

# BIMOSE

## TRIBAL COUNCIL

### Summer/Fall 2025 Newsletter





**BIMOSE**  
TRIBAL COUNCIL

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Boozhoo,

As we reflect on the summer and fall seasons, I want to extend my heartfelt appreciation to our staff, partners, and community members for your continued dedication to the work we share. These past months have been filled with meaningful learning, relationship-building, and growth across all of our programs and schools. From language revitalization initiatives to land-based learning, infrastructure development, and community-driven gatherings, every accomplishment is a reflection of the collective effort and commitment within Bimose Tribal Council. Chi-miigwech to everyone who has contributed your time, energy, and expertise to support our students, families, and our 10 First Nation Member Communities.

This season has also highlighted the strength and resilience of our communities as we continue moving forward with shared goals rooted in Anishinaabe values. Whether through education, health, early years programming, technical services, or economic development, our teams are building pathways that honour our culture, uplift our learners, and strengthen long-term capacity across all ten Nations we serve. As we prepare for the winter season, I look forward to continuing this important work together.

Miigwech for your ongoing support and for the care you bring to your roles each and every day!

Fawn Wapioke, Executive Director  
Bimose Tribal Council Inc.

# POLICY ANALYST UPDATE

Beverly Williamson, Policy Analyst



Boozhoo!

I hope everyone had a great late Summer/Fall season! It has been a busy quarter by prioritizing Bimose Tribal Council's core foundational policies remain current, effective and aligned with organizational goals. A numbered template system with audit notes has been developed to enhance transparency and track revisions. Policies are being reviewed in phases and ongoing collaboration continues with Core Administration.

Additionally, I am working in collaboration with programs and entities to ensure consistent messaging in communications such as logo refinements.

I am excited to share with you that we have updated eight (8) logos within Bimose Tribal Council. Three (3) logos remain the same\*. They are as follows:

- Bimose's Jordan's Principle Hub
- Kakina Economic Development Group Inc.
  - Makwa Builders LP
  - Gichi-Mikinaak Lodge
  - Bimose Hub
- Kiizhik Education Corporation

- Gaagagekiizhik School
- Gaagagegiizhigook Ganawenimaasowin Wiigiwaam Childcare Centre
  - Anishinaabe Student Achievement\*
  - Anishinaabemodaa Anishinaabemowin\*
- Bimose Community High School\*

### Logo Redefinement / Analysis - Beverly Williamson, Policy Analyst

Over a year ago, the Policy Analyst, with support from the Social Media Coordinator, initiated a logo project and collaborated with a graphic artist to refine several logos. Subtle adjustments were made to the logos listed below. All logo fonts remain the same, though sizes vary depending on the artwork and wording length. These logos are designed to be unique yet cohesive, and it's recommended they not be updated frequently. Key performance is measured through social media engagement and website traffic.

 <p><b>Original graphic retained, with text curved to match the style of other Bimose logos.</b></p>  <p><b>Original graphic retained, with text curved to match the style of other Bimose logos.</b></p>  <p><b>Original graphic retained, with text curved to match the style of other Bimose logos.</b></p>  <p><b>Name updated with team approval, now includes a circle showing the program name.</b></p>	 <p><b>The bear is now black, and a circle with green accents has been added around the logo to represent Kakina, the umbrella department.</b></p>  <p><b>Staff selected this logo, featuring the "Great Turtle" at the center, with a green-accented circle representing Kakina.</b></p> 	 <p><b>Kept the original logo design, updated the font for sharper colors, matched school colors, with the turtle centered.</b></p>  <p><b>No change, as plans for Bimose Community High School to amalgamate with Gaagagekiizhik School</b></p> 
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Over a year ago, this project was initiated and subtle adjustments were made to these logos. All logo fonts remain the same, though sizes vary depending on artwork and wording length. These logos were designed to be unique yet cohesive.

# BIMOSE HUB

*Jon Kocis, Bimose Hub Manager*



## **Bimose HUB Supports Communities in Fall Fire Hydrant Maintenance Blitz**

This fall, the Bimose Tribal Council HUB successfully supported multiple member communities through a coordinated Fire Hydrant Maintenance Blitz, ensuring critical infrastructure remains reliable heading into winter. HUB Operators worked alongside local water operators to flush hydrants, verify valve function, assess pressure, and address mechanical deficiencies. This proactive annual maintenance helps safeguard access to dependable water supply during emergency fire response situations, particularly in colder months when equipment stress is highest.

Communities benefited not only from hands-on technical assistance, but also on-site training to reinforce long-term capacity and preventive maintenance practices. The initiative strengthens community safety, supports operator confidence, and contributes to sustained infrastructure resilience. The HUB remains committed to providing responsive, community-focused support that builds operational strength across the region.



# TECHNICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Kazu Laffin, Technical Services Advisor



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The Technical Services Department, which includes our team of engineers, technicians, and officers, works alongside member First Nation communities to provide expert support on a variety of capital projects. Our work ranges from inspections and assessments to ongoing technical guidance. Here are a few recent updates we're proud to highlight:

## **NOFNEC 2025: Strengthening Environmental Leadership Across Treaty #3**

Bimose Tribal Council was proud to host the Northern Ontario First Nations Environmental Conference (NOFNEC) in Kenora, bringing together environmental leaders, community representatives, and technical experts from across Treaty #3 and beyond. Over three days, participants explored topics including waste management innovation, wildfire prevention, water protection, land stewardship, and climate adaptation.

Presenters included federal and provincial partners, Tribal Councils, youth representatives, as well as Indigenous knowledge keepers. Bimose extends sincere thanks to all delegates, presenters, and sponsors who contributed to the success of NOFNEC 2025. Your continued commitment to environmental leadership strengthens our collective capacity to protect the lands and waters that sustain us.



## **Shoal Lake 40 Prevention Services and Jordan's Principle Facilities**

Shoal Lake 40 is nearing completion of its new Prevention Services and Jordan's Principle buildings. These facilities will enhance the delivery of CHRT 41-funded programs and services throughout the Nation. Project completion is expected in January 2026.



# TECHNICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

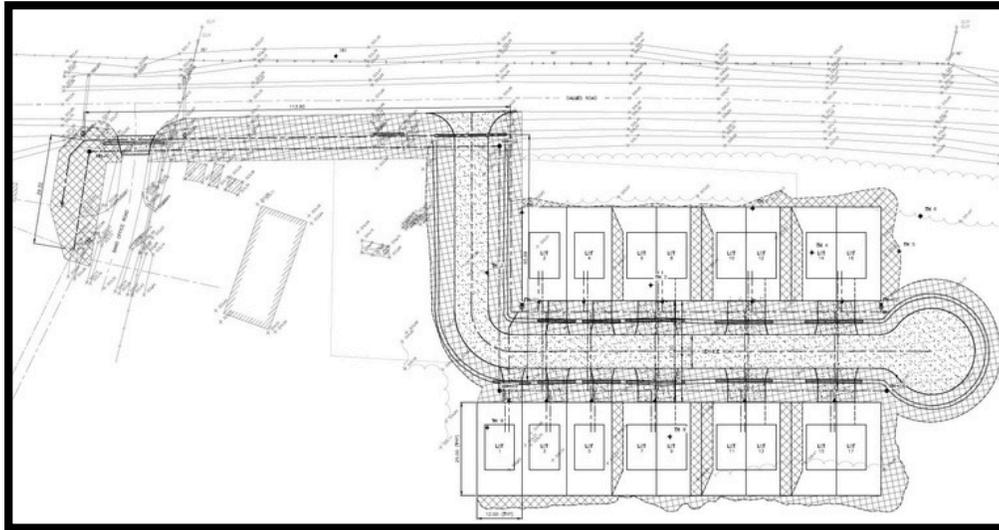
Kazu Laffin, Technical Services Advisor



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## Niisaachewan Micro-Subdivision

Niisaachewan is proceeding with the construction of a new micro-subdivision and internal road network within the community core. The project will provide 17 serviced lots, with capacity for future expansion into a full residential subdivision. Construction is scheduled to begin this month and is expected to be completed by July 2026.



## Shoal Lake 40 Communal Wastewater Treatment System

Shoal Lake 40 has initiated the tendering phase for the design and construction of a communal peatland wastewater treatment system. This \$14-million project will support wastewater collection across the reserve and provide long-term effluent treatment and disposal in accordance with the tripartite agreement and the Nation's environmental protection commitments. Construction is anticipated to begin in fall 2026.

## Kenora Affordability Housing Project

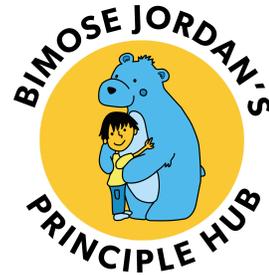
Kekekoziibii Development Corporation (KDC) is building a 24-unit apartment complex to provide supportive housing to First Nation individuals seeking post-secondary studies in Kenora. The project is approximately 70% complete and is expected to be in operation by March 2026. Bimose is providing technical advisory services to help ensure the client's the bridging and compliance objectives are being met.



# BIMOSE JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE HUB

Supporting First Nation Children and Families across Bimose Tribal Council Member Communities.

Samantha Cameron, Jordan's Principle Coordinator



## About Jordan's Principle

Jordan's Principle is a legal right that ensures First Nation children receive the services and supports they need—when they need them.

The principle was created in memory of Jordan River Anderson of Norway House Cree Nation, Manitoba. Born on October 22, 1999, Jordan entered the world with complex medical needs and spent his short life in a Winnipeg hospital, separated from his family and home community.

Due to disputes between provincial and federal governments over who should pay for his care, Jordan did not receive the support he was entitled to. His story inspired a national movement to ensure that no other First Nation child faces similar barriers or delays in accessing essential services.

At Bimose Tribal Council, we are committed to helping families understand and access Jordan's Principle by offering client navigation services, program information, and guidance through the application process.



## Jordan's Principle Updates

Important notice: On February 10, 2025 operational changes from Indigenous Service Canada (ISC) release a new [Jordan's Principle Operational Bulletin](#), introducing updates to procedures for accessing services, supports and products.

Under the new guidelines:

- Requests must demonstrate a significant unmet need for the child.
- Each new request must include a professional support letter from a member of the child's circle of care (e.g., Registered Nurse, Licensed Social Worker, or Educator familiar with the child's needs).
- For cultural requests, a support letter must come from a Recognized Elder or Cultural Practitioner, such as a traditional medicine carrier or knowledge keeper endorsed by a First Nation organization.
- Requests for elite or recreational sports, childcare, non-medical travel, vacations, or clothing are generally not eligible, unless a professional letter supports an identified unmet need.

These changes apply to all new applications and existing applications, including those currently under review.

If you are awaiting a decision for a previously submitted request through Bimose Jordan's Principle Service Coordinator, we encourage you to follow up by emailing [jordans.principle@bimose.ca](mailto:jordans.principle@bimose.ca).

While there continues to be a national backlog with ISC, regular follow-up is a helpful way to stay informed about your application status.

# BIMOSE JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE HUB

*Samantha Cameron, Jordan's Principle Coordinator*



## Honouring Jordan River Anderson's 26th Birthday

On October 22nd, communities across Canada celebrated what would have been Jordan River Anderson's 26th birthday.

Jordan's legacy lives on through Jordan's Principle, a child-first commitment that ensures First Nation children can access the care and supports they need without delay. Since its full implementation in 2016, more than 9.96 million products, services, and supports have been approved—improving the lives of countless First Nation children and families.

His story continues to remind us of the importance of fairness, dignity, and equity for all First Nation children across the nation.

To learn more about Jordan's life and legacy, you can watch the documentary Jordan River Anderson, The Messenger on the National Film Board at [Jordan River Anderson, The Messenger - NFB](#).

## Bimose Jordan's Principle Hub

As Bimose Jordan's Principle Hub adapts to these changes, our commitment to families remains unwavering. We continue to work diligently to support children and families across Bimose member communities, ensuring that every request is handled with care, respect to the new guidelines.

We thank all families, service providers, and community partners for their patience and trust as we move forward together in supporting the well-being of our First Nation children.



# ANISHINAABE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Cynthia Jourdain, Gaagikimiwaasowi



Boozhoo!

I'm pleased to share highlights from another busy and productive quarter across our programs: Anishinaabe Student Achievement (ASA), Education Partnerships Program (EPP). Our teams continue to work hard to support students, schools, and communities throughout Bimose communities. Miigwech to everyone who has contributed their time, energy, and guidance over these past months.

This quarter, our ASA Team continued to strengthen coordination across all program areas. We held regular monthly team meetings to ensure smooth operations and strong communication. I also participated in Board, Management, and ASA Committee meetings to keep our work aligned with organizational direction. Our team continues to support initiatives across Literacy, Language & Culture, Numeracy and IT, as well as providing resources to ASA schools.

For the new school year, we welcomed staff member Patty Chisholm as our Numeracy Lead. She has been very active in creating relationships with school staff and organizing Math PD sessions. Welcome, Patty!

## Department Event Highlights:

### **Anishinaabemowin Camp (August 11-14 at Gichi-Mikinaak Lodge)**

The camp welcomed 35 participants, including 10 fluent speakers. The camp was designed to bring together beginner, intermediate, and advanced speakers of Anishinaabemowin for an immersive and enriching week dedicated to learning and connection. Funded by Canadian Heritage, Indigenous Languages Component (ILC).



# ANISHINAABE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Cynthia Jourdain, Gaagikimiwaasowi



## Wiikenh Picking PD Day for Bimose staff (September 22)

Some of our staff had the honour of spending a September day harvesting Wiikenh, where we were guided by Elder Bruce Mendowegan, at Washagamis Bay First Nation. Wiikenh is a root found among cattails, used for generations as a powerful Anishinaabe medicine. It offers pain relief, supports respiratory and digestive health, and has antimicrobial benefits. It's also used for protection and well-being. Miigwech to Elder Bruce for sharing his wisdom and to Washagamis Bay for hosting us!



## Jim Green Memorial Golf Tournament (September 12)

In memory of our long-time colleague, we offered financial support to the family of Jim Green-iban. Pat Copenace attended the event to assist wherever needed on behalf of our staff and Board.



# ANISHINAABE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Cynthia Jourdain, Gaagikimiwaasowi



## Fall Anishinaabemowin Feast (October 27)

The day honoured the dedication of Bernice Greene for her lifelong work teaching and sharing her knowledge of Anishinaabemowin. She was joined by her family members and their family drum. It was truly a moment to remember. We feast Anishinaabemowin as directed, every spring and fall. The ceremony is open to everyone and it's a time to reflect on our journey as we revitalize our beautiful language.



## Kindergarten Readiness Coordinator Update

Lyn Williams joined our team recently and has been making strides at building relationships the Early Years centers in the communities and spending time with both staff and children. To better support the goals of each community she meets with staff to learn what they are currently focusing on in their classrooms. Together, we look for ways to make these learning goals fun, engaging, and meaningful for the children. Communities are working on:

- Building grip strength through hands-on, fine-motor activities
- Supporting language development in playful and interactive ways
- Incorporating Anishinaabemowin into daily routines and learning experiences



## Next Steps

- Roll out upcoming PD sessions in Math, Literacy, and Language & Culture.
- Participation at the College/University Fair at Seven Generations Education Institute – December 1, 2025.
- Planning the Annual Anishinaabemowin Conference to be held in mid-February in Winnipeg, MB.
- Planning is underway to send two teachers from each ASA school to the For the Love of Reading Conference in Toronto (April 30–May 1, 2026).
- Planning is underway to send two teachers from each ASA school to the OAME Math Conference at Fanshawe College (April 30–May 1, 2026).

# ANISHINAABE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Pat Copenace, Anishinabe Language & Cultural Specialist



## Celebrating Fall Harvest & Food Sovereignty

This fall, all our schools took part in Harvest activities that honour our traditional way of life and support Food Sovereignty in our territory. Fall Harvest is a time to prepare our medicines for winter and gather our sacred food that grows on the water-manoomin. At Mizhakiwetung Memorial School, students harvested wild rice the traditional way with guidance from Judy Land and Jamie Mandamin. Students at David Kejick School learned to fillet walleye from top angler Kendrick Pinesse.

Migisi Sahgaigan School held their first-ever Fall Harvest, led by Marlon Gardner, who shared cultural and land-based teachings.

At HRMS, students and staff continued their tradition of preparing food to share with the whole community.



Prayer remains at the center of every harvest activity—before hunting, gathering medicines, or picking wild rice. Students are learning important protocols as well as the teachings of reciprocity and gratitude. Historically, communities depended on successful harvests to survive the winter, making it essential to give thanks for the food provided.

Across all schools, students learned the full process of preparing wild rice from start to finish. They explored different fish species, learned how to process ducks and other small game, and were introduced to the handling of larger game such as moose and deer. Students also expanded their knowledge of traditional medicines beyond the four sacred medicines.

These Fall Harvest experiences help our students strengthen their connection to Anishinaabe culture, language, and land-based learning.



# ANISHINAABE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT/ EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM



*Morning Star Tom, Education Partnership Program Coordinator*

## **Uniting Nations, Building Partnerships Education Conference (October 1–2, 2025)**

The first annual Uniting Nations, Building Partnerships Education Conference, held in Winnipeg, Manitoba on October 1–2, 2025, brought together educators, leaders, Knowledge Carriers, and community partners from across the region to strengthen relationships and explore new pathways for First Nation education. Grounded in respect, relationship, and shared responsibility, the conference created a powerful space for dialogue, learning, and community-driven approaches that honour the strengths of our youth.



The two-day event welcomed 175 attendees and was designed for Education Directors, Principals, Language Instructors, K-12 Educators, Education Support Staff, and Community Leaders. Throughout the gathering, participants explored themes such as youth leadership, language revitalization, land-based learning, early learning, inclusive education, and preparing youth for post-secondary success. Topics also included Anishinaabe Parenting Teachings for Early Learning, Youth in Leadership, Building Language Immersion in Communities, and Land-Based Learning and Wellness in Education. Keynotes, panel discussions, and workshops highlighted challenges, progress, and innovative practices emerging across communities.



The conference closed with recognition of all partners and participants for their leadership and contributions. The relationships built and lessons learned will continue to guide our work in uplifting students, families, and community. Survey results and the final report will be shared with participants. Miigwech to all presenters, vendors, singers, and participants for making this gathering a great success.

# ANISHINAABE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT / ANISHINAABE STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH



*Cami Carpenter, Student Mental Health Counselor*

## Daily Student Support

Our program offers a variety of supports to promote student success and well-being:

- **Academic Support:** Tutoring, assistance with class attendance, and academic guidance.
- **Cultural Support:** Opportunities for smudging, participation in ceremonies, and connections with Elders and Knowledge Keepers.
- **Social Support:** Access to counseling, student clubs, transportation, and meals.
- **Mental Health Support:** Counseling services, cultural connections with Elders and Knowledge Keepers, and participation in mental health awareness events.

## Program Highlights & Events

- Powwow Club
- Bimose Student Council
- WON Fall Harvest
- WNHAC Harm Reduction Event

## Powwow Club

Since February 2025, a weekly Powwow Club has been co-facilitated in partnership with Waasegiizhig Nanaandawe'iyewigamig (WNHAC). The club's vision is to empower youth by fostering a strong connection to culture and community. Students explore various dance styles, learn about the history of powwows in Treaty 3 territory, and create their own regalia—guided by Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and community members. The club is student-led, with 21 active members who participate enthusiastically each week. Upcoming projects include beading, moccasin-making, and creating other regalia pieces, providing opportunities for students to develop craftsmanship, deepen cultural ties, and celebrate Indigenous traditions.

## Anishinabe Student Mental Health Counselors

Cami Carpenter, BBHS Grades 9-12  
ccarpenter@bimose.ca

Paula Gabryluk, BBHS Grades 7&8  
pgabryluk@bimose.ca

Shawn Kavanaugh, Dryden High School  
skavanaugh@bimose.ca



## Bimose Student Council

Established in September 2025, the Anishinabe Student Council aims to amplify Anishinabe student voices within the school and school board. Its purpose is to ensure that students' issues, visions, and ambitions are heard and represented. Currently, members are defining roles and responsibilities, with plans to expand student leadership across all communities. Weekly meetings focus on establishing structure, facilitating discussions, and planning events. Outside these meetings, students work on developing campaign ideas and project plans. By the end of October, roles will be filled through a voting process. The council's goals include organizing school-based events, addressing ongoing issues, and building connections with other student councils within Bimose and the broader community to foster leadership, cultural engagement, and youth voice.

# GAAGAGEGIIZHIGOOK CHILDCARE CENTRE

Michelle Meekis, RECE Supervisor



Gaagagegiizhigook Ganawenimaawoswin Wiigiwaam (GGW) Childcare Centre continues to provide a caring environment where children can learn, grow, and participate in daily experiences rooted in Anishinaabe language and culture.

Our team works hard to ensure that every child feels supported, safe, and connected throughout their day. We were very happy to welcome back our cook, Lisa Edlund, following her maternity leave. Her return has brought renewed comfort and routine to the Centre, and her meals continue to be a favourite part of the children's day.

On August 14th, Michelle led an afternoon workshop during the Supervisors Network FN Early Years Mentors Gijikendaamin meeting in Fort Frances. This opportunity allowed her to share knowledge, connect with other early years professionals, and contribute to ongoing discussions that strengthen programs across the region.

Our Preschool educators also travelled to Manitoba for medicine picking, taking part in cultural and land-based learning connected to traditional teachings. This experience supports educators in bringing authentic knowledge back to the classroom and helps deepen the cultural learning offered to the children.

This fall showcased the dedication of our GGW team. Staff played an important role in supporting the Preschool Graduation on August 28th, helping ensure that families and children enjoyed a meaningful milestone celebration. They also assisted with the Fall Feast on October 28th, contributing to a beautiful gathering that honoured the season and brought the community together.



We are also pleased to welcome Amy Ferguson, our fall student from Confederation College. Amy has settled in wonderfully and quickly became a valued part of the team. Her enthusiasm and willingness to learn have had a positive impact on the children and staff.

#### *Team:*

*RECE Supervisor, Michelle Meekis*

*RECE Preschool, Amelia Thurston*

*RECE Preschool, Renee Letander*

*RECE Preschool, Sonalben Shah*

*RECE Toddler, Crystal Copenace*

*Support Toddler, Frankie Iverson*

*Support Toddler, Sierra Keno*

*Nutrition, Lisa Edlund*

*Janitor, Jackie Fontaine*

GGW Childcare Centre remains committed to offering a nurturing, culturally enriched space where children feel valued and connected each day. We are grateful for the ongoing support of families, staff, and community members as we continue this important work. Miigwech!

# KAKINA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Patrick Kavanaugh, Economic Development Advisor

## Economic Development Update



**KAKINA**  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
GROUP INC.

Boozhoo,

I hope this finds you all in good health and wellness! Since taking on the role of Economic Development Advisor I have been busy familiarizing myself with the protocols and procedures of the organization. It has been and continues to be a great learning experience filled with trials and tribulations but with the support of the team here at Bimose, everything turns out to be well and the way it's meant to be. Some of the major tasks that I overlook are: Kakina Economic Development Group, Gichi Mikinaak Lodge and Makwa Builders.

KEDG (Kakina Economic Development Group) is making some progress in advising our communities to reach their self-sustainable goals. Many projects are in the feasibility stage, and some are currently in development, which is very exciting to see. KEDG also looks after 3 properties which include the Bimose building, Shoonyaa Building and the recently purchased Water HUB building.



We had another great year at GML (Gichi Mikinaak Lodge) hosting 3 parties this summer filled with fun, beautiful scenery and awesome weather. One of the highlights were the Anishinaabemowin Camp hosted by the ASA (Anishinaabe Student Achievement) team here at Bimose.



# KAKINA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Patrick Kavanaugh, Economic Development Advisor



**KAKINA**  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
GROUP INC.

We are planning for upgrades next summer and are actively booking for the 2026 season for any meeting spaces for gatherings, workshops or retreats:



## GICHI MIKINAAK LODGE

*VISION STATEMENT: "To provide a culturally safe space for children and youth using cultural and traditional land-based learning to understand our ways of knowing, our ceremonies, and our land-based activities."*

Boozhoo, we invite you to discover Gichi Mikinaak Lodge.

A land-based learning lodge rooted in Anishinaabe Wisdom. Step into the heart of Anishinaabe Aki (land) and experience a place where culture, community, and nature come together in harmony.

Located on the serene west arm of Eagle Lake, just 6 km east of Vermillion Bay, Gichi Mikinaak Lodge offers a unique land-based learning experience that honors the Anishinaabe Mino-Bimaadiziwin - the good life. Whether you're planning a youth camp, cultural retreat, staff training, healing gathering, or family escape, Gichi Mikinaak Lodge is your place to reconnect with the land and spirit in a respectful, meaningful way.

### What we have to offer in 2026:

- 9 comfortable cabins nestled in on Eagle Lake
- Large meeting space for gatherings, workshops, or retreats
- Full Kitchen Facilities to prepare meals as a group or family
- Equipment rentals which include: Boats, pontoon, canoes, kayaks, ski-doo's, side-by-sides



We are located at:  
342 Hanslips Rd. Vermillion Bay, ON.  
On the north shore of Eagle Lake.

### Bijiinago, Noongom, Waabang

**Bijiinago** (Yesterday) - Our history of the lodge started with the purchase of Eagle Lake Sportsman's Lodge in 2022 with the idea of a shared investment between all 10 communities in our Treaty #3 area.

**Noongom** (Today) - All 10 communities, as equal partners, and led by Kakina/ Bimose, are developing and forging this land-based learning method for...

**Waabang** (Tomorrow) - our youth. They will carry the torch from the knowledge they had learned from the elders taught at the lodge. Everything from language, survival skills, cooking, dressing the animals, craft making and many other valuable skills that they will pass down to the next generation.



Book your group stay:  
Email: [gichimikinaak@bimose.ca](mailto:gichimikinaak@bimose.ca) or Call: 807-468-5551 [www.bimose.ca](http://www.bimose.ca)

We are currently assessing the strategies for Makwa Builders. There is a need in the area for skilled contractors and although the market is a competitive one, we feel confident that a true Anishinaabe Contracting Company can find its niche to supply and serve our people in building our nation one step at a time.

Look out for new updates in our next issue. Until then, be well, be safe and be happy!

Gichi Miigwech

# KIIZHIK EDUCATION CORPORATION

Heather Mutch, Acting Principal  
Tracey Bichon, Guidance Counselor

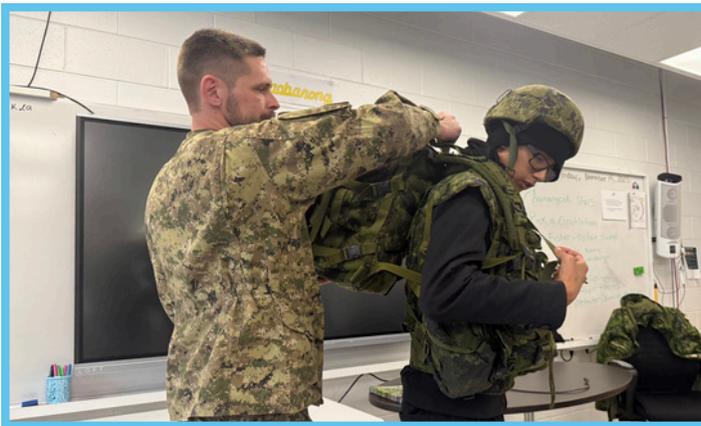


## Bimose Community High School Update

This year, Bimose Community High School shifted to a quadmester system to strengthen student achievement and provide more structured learning. The change led to significant progress: students earned 132 credits, a major increase from the previous year. With access to subject-specialist teachers and more individualized course planning, students successfully completed a wide range of compulsory and elective courses—including English, math, science, Ojibway, outdoor education, photography, and guitar. Several students took reach-ahead opportunities, with some earning up to nine credits in a single year. The school also supported students through updated OSSD pathways, including completion of the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course.

## Co-Op Program Information Session

High school students recently participated in an information session on the Basic Military Qualification Co-Op Program. Sergeant Wall from the Canadian Armed Forces visited to share details about this unique paid co-op opportunity now available to interested students.



## Dufresne Community Support

Dufresne recognized Gaagagekiizhik Elementary School recently by providing generous donations to support student learning and well-being. Their contribution helps strengthen programming and provides valued resources for classrooms and cultural activities. Miigwech to Dufresne for supporting our students and families in such a meaningful way.



# KIIZHIK EDUCATION CORPORATION

Heather Mutch, Acting Principal  
Tracey Bichon, Guidance Counselor



**Kiizhik**  
EDUCATION  
CORPORATION

## Youth and Family Wellness Camp

Students from Gaagagekiizhik School attended the Makate Waagamichiwanang Gakinaa'amaatiwin Youth and Family Wellness Camp, where they took part in cultural activities grounded in community, healing, and connection. The camp included a community feast that brought students, families, and knowledge keepers together to share food, teachings, and time on the land—one of the season's most meaningful experiences.



## Project 11 & Winnipeg Jets Alumni Visit

Our Gaagagekiizhik School gym welcomed representatives from the Winnipeg Jets Alumni, Triple PLAY Kenora, and Project 11, who shared messages about youth mental wellness and the importance of supporting one another. Afterward, several staff completed Project 11 Children's Mental Health Training during the Professional Development Day, further strengthening our capacity to support student well-being.

