



The Alliance

INDEPENDENT FIRST NATIONS ALLIANCE | FEBRUARY 2023

- Pikangikum Celebrates First-Ever First Responders Class
- Rewarding the Hard Work of Our Youth
- Preventing Environmental Health Risks
- A New Voice in Communications
- Supporting the Needs of the Community
- Boosting Education
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PIKANGIKUM CELEBRATES FIRST-EVER FIRST RESPONDERS CLASS

INTEGRATED EMERGENCY SERVICES

In November, Pikangikum and the IFNA Integrated Emergency Services (IES) team celebrated the success of nine individuals who graduated as part of the first-ever class of First Responders in the community. The trainees successfully completed five eight-hour days of rigorous training exercises designed to provide hands-on learning experiences to gain the knowledge, skills and tools required to provide life-saving treatment to those with illnesses

or injuries in the community. The trainees also learned new skills including basic life support and CPR.

“Every community should have a team of First Responders who are well equipped to handle any situation. This training course helped provide the community with access to First Responders who can provide basic medical care”

-Nicholas Rhone, IFNA Integrated Emergency Services (IES) Director

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF



WHITESAND



LAC SEUL



KITCHENUHMAYKOOSIB
INNINUWUG



MUSKRAT DAM



PIKANGIKUM



REWARDING THE HARD WORK OF OUR YOUTH

EDUCATION SERVICES

In November, the Home Away program students travelled west to Winnipeg to enjoy a few days of fun and opportunity. The trip started with an outing to the downtown centre of Winnipeg where they toured one of the top universities in the country, the University of Winnipeg. The tour gave students an opportunity to connect with people, evaluate the campus environment, and gain an overall picture of university

life. The tour was followed by a visit to the MTS Center where the students had the chance to cheer on the Winnipeg Jets. To finish off the trip, students spent some time at the local shopping centre. The trip not only provided the youth with the ability to learn about potential opportunities in post-secondary education but also provided a well-deserved reward for their hard work thus far in the school year.

PREVENTING ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RISKS

TECHNICAL SERVICES

The IFNA Environmental Public Health team has been busy identifying and preventing environmental public health risks in our five communities. The Environmental Public Health Program (EPHP) is handling water testing, food facility inspections, contagious disease response, emergency preparedness and more.

To help keep your household healthy during winter:

- Prevent mould growth with proper ventilation
- Wash your hands often
- Know the symptoms of blastomycosis, an infection caused by the Blastomyces fungus

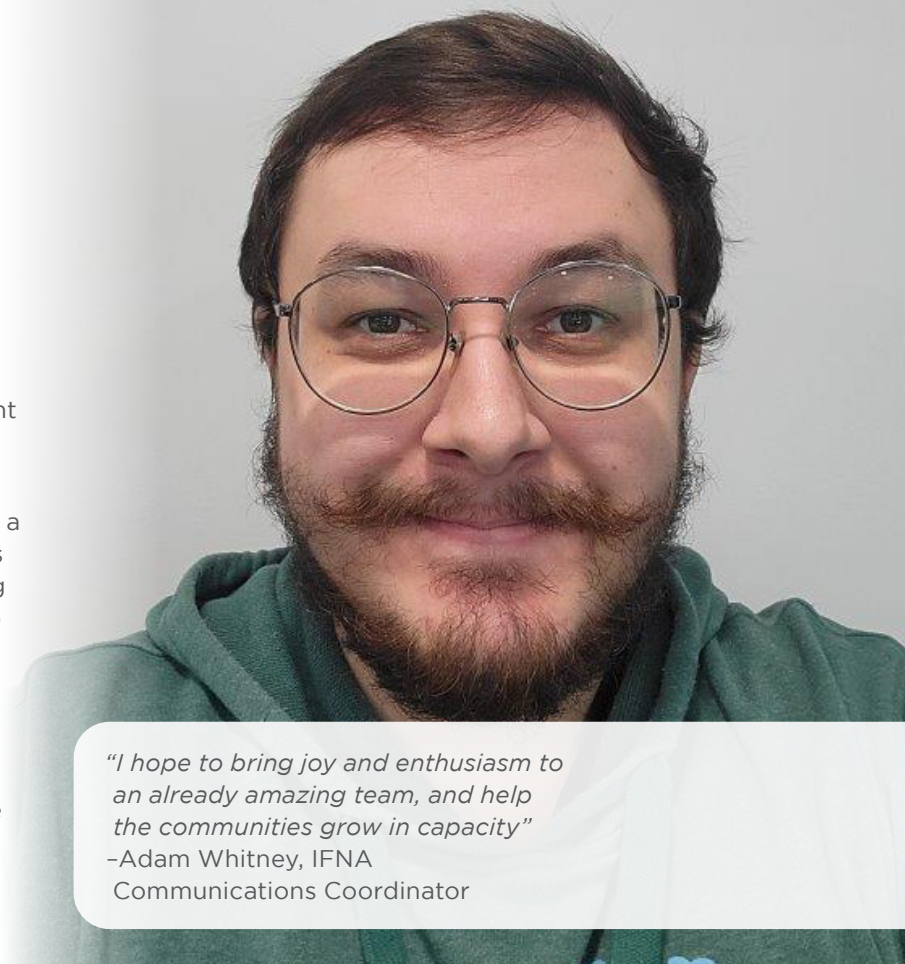
For more information on Environmental Public Health contact Kaja Williams at kwilliams@ifna or (807) 626-7730 ext. 122.

A NEW VOICE IN COMMUNICATIONS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS

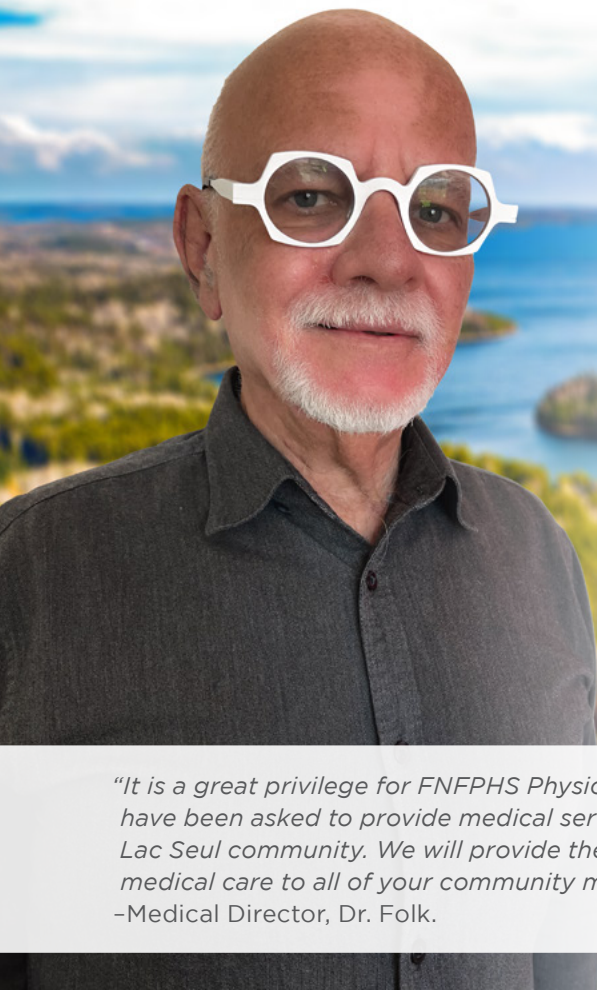
A fresh new face has joined the IFNA Communications team. On November 28, 2022, Adam Whitney, a former Communications Assistant for the Thunder Bay District Health Unit, accepted the role of Communications Coordinator.

Adam graduated from Confederation College with a diploma in Digital Media Production and began his journey to communications in the hospital working as a Care Partner Liaison. He helped patients keep communication with loved ones through various means. His passion landed him a contract position as a Communications Assistant with the Thunder Bay District Health Unit to provide multimedia production. However, Adam wanted to have more of an impact and made the decision to take on the role of Communications Coordinator at IFNA.



"I hope to bring joy and enthusiasm to an already amazing team, and help the communities grow in capacity"

-Adam Whitney, IFNA
Communications Coordinator



"It is a great privilege for FNFPHS Physicians to have been asked to provide medical services to Lac Seul community. We will provide the very best medical care to all of your community members,"
-Medical Director, Dr. Folk.

SUPPORTING THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY

FIRST NATIONS FAMILY PHYSICIANS AND HEALTH SERVICES (FNFPHS)

The FNFPHS team is happy to share that Lac Seul First Nation is signing on with Physicians Services. This is an important step for IFNA in supporting the needs of Lac Seul First Nation.

The goal is to focus on the community and improve patient-centred health care including the family unit. Access to Physicians Services will provide community members with the crucial, immediate access to medical professionals they need to help maintain optimal mental and physical health.



BOOSTING EDUCATION

EDUCATION SERVICES

With students back in the classroom, the Education Services team will be busy with student assessments. Assessments are scheduled to begin in Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug for Grades 7 to 10 in mid-February. Assessments are powerful tools for both the student and the teacher that can guide enhanced learning and education. These assessments help to evaluate students' progress, which allows educators to tailor curricular content and its delivery to meet student needs. Our assessments align with curricular goals and educational objectives. The goal is to always improve the quality of education that supports each student.



SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY

HEALTH SERVICES

The IFNA Health Services team is actively working towards the establishment of dedicated clinical space and offering services on a regular schedule in Whitesand First Nation. To support the health programming in-community and ensure appropriate coverage, IFNA will be working with the health services division of Dilico Anishinabek Family Care to support the delivery of their programming by permitting the use of the clinical space to support familiar and consistent health services in a dedicated space.



INDEPENDENT FIRST NATIONS ALLIANCE

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