

# W8BANAKI PILASKW



## AMUN WALK: INVOLVEMENT OF THE ABENAKI PEOPLE



PHOTOS ANDRE GILL

*The Amun Walk is an initiative put forward by two women residing in Wendake, Michele Audette and Viviane Michel, to signify to the federal government that discrimination against native women and their children is maintained even in 2010 in the Indian act.*

The Amun Walk began on May 4<sup>th</sup>, from Wendake, and will end June 1<sup>st</sup> on Parliament Hill in Ottawa. Over this 500 km journey, both walkers Michele Audette and Viviane Michel will have the opportunity to rally First Nation communities to the cause.

In fact, it is the totality of the Amun Walk objectives that are according to our owns, that are motivating our actual juridical and political actions. **The Amun Walk is aiming to denounce Bill C-3 supposedly favorizing equity between genders (Bill C-3: An act to promote gender equity in Indian registration).** In fact, we all know that the conservative government is trying improve its image in the public opinion and to international community observers. But the Federal government is not doing nothing to improve – concretely talking – native women’s situation throughout the country. Among others, Abenaki women, men and children are numerous to suffer from discriminatory rules that won’t be ruled by BILL C-3.

By encouraging these walking women, and by walking with them, we are demonstrating to federal government that our collectivity will not accept differences in treatment between men and women. We are

counting to clearly signify to minister Strahl that we have seen enough division in our families bring by sexist and discriminatory rules. We are protesting in the hope that with us, the public opinion will put pressure on the political and legislative apparel of the government. Our communities are too much often stigmatized, by an old and misadapted Indian act to let be such a situation. We seize the occasion to tell the government:

### WE DEMAND EQUITY.

Recent actions done by Odanak people to encourage Amun walk:

- **Wednesday, May 12 – Community Meal** The two women were visiting Odanak on a community supper meal where each family brought a different dish (pot-lock).
- **Sunday, May 16 – Amun Walk** People from Odanak will join and walk with Viviane Michel et Michele Audette in their campaign.

THE STRUGGLE IS NOT DONE YET, WE NEED YOUR INVOLVEMENT!

Jacques T. Watso, Councillor  
Claire O'Bomsawin, Councillor

*“ We all know that healthy communities are thriving communities. That is why supporting efforts to promote healthy lifestyles and community togetherness is so important to improving the quality of life in First Nation communities. ”*

– AFN National Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo and Colby Tootosis, Co-chair of the AFN National Youth Council, congratulating young Aboriginal leaders





## Word from the Chief

Kwai fellow band members,

I would like to take this moment to acknowledge and encourage the many people who have made a contribution to our community. I would like to thank the many volunteers who give of their time to make Odanak a better place to live as well as those who work hard to bring attention to the plight of Abenaki people in other communities. I also commend community workers, whether in health, culture, education or infrastructure for their continuous efforts to create a fair and equitable system where all have fair treatment within the boundaries of available resources. We know there are still many hills to climb but I feel encouraged in always seeing advancement no matter how little it may seem to be at times.

For instance it is with small steps that the combined forces of many women from different native communities have succeeded in advancing the issue of gender based inequality within the Indian Act.

We want you to know that although this struggle may seem as though it is never ending, we see the advancement made by every generation and hope that your voice will have been heard by those who hold the power to make it right.

I will repeat.....please be involved, this is a historical change that will affect all future generations.

On the issue of sustainable development I am proud to say that the first phase of our industrial park is now complete and ready to welcome new businesses to our community. Furthermore, I am proud to say that this business park was completely built by our people.

Slowly but surely we are advancing as a people....careful planning and collaborative efforts will ensure our advancement in whatever issue we face. I hope we continue to build in all areas of our community. This requires an undying effort and a focus on the concrete advancement of our people. What we need to focus on improving is our quality of life and our self image so that we can take our place and become a strong self sufficient nation.

In peace and friendship,

Chief Rick O'Bomsawin



**Daniel G. Nolett**  
Directeur general  
Odanak Band Council

On last March 11, 2010, the Government of Canada submitted an act to promote gender equity in Indian registration (Bill C-3).

Following a civilian pursuit intended by Sharon McIvor and her son Jacob Grismer, the Court of appeal of British Columbia declared, on April 6 of 2009, that the Indian Act is creating a distinction between men and women on what is about the registration of an Indian individual. Thus, the Act violates the provisions on equality between a man and a woman related to the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The Court let the Canadian government until April 6 of 2010 to modify those provisions. However, because the House of Commons was prorogated until March, the Canadian government did not have enough time to achieve the project of modifying the Indian Act.

The federal government obtained that way a supplementary delay from the Court of appeal of British Columbia and has been permitted until the beginning of July to modify Article 6. Bill C-3 is very straight in terms of range. Despite that it covers about 80 percent of discrimination cases, for our abenaki commu-

## Word from the Director

nities, it would still left some discrimination cases if it was adopted under its proposed form. This is why we addressed before the Standing Committee of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development of the House of Commons, on April 20. We proposed amendments that are going beyond McIvor judgment, especially for the brothers and sisters cases (siblings rule) and for a valuable improvement of the cousins cases.

We have the support of the opposition parties at the House of Commons in our actions. However, in despite of the good news circling around the adoption of the Bill C-3, a lot of questions are unanswered from the government, and moreover at the level of the process of registration. Presently, the waiting list is getting longer and longer. There is a lack of resources affected to the Registry office in Ottawa. Some say that there could be hundreds, maybe thousands of inscription requests addressed to the department that are still pending to be treated.

It is estimated to be around 45,000 the number of people who could be eligible to be registered under the C-3 law. The question was asked to INAC. How will the government do to ensure that the registration process of these new 'statuted indians' will be done under reasonable delays? We didn't have an answer from INAC. Another important question, asked by the Chief's Assembly to Minister Strahl last December, stays without an answer. First, will INAC bonify our financial agreements so we can provide

services to our new statuted members? Then, how will INAC help our communities to facilitate these new statuted members integration?

The industrial motel construction, along route 132 in Odanak, is done. Already, there could be one third of the building rented. Enterprises or people that are interested can contact M. Paul Gosselin, economic development agent.

Finally, the Council approved an archaeological work project on the Odanak territory. A group of archaeologists approached the Musée des Abénakis to develop a partnership. The archaeologists will search the exact site of the 1704 Abenaki fortification. An information evening has been hold at the community center last May 4th. The works scheduled for summer 2010 will be essentially exploratory searches, over a time scale of about 4 weeks. The archaeologists will adjoin the assistance of 'apprentice archaeologists' (students if possible). This will give them a learning experience that later could be determining in their choice to pursue through this discipline!

If the searches give the desired results, the project could become important and stretch over a 4 years period of time... We will keep you informed.

The demolition and reconstruction project of David-Laperrière bridge should start by the end of summer if everything goes as scheduled. There are still a couple of points to be solve by the Transports Quebec. There again, we will keep you informed of the latest developments in this file.

## PUBLIC ASSEMBLY - MAY 29, 2010

Abenakis of Odanak Council

At the Community center (58, Waban-Aki St), Odanak

Date : May 29, 2010 - Time : 1:30 PM

### AGENDA

1. Opening/Prayer
2. Report On Various Issues Including :
  - Consultation of the elders;
  - Financial results of Calumet;
  - Industrial Motel;
  - Odanak 350th Anniversary and 2010 Powwow;
  - David-Laperriere Bridge;
  - McIvor Case/Bill C-3.
3. Administration
4. Health
5. Police
6. Questions Period
7. Closure of the meeting

## Project Investment In Wind Power

The Odanak Band Council's investment project in wind energy production is still going on normally. The project bids were supposed to be deposited on May 19th, but the date has been reported to July 6th. Thus, we can suppose the announcement of the retained projects, initially scheduled to be on October of 2010 by Hydro-Québec, could also be delayed of a couple of months.

This project is a partnership between Band Councils of Wôlinak, Essipit, Mashteuiatsh, Viger, Opitciwan and Odanak, and with MRC of the Fjord du Saguenay and Hydromega.

I will keep you informed of all the new updates in the next editions.

Alain O'Bomsawin, Councillor

# Starting a Business

## THE FINANCING



By Paul Gosselin  
Economic Development Agent

At the beginning of this article, we have identified seven steps to prepare a business startup that are:

- STEP 1: THE IDEA (article 1)
- STEP 2: THE ENTREPRENEUR (article 2)
- STEP 3: THE MARKET STUDY (article 3)
- STEP 4: THE PLANIFICATION (article 4)
- STEP 5: THE BUSINESS PLAN (article 5)
- STEP 6: THE FINANCING**
- STEP 7: THE STARTUP

**You completed and have validated your business plan. It is now time to obtain your financing.**

- Be certain to master your business plan and your project's advantages.
- Precise your financing needs and your personal contribution.
- Plan a schedule for the financing.
- Provide alternative solutions considering the possibility that your negotiation procedures could fail.

**What are your financial partners requirements?**

- ❖ *For the promoters:*
  - Do you (and your team) own essential technical knowledge, experience and management skills?
  - Do you have good enough credit history?
- ❖ *Financial protection matters:*
  - Did you plan sufficient downpayment for your business startup?

- Do you have enough guarantees to offer to the 'loaner'?
- Do you have the capacity to inject supplementary funds if needed?

❖ *Payment matters:*

- Will your business be able to reimburse the determined financing?
- Can you demonstrate the accuracy of your financial projections while being supported by trustable market studies?

❖ *Project matters:*

- Are your activity domain and economical conditions justifying a positive decision regarding the financing of your project?

**Determine your non-negotiable threshold**

- It is the limit you are fixing and that you won't go beyond.
- This limit will indicate you if the conditions are becoming too much demanding for you or your business development.

**If the financing demand is refused, don't discourage yourself!**

- Evaluate your next negotiation meeting possibilities.
- Repeat the same steps towards other potential partners and take care of improving your plan presentation (if it is needed).

**If your financial request is approved... get to action!**

As mentioned in the last article, **do not underestimate the time you have to consecrate to your business project.**

Your economic development service can help you to go forward and to provide to you, in collaboration with the Local Development Center of the Nicolet-Yamaska MRC, a business plan model.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 450-568-2810 to get an appointment and then be equipped to progress through those different steps leading to the creation of your own business.



**ODANAK LFNC**  
*Local First Nation*  
*Commission*

ELEANOR HOFF  
LFNC Officer

## Student Jobs

We are coming into the summer months and with these months come ***Summer Student Jobs.***

The following has been established for the summer of 2010:

- 10 week maximum,
- 35 hours per week maximum,
- Hourly rate: \$9.50,
- The participant must be a full-time student and having the intention of returning to full-time education<sup>1</sup> in the fall. Written proof from the school is required or completion of the "Attestation with the intention of returning to school",
- Be fifteen (15) + years old before July 1 of the current year,
- Provide a copy of the last report card.

For students that reside outside of the community, they must request funding at one of the service points, either the Montreal or Quebec office depending on the region they reside in.

If you should need further information for the summer student program, please call the office and I will attempt to answer your questions.

As for the LFNC program we are waiting for the federal government to answer the requests of the First Nations Resources Development Commission of Quebec for the renewal of our agreement for another period of 5 years. This is why the LFNC cannot commit to anything beyond September 30<sup>th</sup>. The budget that we received for the year 2010-2011 covers only a period of 6 months which means April 1<sup>st</sup> 'till September 30<sup>th</sup> 2010. It is the same reality for LFNC programs in urban communities and in the rest of Canada.

<sup>1</sup> Be enrolled for four (4) courses or more at post-secondary level, or have a minimum of twenty (20) hours of courses at secondary level.



By Nathalie Cardin  
Education and Registry  
Agent

## Education & REGISTRAR

### EDUCATION

In the name of the Band council, I would like to congratulate all the school graduates from primary, secondary (high school) and post-secondary levels for 2009-2010.

#### College graduates and their domain of studies :

- Audrey Cournoyer : Specialized education techniques
- Rita Chauvette : Specialized education techniques
- Dannielle Philibert : Nursing techniques
- Francis Bisson O'Bomsawin : Building inspection techniques
- Pascal Gill : CAS Police intervention
- Dave O'Bomsawin : CAS Police intervention 7
- Joseph Sadoquis : Engineering mechanical techniques
- Zachary DeGonzague : Certificate in welding techniques

#### University graduates and their domain of studies :

- Emmanuelle O'Bomsawin : Mastery in Nursing sciences
- Menahan O'Bomsawin : Bachelor in Leisure, culture and tourism
- Nicholas O'Bomsawin : Bachelor in Software Engineering
- Karyne Wawanolett : Bachelor in Pharmacology
- Jeremy Watso-Cournoyer : Bachelor in Software Engineering
- Mélanie Lambert : Bachelor in Nursing sciences
- Angie O'Bomsawin : Bachelor in Communications
- Jennifer Riutta : Bachelor in Biology and Education
- Zoé Hannis-Grandmont : Certificate in psycho-social intervention

#### FNEC (First Nations Education Council)

Here are more details on which projects FNEC funds were used this year:

Abenaki language courses, Abenaki basket making courses, continuity of the French-Abenaki-English lexical, homework help, familial fest, winter fest, activities organized on Halloween day and on Christmas Day, outing to the St-Jean-de-Matha sliding resort, to the sugar shack and to the Biodome, overnight stay to the Notre-Dame-de-la-Joie camp, employment for 2 students during the summer of 2009, funding and draw of a portable computer (exclusively reserved for students enrolled in the education domain).

#### REGISTRAR

Many of you are wondering when the new Indian status card (or Securized certificate of Indian status) will be available. For the moment, I can't answer to this interrogation because I have not receive any news from the INAC (Indian and Northern Affairs Canada) with this topic. We are continuing with the same type of card you have to this moment. To renew your card (verify expiration date on the back), all you have to do is contact me, and I'll help you with the steps to follow.

# INDUSTRIAL PARK OF ODANAK

## 350 years later, a new fort is built !



By Mario Diamond  
Technical services coordinator  
Grand Council of the Waban-Aki Nation

Among the Band Council members, someone had a vision towards new horizons. The idea to build an industrial park to the rising sun – or at the east side of the community – was born.

The first constraint was to bring sanitary services, water and electricity on the site. The leveling and draining of the terrain followed right after, at the end of fall.

Then the foundations were grown. Valorous soldiers, by a couple of December siberian cold mornings, erected a palisade of 150' X 45' walls. After 3 months of hard work, the traditional picture was taken in front of the new achieved masterpiece.

Thanks to all carpenters and Band Council employees who took part in this.



### New Information Site for the Grand Council of the Waban-Aki Nation

A new web site is now completing the information offer from the Grand Council of the Waban-Aki Nation.

Under the form of an electronic

bulletin board, the wabanaki-information.com web log is reflecting all actuality that is concerning Waban-Aki Nation people.

Information site of the Waban-Aki Nation: [www.wabanaki-information.com](http://www.wabanaki-information.com)

To communicate any information, please write to: [communications@nationwabanaki.com](mailto:communications@nationwabanaki.com)

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[WWW.CEPN-FNEC.COM](http://WWW.CEPN-FNEC.COM)

## Lodging



By Lyne Mailhot  
Lodging agent

### Construction of a new apartment building

The Odanak band council is negotiating with the SCHL to obtain a *Housing program financial help (article 95)* for the construction of a 4 units locative housing building. If our community obtains the attended subvention, we could start the construction around June of 2010. The situation of this building is on Skamonal street, near the other locative blocks.

To this day, the Band council has received 3 subventions under the *Lodging program* of the SCHL (article 95). The first one was for the building of 2 houses on Kabasa street, in 2005. The second one was for a duplex situated on Skamonal street and built in 2007 and the last one was for a 4 units building in 2009. We plan to develop our housing and lodging park in close relation with our members needs and to ensure a quality and reasonable price lodging offer.

### A regular maintenance, here is the secret

To regularly inspect your house and to provide good and steady maintenance guarantees you are protecting your investment. It is very important to put on some work, either it is regularly or sporadically, as long as you take the habit to do it. Establish a routine and you'll see that the tasks are easy to do. A seasonal maintenance calendar can help you avoid many problems before they even appear. You can ask for a house maintenance calendar at the housing department, at the Band council office.



### For more information

If you need to obtain more information about locative lodging, residential house construction, PAREL plan programs (SCHL), loan requests (ministerial guarantee) or if you have any other demand regarding lodging, it will be my pleasure to help you realize your projects.

Greetings,

Lyne Mailhot  
Lodging agent

# TUHTUHWAS

## Proud To Be Abenaki And A Grandmother



By Nicole O'Bomsawin

There are meetings in life that leave a mark in your memories. This is one that made me prouder to be an Abenaki... The only time I met Peter Lewis Paul\*, a Malecite elder from New-Brunswick, was in June 1989 at the inauguration of The Museum of Civilisations in Ottawa.

us remember. The song is named **Tuhtuhwas, the pine needles.**

The men put the pine needles at the center of the drum. As the drummers beat the drum, the pine needles separate and start to move towards the edge of the drum. Meanwhile, the women dance in a circle. White pine needles are thrown in the middle of the circle. After each verse, the women change direction and begin to brush the needle towards the center. At the end of the song, the women who wish to dance again remain and the song is repeated again. The song is repeated as long as one woman remains in the circle and wishes to dance.

Having experimented with the drum, I realised that depending on the number of drummers, the beat changes. If you are, say, 8 drummers; and you beat the drum too hard and/or too fast, then the pine needles fall off the drum. Too slowly and/or not hard enough and the needles don't move. So depending on how many drummers you have and the amount of needles on the drum, the beat varies. The men must adapt the rhythm and strength they use on the drum, depending on their number.

So the fewer they are, the faster and the harder they have to drum. This has a direct impact with the women dancing. They must follow the cadence. The faster the song is played the more difficult it is to dance. They get tired more quickly and the number of women who step out of the dance grows larger.

After learning about the dance and the history behind it, I've come up with an interpretation of it. The whole dance represents the Abenaki culture. It represents the time and effort it will take to keep it alive.

As time moves on, the culture must adapt itself; sometimes quickly, sometimes more slowly, depending on the outside pressure that is exerted upon it. The men's job is to remain alert of these changes and keep the culture in step. In some places they will be many so they can act more easily. In other places, their numbers will be fewer; they will have to be more vigorous in their actions. Depending on what happens in the future, the beat of the Abenaki people will change. Adaptation is the key.

Transmission of the culture is usually done by the women. To be able to continue to do this when times and outside influence will call to mix more and accept the white man's way of life, will demand from the women strength and stamina to be able to resist. If the outside pressure is strong, then it will be more difficult for them. If it is too strong, then fewer and fewer will be able to follow the traditional ways.

The Abenakis sing it like the Passamaquodys and the Micmacs sing it like the Penobscots. All of them dance it in a different way, probably the result of separation through time and space.

I believe that since the song is still sung today, the Abenaki people still gather in Pow-wows, especially in north-east America; that the Native communities continue to battle to keep those traditions alive. Then,

what their forefathers and mothers hoped for may still yet happen.

In the past few years in Odanak, I've seen more and more people coming and asking questions about their Abenaki heritage. I see more and more of them gathering (more often and in bigger numbers), the Abenaki Confederacy is gaining in strength and with the advent of the internet, it is becoming easier to keep in touch.

Perhaps it's time that another Great Council is to be called. Perhaps it's time for the Abenaki to gather again...

Special thanks to my companion Patrick Côté for helping me put this together and to share it with you.

Kchi Wliwni !

Happy 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary !

Nicole O'Bomsawin

\*Peter Lewis Paul deceased in August of 1989

### Abenaki Words: Time Division

Kisokw .....	The day, a day
Kisgadiwi .....	In day time
Tebokw .....	The night
Nib8iwi .....	In the night
Sp8sowiwi.....	In the morning
Wl8gwiwi .....	In the evening
Paskua .....	Noon, it is noon
Paskuak .....	At noon
N8witebakad.....	Midnight, it is midnight
N8witebakak.....	At midnight
S8khipozit kisos .....	Sunrise, at sunrise
Nakilh8t kisos .....	Sunset, at sunset
Pamkiskak.....	Today
Paml8guik .....	This evening
Wl8gwa.....	Yesterday
Saba .....	Tomorrow
Achakuiwik .....	The next day
Ngued8mkipoda.....	An hour, one o'clock
Pabas8mkipoda .....	Half an hour
Minit .....	A minute
Pazeguen kisokw .....	A day
Nguetsanda .....	A week
Nisda sanda.....	Two weeks
Kisos, or pazeko kisos .....	A month

#### Sources :

LAURENT, Joseph (SOZAP LOLÔ). St.Francis Mission (Odanak) Abenakis Chief. NEW FAMILIAR ABENAKIS AND ENGLISH DIALOGUES. 1884.  
Online: <http://www.canadiana.org/view/08895/0005>

## BENEFIT SHOW: THE MALLECHES IN ODANAK

Councilor of the Odanak Band Council and organizer of the event, Jacques T. Watso announced through Jacko Productions revenues of \$693.50 for the fundraiser held Saturday March 27, while THE MALLECHES gave a rousing musical performance at the Community Centre Odanak. As previously announced, proceeds will go entirely to fund the Canadian Red Cross for disaster relief in Haiti and Chile.

124 paid admissions were recorded in total.

Jacques T. Watso would like to thank the following people or organizations for their support

and contribution for this activity was a success: Chief Raymond Bernard, Chief Rick O'Bomsawin, Nicolet-Yamaska deputy, Jean-Martin Aussant, Bas-Richelieu-Nicolet-Becancour deputy, Louis Plamondon, Depanneur Nimowôn, Abenaki Enterprises Beton Sylvain Allard, Sonorisation Tech Spec, not to mention the volunteers and each person who came out to attend the show.

Finally, special thanks are addressed to THE MALLECHES band musicians Alex, Dan and Dominic, for giving a positive tone for this special Rock'n'Roll night.



# THE ODANAK FORT: ABENAKI PAST REVISITED !

*Every Thursday nights in June 2010, an information session will be held at the Musée des Abénakis to make the point on the project and the discoveries of the week.*

By Michelle Bélanger, director general of the Musée des Abénakis and Geneviève Treyvaud, archaeologist

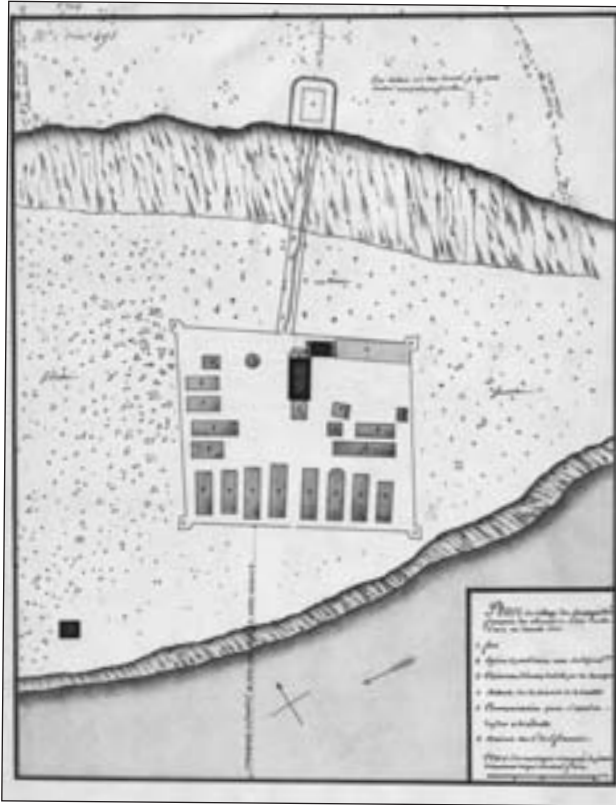
1700, a huge fort was built by Abenaki people on Odanak lands, but its localization has not been detected yet with precision. A plan dressed in 1720 makes it possible to evaluate the fort size to be about 20 000 square meters (5 acres) and to count as much as twenty buildings. A detailed study of this plan suggests that it could have been built on the south-west side of the actual territory and near the Saint-François river banks. The archaeological discovery of this fort would be of an unprecedented historical perspective, because it is the only one construction of this kind in all North America, having shielded a majority of Abenaki people through 18th century. Thus, from May 26 to June 23rd 2010, archaeologists Geneviève Treyvaud and Michel Plourde, associates at the Laval University, will try to localize the fort and the redoubt (military building outside of a fort) nearby Chenal-Tardif route.

The knowings about Abenaki presence in Quebec are very few, archaeologically talking. However, many sources are describing the Abenaki land as a vast territory, stretching from Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont towards south of Quebec. Archaeological searches made with Abenaki communities of these american states enable to better understand the way of life and certain distinctive cultural traits making Abenaki society with its own historical profile.

Circa 1611, the presence of Abenaki people along the Saint-François river banks is ethnographically proved even by english sources than french ones. It is thus highly probable that Saint-François river was used as a north-south route by the Abenakis, in that it is directly accessing to the Saint-Lawrence river, and that it is favorizing by the same way commercial and social exchanges with other native nations across the north bank.

Facing English intransigence to recognize their lands, and dealing with perpetual encroachment of their territories, Abenakis are forced to fight on two different front lines. First, as French allies, then, for the savings of their own lands.

In the middle of 17th century, Odanak, on the Saint-François river, is the largest Abenaki establishment in all the Nouvelle-France. It is provi-



ding the principal military contingents, a situation that will lead to the English assault in 1759 and to the village destruction. However, the lack of archaeological proofs makes difficult to document and seize the Abenaki presence on the Saint-François river banks, because only one site has been discovered in the Odanak abenaki territory. The searches were done in 1967 with the goal to localize the 1685 fortified village (Grégoire, G., Society of Archaeology of Sherbrooke, 1967). Many artefacts were discovered within these searches, but it was not possible to link them to a precise period of time. These findings are a part of the archaeological collection of the Musée des Abénakis and will be presented soon to the public, over a temporary exposition.

The present project of searches could spread over a five years period. In 2010-2011, three steps of the project will be achieved. Since last March, archaeologists are preparing the field work. With the help of archive documents, ancient maps and aerial pictures, they are trying

to situate the fort of 1700. From May 26th to June 23rd of 2010, the two archaeologists will begin the work. To assist them, four community members will be hired and formed as technician-archaeologists. The searches will allow the scientists to redraw the exact spot of the fort, the buildings and the palisade, to document the way of life within the perimeter of the fort and to rediscover the material culture of its occupants. The excavation site of searches will be accessible to residents and visitors of the Museum on search days. In addition, during the Archeo-Quebec Month of archaeology, the Museum will present on 21st et 22nd of August a public activity to help the visitors discover the results of the searches and to identify the findings. In fall, the discovered artefacts are going to be analyzed, and a synthesis rapport will be written. During winter of 2011, the scientists will be back in Odanak to study and document the collection of the Musée des Abénakis, preparatory step to the realisation of an exposition.

Every Thursday nights in June 2010, an information session will be held at the Musée des Abénakis to make the point on the project and the discoveries of the week.

We are inviting interested people to get involved in this project as a technician-archaeologist to contact the Musée des Abénakis staff. No particular experience is needed. A good way to contribute to Odanak history! The job is retributed, thankfully to Odanak Band Council generosity, while the project is endorsed by.

This gathering project will lead to a better knowing of the rich Abenaki heritage, to increase visibility and to provoke traffic for the Musée des Abénakis and, mostly, will create employment in the community. This project of searches is a part of the commemoration activities of the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Odanak establishment.

In this 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary context, the Musée des Abénakis will also present an exposition of ancient pictures. We are looking for old photographs of Odanak families and community buildings. We are inviting you to join and to send your photos to the Musée to the attention of Jennifer Mahé-Trudeau. We will numerize and return them to you fast and confidently. The success of these activities in this 350<sup>th</sup> year depends on your collaboration!

## Melanie O'Bomsawin : Recipient of the Documentary Development Purse

Extract of the press release from Canal D and APTN

**Montreal, December 22<sup>nd</sup> 2009** – Canal D and APTN are proud to give a documentary development purse to a young native filmmaker, Melanie O'Bomsawin, for her film 'Porteurs d'héritage'.

Given for a third time in a row, this purse of an amount of \$10,000 will contribute to sustain Native talent in the local televisual industry.

Originally from the abenaki community of Odanak, Mélanie O'Bomsawin, 22 years old, is a graduate in television production.

With her documentary project 'Porteurs d'héritage', the young woman wants to share her culture by drawing an image of the Native universe, from then and now.

By meeting aboriginal artists, she will try to discover what is driving them to reinvent their culture.

Joined in her Montreal apartment, Melanie O'Bomsawin was just arriving from Kitigan Zibi community, where she took part for one full month in the Wapikoni mobile project, an ambulant video and music studio intended for aboriginal youth in their communities.

Melanie says she appreciated to capture on the tape and to document the Native youth and the community activities. She is mentioning with emotion that she got the chance to hear elder Algonquins speaking their native tongue: "I have found that it was a profound experience to get in touch with Kitigan Zibi people, as I am recognizing my own path in theirs. The Algonquins are forming a people that is so close of Abenakis'. Wapikoni mobile let me learn so much more concerning my own culture !"

The graduate in television production (Arts and media technologies) from the Cegep of Jonquières, who actually works part time as a video edition technician for Radio-Canada Montreal is planning to come back a few times in Odanak this summer and to participate to the Musée des Abenakis activities.



Les employés et les élus du Conseil de bande tiennent à féliciter Mélanie !



# POW WOW

## ABENAKI

### Abenaki Pow Wow - July 2<sup>ND</sup> to 4<sup>TH</sup> 2010

#### Friday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> 2010

8:00PM **Social Dancing Party With DJ**  
Under the big tent  
102, Sibosis Street  
Free admission

#### Saturday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> 2010

9:30AM **Bike-O-Thon Entries**  
Under the big tent  
102, Sibosis Street

10:00AM **Bike-O-Thon Departure**  
Notre-Dame-de-Pierreville Island tour

AT NOON For Bike-O-Thon participants only:  
**Free Meal And Prizes**

1:00PM **Chief Nescambiouit Commemorative  
Plaque Unveiling Ceremony**  
Parks Canada - Recreation Center

1:30PM **LaCrosse Friendly Match** on the Recreation Center  
Wendake versus Odanak

1:00 to 5:00PM **On the Church yards and at the Musée des Abénakis**  
Animation ♦ Handcraft stands ♦ Traditional Black Ash  
basket making ♦ Ash pounding and splintering ♦ Archery

4:30PM **Spaghetti Meal And Popular Music With Tom O'Bomsawin**  
Community center, 58, Waban-Aki Street  
Adult: \$10.00 Kids (10 years and under) : \$5.00

7:00PM **Bingo With Money Prizes**  
Under the big tent, 102, Sibosis street

10:00PM **Traditionnal Fire With Ogawinno Drum**  
Behind Band Council Office , 102, Sibosis street

#### Sunday, July 4 2010

8:00 to 10:00AM **Elders Breakfast<sup>®</sup> at the Musée des Abénakis**  
Free for the elders of the community - \$5.00 per person  
\*Places are limited, tickets are sold at the Musée des Abénakis

10:30AM **Anglican-Catholic Outdoors Mass**  
In the Catholic Church grounds

12:45PM **The Grand Entry**

1:00PM **Word From Chief Ghislain Picard, AFNQL**  
**Word From Chief Rick O'Bomsawin**

1:30 to 5:00PM **Traditional Songs And Dances**  
Aw8ssisak Akik (Abenakis) ♦ The Mocassins (Young Abenakis) ♦ The  
Grand-Mothers' Dance (Abenakis Women) ♦ Alnôbak (Odanak) ♦  
Sondakwa (Huron-Wendat) ♦ Marie-Céline Charon

#### Over The Week-End

Many handcraft stands ♦ Smoked fish ♦ Sagamite and  
Bannock (Sunday only) ♦ Basket making and ash pounding and  
splintering ♦ Archery (behind the Presbyterium) ♦ Cartoonist

Kolipaïô

## IN PREPARATION FOR THE 51<sup>th</sup> POW WOW OF ODANAK

*Kwai Kwai* - The Chief and Councillors, the Band Council staff and community members are preparing the 51<sup>th</sup> annual Pow Wow of Odanak. It will be held from July 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup> 2010.

The Pow Wow will start on Friday evening with a social dance at the Odanak Community Center.

On Saturday July 4<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Bike-o-thon followed by free lunch for all participants. In the afternoon, recreational and sporting events will be held at the Recreation and Leisure Center such as inter-tribal Lacrosse. The Hurons-Wendat for Wendake and our home team will compete in friendly competition. These matches will revive an old tradition, in the days when our Nations were reuniting to fraternize.

On the Church grounds, artists and craftsmen will provide entertainment on the site. At 4:30PM, a traditional meal will be served at the Community Center, followed by a Bingo organized by the Native Women Association of Odanak, at 7:00PM. Afterwards, drummers will gather around a campfire behind the Band office, singing traditional Waban-Aki songs. People from as far as Connecticut, Vermont and New York will join the Odanak drummers to share the rich Waban-Aki culture.

On Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup>, mass will be celebrated outdoors, followed after lunch by the revival of the Grand Entry. Traditional singing and dancing on the church grounds and continuous animation by artists and craftsmen will also be presented.

To help make this Pow Wow a success, your presence will be needed and necessary, as in previous years.

I remain at your disposal for further information.

The 2010 Pow Wow Committee

**Steve Williams Benedict**  
President

**Monique O'Bomsawin**  
Secretary-treasurer  
(450) 568-2810  
m.obomsawin@cbodanak.com

## Making of an artisanal quilt

To raise funds for their traditional activities that are going on all year long, the Vannières d'Odanak are presently making a quilt representing four symbolic animals valuable for the Nation; the turtle, the eagle, the bear and the fish.

This unique piece will be exposed during the Pow Wow week-end and

random draw tickets will be sold at the artisans stand, at a cost of \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00.

The draw of the quilt will be on Sunday, July 4<sup>th</sup>.

To buy your tickets in advance, please contact Lise Bibeau at (450) 568-2569 or Dolores Wawanolett at (450) 568-0516

# Plenty of Activities At The Odanak Leisure Center!

Kwai, Kwai!

Since last fall, I work for the Band Council as a leisure service responsible. I plan to organize a few outings and my mandate is to conceive community oriented activities and events. This year, we have a special program dedicated to youth from 12 to 35 years of age. Activities put in place are: Lacrosse sport initiation (without contact), a workshop on the Graff practice, initiation to percussions with SAMAJAM and a scrapbooking session linking all activities that will be held in 2010.

Lacrosse is team sport improving cardio and concentration skills. It is an ancestral sport that is growing in popularity in Québec. To equalize the sport as possible, we are practicing it without contact. Don't be shy, even a 100 pounder can play it very well! Actually, we have many players from 14 to 40 years old. We have the objective to develop a team that will play more competitively, but for now, we play for fun. Technical practices started along, but you can join us at all time! This year, we have the chance to train with an experimented trainer. He will be present all weeks to teach you the skills and to help you improve your level of play. Also, we will organize friendly and inter-tribal tournaments.

This summer, SAMAJAM school will come over to share with you their African drum beats and gumboots. SAMAJAM school is the biggest one in percussion style all over Canada. They are in demand and you can see them in the TV show "Belle et bum". One course a week will be offered to youth from 12 to 35 years old in all the Bas-St-Francois: 20 students maximum (6 courses of African percussions and 4 courses of gumboots). At the end of summer, a little show is planned for the 2010 Family celebration.

As you can see, there is plenty of activities offered at the Odanak Leisure center!

2010 is a page of history for our community. Be a part of the youth committee, participate to all activities and do our best to remember for a long time our 350<sup>th</sup> year!

If you have questions or need any information, please don't hesitate to contact me:

Lysanne O'Bomsawin  
Leisure responsible  
450.568.0729  
sch\_lys@hotmail.com



## HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL Emile Gariépy Proclaimed Rookie Of The Year !

Always as active in High school football, Émile Gariépy particularly stood out in 2009-2010. While he was playing the safety position for his AA juvenile team, the Bleu et Or of the Commission scolaire de la Rivaraine composed of Jean-Nicolet and La Découverte High school players, Émile is involving himself with younger kids by being one of the Curé-Brassard elementary school's training staff, which is innovating this spring by creating a mini-foot-

ball team. To positively put an end to his great season, Émile was proclaimed as the 'Rookie of the year' during the Gala des Sudistes held May 13<sup>th</sup>. He was in nomination in the 'Athlete having showed the best sportsmanship' category too.

Last November, on the Cegep of Trois-Rivieres' new synthetic surface, Émile and his fellow teammates were disputing the great finale of the Bol d'Or to the Pentagone of Mont-Joli.

If you know a kid, a teenager or a young adult that is standing out through sports, music, arts or any other passion, please write to us at [communications@nationwabanaki.com](mailto:communications@nationwabanaki.com)



## Jacob Nolett Descheneaux in AAA Soccer

Jacob Nolett Descheneaux is coming back from a soccer tournament disputed in France, from March 30 to April 7<sup>th</sup>. By playing a total of 7 matches against European teams, the young athlete learned the difficulty level of international competition and could add

some precious minutes of experience to his record. The 17 years old midfielder successfully got his place last year on the U18 Brosard team, in the Elite Soccer League of Quebec (AAA). Jacob is studying at the Saint-Bernard College, in Drummondville.