

# ARROWHEAD NEWS

SUMMER  
2009

## DEAR FRIENDS

The long lazy days of summer have arrived, and we extend our greetings to you. May God bless you with joy, safety, and good health.

The month of June has had a number of events which highlight the aboriginal segment of our Canadian mosaic. June 21 was National Aboriginal Day. The words of Canada's Governor-General two years ago capture the flavour of the day, "Today is an opportunity for all Canadians to show their appreciation of and respect for the heritage of Aboriginal peoples. It is a day to recognize the unique achievements of Aboriginal people, in agriculture and the environment, nation building and the arts, with a national day of celebration."

Here in Thunder Bay events on June 21 were organized for Aboriginal Day at Marina Park, a local waterfront venue. It featured events and displays which highlighted the native heritage and skills in language, music, dance, crafts, foods, including tea and bannock, fish and wild game. The skills of living from the land in harmony with natural cycles are still strong in the hearts of the people, especially elders. These qualities need to be validated and retained for the strength of the culture.

On June 11 there was a commemoration of the Prime Minister's apology to the survivors of the Residential School system. This is an ongoing process and there is still work to be done in forgiveness and reconciliation.

One of the Native leaders spoke about the necessity of remembering the past, but also of looking to the future.

"We (as Aboriginal people) must encourage our youth to work hard and build on our strengths," he said.

Our prayer is that many Aboriginal youth would find strength in the Lord Jesus who is just as much Aboriginal as he is Euro-Canadian.



## PRAYER CORNER

### THANKS FOR:

- God's protection in our travel and workplace (in a sometimes dangerous neighbourhood).
- Completion of another life-impacting support group.
- Your support at the Arrowhead Breakfast meeting in May.

### PRAY FOR:

- Godly wisdom as we relate with and counsel people on a weekly basis.
- Liz as she leads a lab group in the counsellor training program at Dryden, July 13 to 24.
- A productive and truly re-creative vacation time for Arrowhead staff in August.

Arrowhead Ministries  
 132 South May Street  
 Thunder Bay, ON  
 P7E 1B3  
 Phone/fax (807)622-5790  
 Email [ishaawin@tbaytel.net](mailto:ishaawin@tbaytel.net)

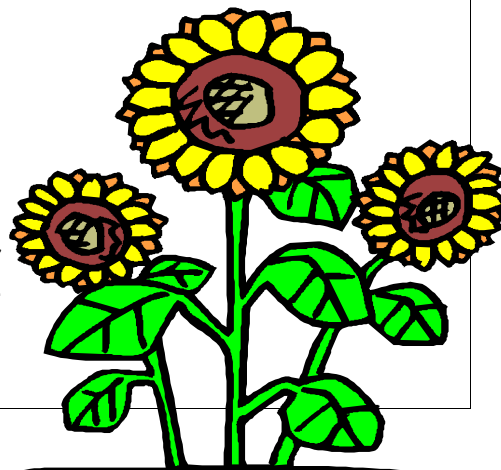
**PAST EVENTS:**

Ishaawin sponsored a recovery support group in May and June. This group of 5 ladies came together quickly, and Jo-Anne and another graduate of the training program facilitated. The group has made a big impact on all the participants. They held a celebration feast for families and friends of the participants on June 19 and the last meeting will be on June 30.

Liz Beardy spent the second week of June in Fredricton, NB, assisting in the teaching and counselling at the *Rising Above Conference*. Along with her regular work of facilitating some of the sharing groups she had a last minute assignment to prepare a presentation on suicide. This was the first time that Rising Above was in the Maritimes, presenting the conference on abuse recovery, residential school issues, and suicide. People who attended the conference from that area were extremely appreciative as they have not had a chance to hear any

teaching on these issues from a Biblical perspective.

We are very thankful for the great support we received from many of you at the breakfast meeting which Arrowhead hosted on May 23. A generous group from one of the local churches volunteered their time to prepare and serve the food. Others helped with decorating and sharing music at the event. We were glad to have Grand Chief Stan Beardy with us to bring greetings from Nishinawbe Aski Nation. About 100 people attended and we thank all of you for the financial donations which you made.



**UPCOMING**

During July and August things will relax a little at Ishaawin. Liz will be spending two weeks in Dryden assisting in counselling labs that are part of the Biblical counsellor training program taught by Northern Youth Ministries. We plan to close Ishaawin for 2 weeks in August for staff holidays. We also look forward to a short staff retreat later in August to help us prepare for the Fall months. We appreciate your prayers for us through the summer.

**Your support is appreciated**

Thank you for your generous gifts over the past 3 months. Our work continues by God's mercy and by your gracious gifts. If you are able to donate, please direct your gift toward the Minors, or Liz Beardy, or the Arrowhead general fund. All donations to Arrowhead Ministries are eligible for tax deductions with Canada Revenue Agency.

If you would like to receive this letter by e-mail let us know at [ishaawin@tbaytel.net](mailto:ishaawin@tbaytel.net).

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\* May God's Peace and Protection Rest \*  
\* Upon You This Summer \*  
\* Margaret Angeconeb Liz Beardy \*  
\* Jim & Jo-Anne Minor \*  
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