFSC has completed Fire and Life Safety Assessment for all First Nation Communities.

3. The Emergency Management Coordinator in the TSD advises on preparing plans and procedures for responding to natural disasters and other emergencies. In coordination with ISC officials, and members of First Nation Communities, the

emergency management coordinator also helps lead the response during and after emergencies.

TSD has distributed emergency kits supplied by Treaty 3 to all FN communities.

4. The Waste Management Coordinator in the TSD provides professional advice to the First Nation Communities on organizing and managing waste disposal, collection, and recycling facilities. The Waste Management Coordinator reviews First Nation's current waste handling, storage, and disposal policies for hazardous and non-hazardous waste to ensure it complies with applicable regulations.

TSD is following up with ISC on the two MCAs for existing landfill site cleanup and a Feasibility Study for Transfer Station for Washagmis Bay First Nation.

This position is currently vacant; the TSD is working diligently to ensure it meets the solid waste service needs of the community in a timely fashion.

Beverly Williamson **Policy Analyst**

Boozhoo, Aaniin, Makade Gwan Kwan Kwe n'dishinikaaz, Namé n'dodem, Iskatewiizaagegan n'doonjii. It has been a busy spring, and I have becoming more involved with Bimose in developing policies, policy reviews, and creating new processes. I am very pleased to be working with a great bunch of people who enjoy what they do!

Policy work is a slow process in some cases—I am still continuing to work on policies that I started to work on in the winter. In progress is a basic overview of Jordan's Principle. I would be assisting with Jordan's Principle framework, potential model and program policies and procedures, which would be a strategic plan with Samantha and her team. Recently, I attended Jordan's Principle Training in Winnipeg to learn more and prepare a plan to work with the team. Furthermore, I attended an inaugural event called Indigenous Heritage and History Gathering in Ottawa to learn how we can create a framework for land-based learning.

I have been working with Human Resources to review our draft personnel policies for Bimose and Kiizhik School, and this is still a work in progress. In addition to supporting Human Resources, the Social Media Coordinator and I have created and completed onboarding kits for new employees that include Bimose's email signature, letterhead, and current personnel policies, which are offered in a Bimose-branded laptop bag, a tote bag, and hat. These gifts are part of welcoming new employees, which have been well received!

Lastly, I researched and created some IT Policies such as System Security, Remote Access, Back up and Recovery, Electronic Mail, Acceptable Use, Incident Response and further documents. Again, these are ready for new IT to review. I'd like to thank David Brotherston and Cody Shaw for their input.

I submitted a proposal to obtain two post-secondary students to assist Bimose with creating and writing the history or storyline of Bimose. I can't wait to see the start of this project!

Mya Horley **Social Media Coordinator**

Boozhoo friends! These past few months have been jam-packed with Pow-Wow season, land-based learning activities, Spring feasts, and graduations. Behind the scenes I have been busy maintaining our three websites for Gaagagekiizhik Elementary School, Bimose Community High School, and the NEW Bimose Tribal Council website. In addition, I continue to manage and create content for our four Facebook pages:

Gaagagekiizhik Elementary School (Kiizhik), Bimose Community High School, Gaagagegiizhigook Childcare Centre (GGW Childcare), and Bimose Tribal Council.

In the future, we will be adding some additional social media connections, one of which was launched early in anticipation of the National Indigenous Peoples Day Pow-Wow Honouring Our Graduates. This new Bimose YouTube channel was launched so that we could LIVE Stream the Pow-Wow! In just one day, June 21, 256 people viewed our LIVE Stream. As of July 4, we have 2,342 views!



BIMOSE
TRIBAL COUNCIL

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY 2023

HONOURING OUR GRADUATES POW-WOW



Since rolling out the online Social Media Request Form, I've been able to quantify, track, and better prioritize my growing workload. As some of you may know, I also double as Bimose's photographer, offering graphic design help on select projects, and overseeing these quarterly newsletters. Therefore, having this internal process for Social Media and Photography Requests has truly been a lifesaver in ensuring my work is timely and organized.

Here are some fun statistics and milestones that have been achieved since the Winter/Fall newsletter. During March 1 to June 30, 2023, we have seen the following Facebook results:

- Bimose Tribal Council gained 119 Followers since March 1, 2023.
- 260 unique social media posts created and shared on one or more of the following Facebook channels: Bimose Tribal Council, Kiizhik Elementary School, Bimose Community High School, and GGW Childcare.
- We received a total of 15,097 Total Page Views, split up by channels: Bimose 6,083 / Kiizhik 5,263 / Bimose Community High School 1,239 / GGW Childcare 2,512. Page Views refers to the number of times our Facebook Page was visited as a result of someone seeing a post of ours, and being interested enough to click our Profile Page to see more!
- 27 unique job ads were created (career-related boosted Facebook posts), with those job ads reaching a Total Reach of 311,298 unique people. For those job ads, we received 11,322 Engagements (e.g. likes, comments, shares); 4,819 of which are Clicks to Website (to either bimose.ca/careers or kiizhik.ca/employment).



Safety Tips from our Joint Health & Safety Committee

Elizabeth Blyth
Emergency Management Coordinator, Technical Services

Summer is a time for family road trips, outdoor fun in the sun, and hopefully lots of great weather. Here are some simple reminders to prepare for safe summer days:



Stay Cool in the Heat

Keep cool and hydrated and minimize your time in the sun between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Drink plenty of water, find shade, visit cool buildings, slow down, bathe in cool water, and wear light-colored clothing. Never leave children or pets inside a parked vehicle. Wear sunscreen, hats, and long clothing, and do your best to stay out of the sun.



Wear the Right Helmet

Everyone is encouraged to wear a helmet when cycling, inline skating, and skateboarding. The additional cushioning in a helmet could save your life. In bicycle mishaps, the forehead usually makes first contact with the ground.



When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors

Stay inside for at least 30 minutes after the last rumble of thunder. If you can hear thunder, you can get hit by lightning. Take shelter immediately in a sturdy, fully enclosed building with wiring and plumbing.



Stay Safe While Camping

If strong winds, hail or a tornado are developing while camping in a tent or tent-trailer, move to the closest building or a hard-topped vehicle. Make every effort to get to a suitable shelter. If no shelter is available, seek refuge deep in a thick stand of trees in the lowest-lying area.



Avoid the Bugs – And Their Bite

Avoid being outdoors at dawn or dusk, when mosquitoes are most active. Keep in mind that ticks are often found along trail edges, mostly in wooded areas or tall grass. Light-coloured clothing is less attractive to mosquitoes and allows you to see ticks more easily.



Pack an Emergency Kit

You may have some kit items already, such as a flashlight, food, water, and a manual can opener. Make sure they are organized and easy to find in case you need to evacuate your home.



Keep Food Fresh

Chilling food properly is one of the most effective ways to reduce the risk of foodborne illness. Leftovers should be chilled promptly, but remember to throw them away if they have been out at room temperature for more than two (2) hours.



Make a (Safe) Splash

Never leave a child unattended in water, not even for a second. Pick the best time of the day to swim and avoid swimming at night and in stormy weather.



Stay Safe on the Roads

Canada has nearly 900,000 kilometers of the road — Every year in Canada, about 10,000 children (from infants to 12-year olds) are hurt or killed on the roads. Make sure your children are always buckled-up properly while in the car, even for short trips. And remember, the back seat is always the safest place for your children.



Respect Fire Bans

Be aware of fire zones and listen to bans set in place by the local municipality or the Ministry of Natural Resources. Notices of fire bans can be found at Kenora.ca or Ontario.ca and on various signage around the city. Ensure your home is firesafe by keeping a fire extinguisher nearby, testing your smoke detector, and reducing fire fuels around your property.



Be Ready with a Home Fire Escape Plan

Dave Crow

Fire Prevention Officer, Technical Services

This is your reminder to check and test your smoke alarms. Be sure to do this every month! This is also a great time to discuss your family's Fire Escape Plan. Here are some tips when it comes to planning your safety:

1. Plan two ways out of the house.
2. Choose an outside meeting place a safe distance in front of your home where everyone can meet after they've escaped.
3. Households with children should consider drawing a floor plan of your home, marking the ways out, Meet Up location, and where the smoke alarms are located. Do this activity with your kids.

Try [Sparky's Home Fire Escape Plan Worksheet!](#)

How to make a Home Fire Escape Plan

100 YEARS
1922-2022
FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

Visit Sparky.org for more activities.

- ☐ Draw a map of your home. Show all doors and windows.
- ☐ Visit each room. Find two ways out.
- ☐ All windows and doors should open easily. You should be able to use them to get outside.
- ☐ Make sure your home has smoke alarms. Push the test button to make sure each alarm is working.
- ☐ Pick a meeting place outside. It should be in front of your home. Everyone will meet at the meeting place.
- ☐ Make sure your house or building number can be seen from the street.
- ☐ Talk about your plan with everyone in your home.
- ☐ Make sure everyone in your home knows how to dial 911 or your local emergency number.
- ☐ Practice your home fire drill!
- ☐ Make your own home fire escape plan using the grid provided on page 2.

Sample Escape Plan

1st FLOOR

2nd FLOOR

Kids

Sparky® is a trademark of NFPA®. ©NFPA 2022



We're Hiring!



WE'RE HIRING

Available Roles

- Executive Director
- Data Management IT Technician
- Technical Services Inspector
- Solid Waste Coordinator
- Culture and Language Resource
- Elementary & High School Teachers
- Special Education Teacher
- IT Technician
- Guidance Counsellor
- Language Teacher
- Education Assistant
- Cook/Housekeeper
- Nutrition Assistant

APPLY NOW!

Bimose Tribal Council is growing and we're looking to hire for a number of roles within IT, Technical Services, Education, and Early Childhood Education.

Explore BTC's career opportunities by visiting bimose.ca/careers. You can apply by email at careers@bimose.ca or by our handy online form.



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Anishinaabe Floral Set art from Neebinnaukzhik Southall, Neebin Studios.
Sparky’s Home Fire Escape Plan is from the National Fire Protect Association.

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