



DAKOTA OJIBWAY POLICE SERVICE

"A Commitment to First Nations"

Vol. 1 Issue 2
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Welcome to our Newsletter!

Message from the Chief of Police

Spring is finally here! We have all been looking forward to the warmer weather and to the activities that come with spring and summer. Members of the Police Service encourage Community members, especially young people to exercise caution around spring ice and high water levels.

As we move forward into the 2010/11 fiscal year, the Service continues to work on key strategic issues including enhanced crime prevent and community initiatives, increased communication with the communities and expansion to other Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council communities, such as Long Plain First Nation. Another important project we are working on is the relocation of Dakota

Ojibway Police Service Headquarters to Portage la Prairie (Long Plain Rufus Prince Building) which is scheduled for September 1, 2010.

I would personally like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the young people in Sioux Valley that have been taking part in the DOPS/Sioux Valley Cadet Program. It is great to see the kids coming out, experiencing new things and having fun. Our staff and volunteers enjoy working with the young people and hope to expand the program to other communities.

Meegwetch / Wopida!

D.A. (Doug) Palson
Chief of Police

ICE SAFETY THIS SPRING....

As we venture onto that frozen lake or river this spring, it's important to be aware of the possible dangers that exist. Every year, people fall through the ice, get stranded by bad weather or die needlessly from travel on spring waterways. As the days get longer and warmer, we tend to spend more time outdoors especially for the avid ice fisherman looking to catch that big one that got away last time or getting supper on the hook. We must take the time to think safety and be prepared. Here are some safety tips and factors:

- Be aware of outside temperature changes. Warmer weather can melt the ice in places pretty fast.
- Stay off river ice. Rivers are known to change ice thickness and levels overnight.
- Look for rocks, logs, weed beds because these formations tend to warm up faster causing melting and weed beds and

slough don't freeze up over the winter.

- Never go on ice at night. Holes and bad areas are harder to see at night.
- Never go alone, take a buddy with you. If something happens, you have help.
- Check for the color of the ice. Clear blue is the strongest, snow covered is half as strong and grey ice is unsafe, indicating water.
- Don't leave children unsupervised under any circumstances if they are within the vicinity of ice conditions. Teach children to know ice safety and never to venture out alone.

According to the Canadian Red Cross, ice thickness should be as follows:

- 15 cm for walking or skating along;
- 20 cm for skating parties or games;
- 25 cm for snowmobiles or games.

Check with your local authorities for ice conditions before you venture out on the ice and abide by all posted signs.

MISSION

STATEMENT

"Strive to ensure the safety, security, trust and protection of the First Nation Communities: Birdtail Slough, Canupawakpa Dakota Nation, Roseau River, Sandy Bay and Slough Valley. Uphold the highest standards of professionalism and to honor the cultures, beliefs and traditions of the First Nations families and communities of which the Department serves."

"Treat the earth well.

It was not given to you by your parents,

It was loaned to you by your children.

We do not inherit the Earth from our Ancestors, We borrow it from our Children."

Ancient Indian Proverb

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Dakota Ojibway Police Service

Employee Profile

Constable D.N. (Derek) Smoke is a member of the Dakota Ojibway Police Service and presently posted at Roseau River Detachment. Constable Smoke is from the Dakota Plains First Nation.

He graduated from the Portage Collegiate Institute in 1988 and attended Assiniboine Community College in pursuit of his passion which was automotive/auto body. Derek married his best friend and high school sweetheart, Angie PRINCE who is also employed by another entity of Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council. They have three children and they are all quite actively involved in sports in the community they live in.

He started his policing career in October of 1990 and received his training with Brandon Police Service which he successfully completed in December of 1990. He was posted to Sandy Bay First Nation for the first six months. Derek received hands on training from co-workers and support staff. The posting was short lived and he later transferred to the Swan Lake First Nation.

During the time the Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council Police, as it was called then, was temporarily shut down, he worked in his home community as a laborer at the Dakota Plains Greenhouse. When the Police Service was re-activated, he was one of the first Members to be re-instated and was posted to the Long Plain/Dakota Plains First Nation. Working within his own community was difficult at times because he had to respond to calls that dealt with family and relatives. He was eventually transferred to the Sioux Valley Dakota Nation. Once at the Sioux Valley Dakota Nation, he quickly made many contacts and discovered relations in the community. Derek has several postings thereafter, back to Sandy Bay for a brief period and then transferred back to the Western Division. He didn't stay there for long; In August 2007 he was posted to Roseau River Anishinabé First Nation.

Although Derek is a dedicated employee, he managed to find time to form a hockey team consisting of Police and Community Members. When the team started they did not have a name but were eventually called "**Rez Dogs**". They started small with barely two lines to play at times. The hockey team built many bridges between Community members and himself. The team participated in many tournaments and had a lot of fun and also commented, "We were not great, but had great fun and lots of good times". In the summertime, Derek would often try to get a ball team together and on a few occasions would get some games in. One game consisted of the



Constable D.N. (Derek) Smoke

Police Service with Community Members vs. the Chief and Council of Sioux Valley. He doesn't recall the outcome of the game, but as usual, they had a lot of fun. Derek was involved in many Community events. He challenged the Local Youth Group and made a bet with them that within the month of May if they were successful in raising \$1,500.00, he would shave his head publicly. Well, the Group was actively involved in fundraising and brought in Youth from surrounding First Nation Communities. The Youth Group succeeded in reaching their goal. The final event was held at a Youth dance and Derek had to keep his end of the bargain and publicly shave his head **BALD** and all for a good cause.



Derek has enjoyed getting to know the people in the different communities and it has been a pleasure for him policing and patrolling the communities of the Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council. He has been with Dakota Ojibway Police Service for nineteen years and has to say it has been very interesting to say the least.

He has attended numerous courses to keep in tune with the ever changing world of Policing and to upgrade his skills to be effective in his role as a Police Officer. Just like anything else, some courses were more interesting than others, but all in all, just as effective in policing. Derek attended the Taser Training and volunteered to be tasered. He said it was an electrifying experience and totally unbelievable. Derek has attended numerous training workshops/courses which makes him a valuable asset to Dakota Ojibway Police Service.

Derek is thankful to his family for their support and for standing by him throughout his career. He is also very appreciative and thankful for being welcomed into the Communities that he served and patrolled because he gained the knowledge of the Spirit of the people. It has been a pleasure for Derek to work in and be a part of the communities and looks forward to continuing his career within the D.O.T.C. communities.

Derek would like to express a message and request to all. *"I cannot stress the importance as I see too much of it in our communities within D.O.T.C. **"PLEASE DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE"**. There are many precious things in our communities that should never be taken from us. When people make a decision to drink and drive, that decision may take one of these things from you or another family member. It can and will affect a community when someone drinks and drives. **MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION.**"*

Wopida and Meegwetch!

Derek SMOKE (Cst. #42) | Barb Cameron



Dakota Ojibway Police Service

D.O.P.S.—Youth Cadet Corps

The DOPS CADETS—Sioux Valley Corps is progressing well since the start up on January 13, 2010 at the Sioux Valley School. We meet every Wednesday evening from 6:30—9:00 pm. The program has been going strong from the start and has received many positive comments from students and parents alike. This new pilot program consists of many exciting activities and learning events that are beneficial to students from ages 12 – 17 years. We have a regular group of 35 Cadets and a Cadet Leader, Shane Jarrod Taylor who was hired on a part time basis to support and mentor youth and assist with any program difficulties that may interfere with or prevent ongoing attendance. We have a Drill Instructor, Cst. McKean from BPS, who has knowledge and experience with the Cadet Program and has inspired the youth with her drill instruction and leadership classes. We also have four dedicated Youth Leaders from the ACC Police Studies class that come out every Wednesday to assist with program activities.



Some of our activity nights have included Finger Printing, Sports, Valentines Monster Mash, Media Olympics with guest Torch Runners, Cultural Teachings, Police K9 visit, Handcuffing and Archery.



We would like to acknowledge the direct partnership and support of the Sioux Valley Education Authority in their assistance with bus transportation and use of the school and equipment. The Sioux Valley Gaming Centre for the purchase of T-shirts and MB4YOUTH Division—Healthy Living, Youth and Seniors for their funding support to cover costs of uniforms.



Please watch for the next newsletter in which we will have an update on upcoming activities including Crime Scene Investigation Training, Bush Exercise—Weekend Training at the Military Base in Shilo and final parade for family and friends. The Cadet Corps has also been asked by the IRC of Brandon University to be a part of Brandon's Aboriginal Day Festivities on June 21, 2010.



*Jo-Ann Helgason
Crime Prevention Coordinator*

SUMMER STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Watch for Job Postings in your community for the D.O.P.S. Community Crime Prevention Summer Student Program.



2010 Olympic Experience

Constables Trevor Pashe and Dale McKay represented Dakota Ojibway Police Service at the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver. Cst. Pashe submitted an article sharing his experience with the readers. Looking at his picture and seeing his smiling face, I'm sure that his experience was awesome especially being amongst the tremendous energy of the Canadian spirit.

My assignment was from February 12—28, 2010. I arrived the same day as the unfortunate circumstances of a luge competitor passing away during a practice run. The assigned

duties was to secure the venue perimeter, for the most part, until the actual events occurred, at which time, crowd control was needed towards the finish line.

Throughout the Whistler Village, people would echo to the chant, "GO CANADA!" time and time again. Music blared from noon to 11:00 pm with Olympic Athletes, Canadian medalists and TV anchors surrounded by cameras.

The Olympic spirit brought together many people from different countries, cultures and languages for one unforgettable experience.

Trevor PASHE (Cst. #40)



Cst. T.J. (Trevor) Pashe's venue was the Whistler Sliding Centre (Bobsled, Luge and Skeleton).

DAKOTA OJIBWAY POLICE SERVICE
 Brandon Headquarters
 Rm 220—740 Rosser Avenue
 Brandon, MB R7A 0K9

Office: (204) 729-3622
 Fax: (204) 729-3676
 Email: dops@dops.org
 Website: www.dops.org

Birdtail Sioux Detachment
 P.O. Box 44
 Beulah, MB ROM 0B0
 E911: (204) 568-4621
 Fax: (204) 568-4552

Canupawakpa Detachment
 P.O. Box 40
 Pipestone, MB ROM 1T0
 E911: (204) 854-2953
 Fax: (204) 854-2364

Roseau River Detachment
 P.O. Box 190
 Dominion City, MB ROA OH0
 E911: (204) 427-3383
 Fax: (204) 427-3389

Sandy Bay Detachment
 P.O. Box 644
 Marius, MB ROH OT0
 E911: (204) 843-7700
 Fax: (204) 843-7702

Sioux Valley Detachment
 P.O. Box 130
 Griswold, MB ROM OS0
 E911: (204) 855-4400

Manitoba First Nation Police Association would like to inform the Membership of the upcoming Annual General Meeting. Nominations for Executive positions will be on the agenda. Date and time of the AGM will be posted.

D.O.P.S. Health & Safety Committee was established to address specific issues that pose hazardous within the workplace environment. An internal resolution process is in place to follow-up with specific concerns that have been brought forth in the safety logs.

The Committee consists of the following:

Warren Truscott—BT/CD Detach.
 Darren Hamm—SV Detach.
 Justin Linklater—SB Detach.
 Kristen Tompsett—RR Detach.

FLOODING—Forces of Nature

The residents of Roseau River Anishinabé First Nation are keeping a watchful eye on the river in case of a potential rise of the river. The Community battled with flooding conditions last year. The thawing of the river is not expected to rise significantly this year as compared to last year.

The following is a list of safety tips to help prepare for and stay safe during a flood.

- Preparation:** Seal your basement windows and ground-level doors. Install a zero reverse flow valve in the basement drains. Keep important documents on higher floors to protect them from flood damage.
- Anticipation:** Turn basement furnaces and gas valves off. Safeguard heating equipment. Move furniture and electrical appliances above ground level. Get toxic substances away from flood area to prevent pollution. Plug toilet connections with a wooden stopper.
- During:** Stay aware of what roads are safe, where to go and what to do if the local emergency team asked you to evacuate.

GROUND SEARCH & RESCUE

A Ground Search and Rescue Course was recently held in Sandy Bay First Nation. This Certificate Course was offered through the Office of the Fire Commission and facilitated by the Dakota Ojibway Police Service. Congratulations to the D.O.P.S. Members and Sandy Bay Community Members who successfully completed the Course. A good example of working together for a safer community.

How to Reduce Stress

In today's world, it is important that we learn how to manage and handle stress effectively, so that our health isn't negatively impacted. We have to handle stress at an early, so it is essential that we learn effective stress management methods, the sooner the better. The following are a few basic methods to follow:

- Don't over schedule your life so that you feel as though you don't even have time for yourself.
- Take time out once in a while to do something you want to do, rather than the things that you feel you have to do.
- Don't dwell on things that have hap-

- After:** Don't return home until authorities have advised that it's safe to do so. Have an electrician clean, dry and test the main electrical panel. Make sure the building is structurally safe. Look for buckled walls or floors. Minimize contact with floodwater. Keep children away from contaminated areas while cleaning.

Prepare an emergency kit. Your kit should include:

1. Water—2 litres of water per person per day. Have water in small bottles for portability in case of evacuation.
2. Food—that won't spoil, i.e. canned food, energy bars and dried food (replace the food and water once a year).
3. Manual can opener.
4. Flashlight and batteries.
5. Battery powered radio (extra batteries).
6. First aid kit.
7. Special items—prescription medications, infant formula or equipment for people with disabilities.
8. Extra keys for your car and house.
9. Cash—small bills such as \$10 bills and change for payphones.



pened in the past. If you had a bad childhood, learn to admit it, then go on with your life. Vengeance, anger and hate can often lead you down a dangerous path.

- Don't see your glass as half empty, look at it as half full instead. Being pessimistic won't get you anywhere in life, other than stressed out and definitely won't give you the motivation that you need to succeed.

Every person has their own approach when dealing with stress but with these simple stress management techniques, they will surely help when dealing with stress.