



Niijaansinaanik

Child and Family Services

Alternative Care Newsletter



February 2022

Mkwa Giizis

Bear Moon



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Cultural Connections

Mkwa Giizis

Bear Moon

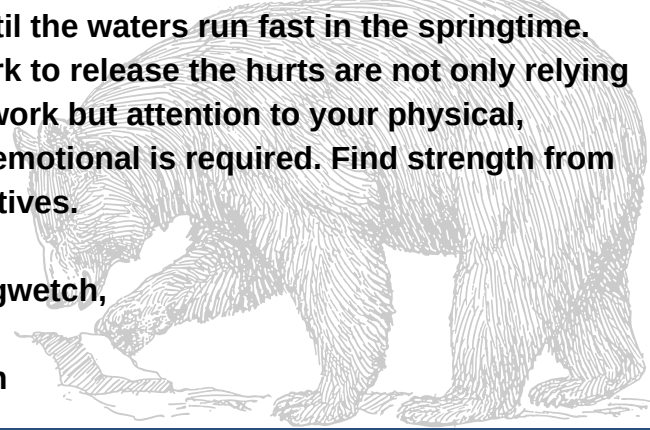
Ahniin, Boozhoo Kina Weya,

This time in creation the bear cubs are being born in their dens of their mama bears. New life coming to the bears. This is the time that Anishnabek would petition to the spirit of the bear for healing from any hurts from the previous year. Also known as “Wey Web In Nay Gey Win” – Throw away. A time to begin to heal hurts that were done to you and hurts that you may have inflicted on others. It is time to ask the spirit of the bear to help heal relationships. A bear bundle is made to help let go of hurts. Bundles are made in bear clan colours, burgundy cloth for women, and black cloth for men.

Prayers made with Seema (tobacco) are placed into the cloth, black stones representing strength and determination, your effort to work through the pain. The bundle is tied and you sit with your bundle and speak about it at the full moon in February with Nookmis dbik giizis (grandmother moon). The bundle is carried until the waters run fast in the springtime. The hard work to release the hurts are not only relying on spiritual work but attention to your physical, mental, and emotional is required. Find strength from our bear relatives.

Na’how, Miigwetch,

Culture Team



Upcoming Events

Do you know someone thinking about becoming an Alternative Caregiver? We are holding two virtual presentations for prospective caregivers to learn more.

February 3, 2022
6-7p.m.



February 17, 2022
1:30-2:30p.m.

Registration is required to receive the zoom link.
Contact Lillian Couchie at lillian.couchie@niijafs.com

Family Day

We hope your household enjoys a wonderful Family Day! Keep posted for an announcement about an Alternative Care Homes - Free Family Day Feast in your community, served up by our Prevention Team.



Niijaansinaanik Staff will also be dispersing tee shirts on or around Family Day, which feature a design as shown below. Chi-Miigwetch to our First Nations for their assistance with organizing this project!

**MAAMWI GDOO-
NCHIIKWAANAANIG
ENCHIYANG**

**WORKING TOGETHER
FOR OUR FAMILIES**



Niijaansinaanik
Child and Family Services

Please Note

On Mon, Feb 21, 2022 some of our office locations will be closed. You can reach out 24/7 to be connected if required.

1-855-223-5558

Your worker will provide more information as made available for these events, which are subject to changing Provincial Guidelines.

Children's Colouring Corner



The February colouring page will be dropped off by your worker, or you can click the picture or [here to find a full-size version of the colouring page](#). If you don't receive a dropped-off page, please request one from your Worker. Each month the submissions go into a draw.

This month's draw winner will receive: a \$25 gift card!

Valentines Day Craft Ideas for Kids



Friendship Rocks - Fingerprint Hearts



Heart Shaped Bird Seed Feeders



10 Valentines Day Crafts



Do-It-Yourself (DIY) Fluffy Slime



Please read through instructions to ensure activity is age appropriate.

February AC Home Engagement Activity

During the month of February, we are asking our AC children, youth, and families to create a poster title, "What I love about Me" or, "What I love about my Family".

Send a photo of the completed work to your Worker by February 25, 2022, and be entered to win a \$50 gift card!

Draw Date: March 4, 2022



Pre-Service Training

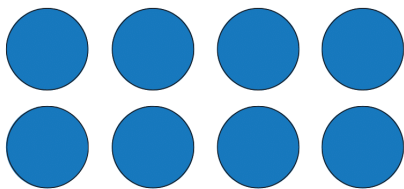
Congratulations to our new AC homes that have completed their Pre-Service training !

Our next upcoming Heart & Spirit
Pre-Service Training will be:

April 2022

Participants will be notified

WORKSHOP STAMPS



HOW DOES THE CULTURAL PASSPORT WORK?

- For each Weshkiniijig workshop you attend you will receive one (1) stamp.
- Each stamp you receive is worth two (2) entries into a grand prize draw.
- If you get more than four (4) stamps on your Weshkiniijig Cultural Passport, each stamp will go up to 3 entries into the grand prize draw!

Cultural passports will be stamped by Anishinabek Nation Youth Program staff at the end of each workshop you attend.

NAME: _____

Weshkiniijig Cultural Events

The Anishinabek Nation Youth's Weshkiniijig Cultural Passport initiative is continuing! Registrants of Weshkiniijig workshops have/will automatically receive their very own Cultural Passport. For each workshop you attend, you receive a stamp. The more workshops you attend the more chances you have to win a grand prize draw! Be sure to follow @AnishinabekNationYouth on Facebook or @AnishNation on Twitter to see upcoming workshops.

For more information contact:
Brittnay Meunier-Gauthier, Youth Program Assistant at
brittnay.meunier-gauthier@anishinabek.ca



Anti-Bullying Day February 23, 2022

Annually, on the last Wednesday of February people across Canada sport a pink shirt to show that kindness matters, and to raise awareness for an inclusive world where bullying is not tolerated.

Information and resources about: What is Bullying? Support for Youth, Support for Parents, Caregivers and Teachers, Cyberbullying and more are available at:

www.pinkshirtday.ca/resources



Gikinjigwenidiwag
Hug



Ganawenjigaazo
Protect

Miigwetch to Joshua Pawis-Steckley of Wasauksing First Nation for sharing these images with us!

Contact us

We love to hear from you.

Your role as a caregiver is crucial in many aspects. Thank you for choosing to be a care provider and making a sincere difference in the lives of many. Thank you for believing in our Agency and helping keep Indigenous, Métis, and Inuit children in our/your communities. Together we can provide positive and healthy experiences for children and youth, who can grow up with true and strong connections.

Miigwetch!



1-855-223-5558



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