

September 2021



"Serving Indigenous people in the City of Kenora for over 44 years"

# The Red Eagle

Ne-Chee Friendship Centre Newsletter

Leaves Turning Moon

WAATEBAGAA-GIIZIS

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Tel:(807)468-5440

Fax:(807)468-5340

Email: [reception@nechee.org](mailto:reception@nechee.org)

Website: [www.nechee.org](http://www.nechee.org)

PO. Box 241, 326 2nd St. S

Kenora, ON P9N 3X3



The Harvest Moon coincides with the Autumnal Equinox, which falls on September 22. This moon is known by many names; Falling Leaves Moon, Yellow Leaf Moon, Corn Moon, Mating Moon, and Rutting Moon. This is a time when Mother Earth is honoured with the grandest of colours. As all of Creation makes their offerings to her, we become aware of all the miracles of creation before us and our spiritual energies are once again awakened.

*A common misconception is that leaves change colour because of the weather, they change because of the decrease in daylight.*

# THINGS TO REMEMBER

**Office CLOSED on  
Monday September 6th  
Labour Day**

**Office CLOSED on  
Thursday September 30th  
National Day for Truth & Reconciliation**





# BECKY GARTNER

## ALTERNATIVE SECONDARY SCHOOL COUNSELLOR

Becky started with the Friendship Centre July 9, 2014, as a Temp Aboriginal Family Support Assistant to cover a parental leave, and then covered a parental leave as the Aboriginal Family Support Coordinator starting September 29, 2014. Becky was hired on January 18, 2016, for a full-time position as the Akwe:go Children's Program Coordinator, then moved into the Career Developer position on April 1, 2017, to now being the Education Counsellor for our Alternative Secondary School Program since April 2, 2018. Becky has been a valuable employee throughout the years she has been with us and never hesitates to offer her assistance to co-workers and management. Becky is not afraid to get her hands dirty and no task is too big or too small. Becky can always be counted on to get whatever job she has been asked to do or that she has volunteered for done. Becky has many attributes...initiative, optimism, and adaptability just to name a few. Becky is most definitely a team player, and her fellow co-workers know they can count on her to not only do her part but will assist others in the team with their part. Thank you, Becky for being such an awesome employee regarding everything you do for your program and the students, the Centre as a whole and for just being the all-around great person that you are.

Patti Fairfield, Executive Director

Boozhoo,

My name is Becky Gartner and I have two children. I graduated from the Education Assistant Program at Confederation College in 2008. In July 2014, I was hired to fill in for the Aboriginal Family Support Program while the coordinator was on leave. I continued to work in this program until our regular workers returned from their parental leaves. Afterwards, I was hired as the Akwe:go Children's Program Coordinator where I stayed for the following year and half. I then took a position as Career Developer in the Apatisiwin Program. About a year later, I had the opportunity to apply for another internal position with the Alternative Secondary school Program Coordinator where I longed to work. I am grateful for the opportunity to work in different programs at the Ne-Chee Friendship Centre. I have learned a lot about how NFC programs support our community and persons of all ages at different stages of their life journey. I feel very honoured working with the youth in the Alternative Secondary School Program which is partnered with Beaver Brae Secondary School. Working for the centre and with our team I continue to feel rewarded at the end of every day.

**Favorite Quote?** "Please understand this: Bad chapters can still create great stories. Wrong paths can still lead to right places. Failed dreams can still create successful people. Sometimes it takes losing yourself to find yourself." ~Cynthia Thurlow~

**Hobbies?** "Camping, listening to music, spending time with my family (including fur babies), being outdoors."

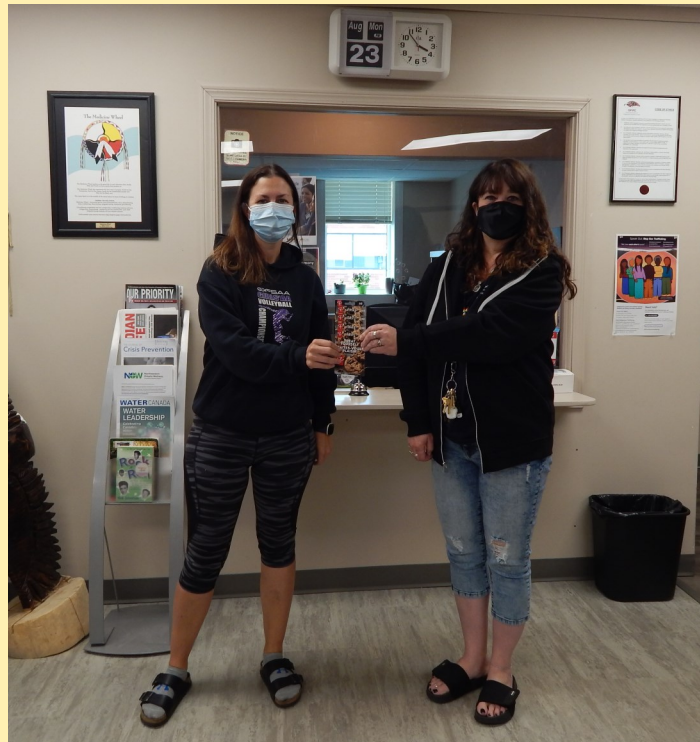
**Favorite Book?** *The Four Agreements — A Practical Guide to Personal Freedom* by Don Miguel Ruiz



# Community Outreach

**“Gichi-Mino-Gitigaani Bimaadiziwin” which means “The Great Garden of Life”.**

Beaver Brae Secondary School students and staff worked hard all summer to get this project started. Recently they harvested their gardens and hosted a “Family & Friends Market”. The proceeds of this amazing project were donated in gift cards to The Ne-Chee Friendship Centre. Pictured below on the left is Sarah Bennett a teacher at Beaver Brae Secondary School and on the right is Patti Fairfield, Executive Director at NFC. The \$250.00 worth of grocery gift cards will be given to clients in need.





# Medicine Picking

Recently some of our NFC staff had the privilege of medicine picking with our **Family Support Coordinator, Sunny Copenace**, and previous employee, Faith-Ellen Anderson. Pictured on the right is sweet grass, picked locally, and everything collected will be used by NFC.

The following day a few of our staff went to Manitoba to pick sage. Please note: Tobacco was offered to the land prior to picking each





# Life Long Care



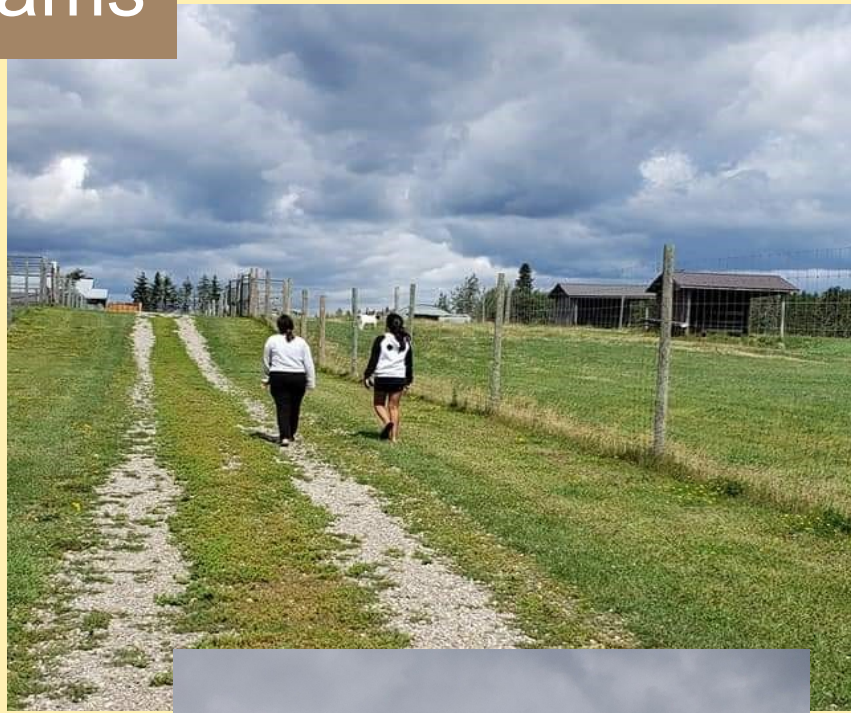
NFC welcomes **Tamsen Unrau & Carolyn Rodger** as our new **Life Long Care Workers**. Recently they hosted a Meet & Greet Luncheon for their clients at **Anicinabe Park**.

**Jade Lucky**, the Life Long Care Summer Student, assisted with the preparations. Jade is heading to University this fall to obtain her degree in science and nursing, we wish her the best!





# Children's Programs



I have been the **Akwe:go Children's Program Coordinator** for almost 2 years and Kaleigh is my first client to age out of my program. On Aug 13, myself and the **Wasa-Nabin Coordinator Kristin Ross** took Kaleigh and her sister Keri-Lynn to **Egli's Sheep Farm**. Kaleigh is transitioning into the Youth Wasa-Nabin program as she just celebrated her 13th birthday. Kaleigh and I have shared lot's of fond memories together, I wish her nothing but the best! **Sheri McNeill, Akwe:go Children's Program Coordinator**



# Children's Programs



Program integration is an important part of The Ne-Chee Friendship Centre. Taking advantage of the summer sunshine our **Healthy Babies, Akwe:go, Wasa-Nabin, Family Support, Healing & Wellness, and EarlyON** took a shuttle to **Coney Island** where clients and their families enjoyed lunch and a day at the beach.





# Children's Programs

Akwe:go Coordinator Sheri McNeill, and our Healing and Wellness Coordinator Emily O'Connor attended a workshop on Strecker Road called "Art in the Garden". The Akwe:go clients had a great time!





# Youth Life



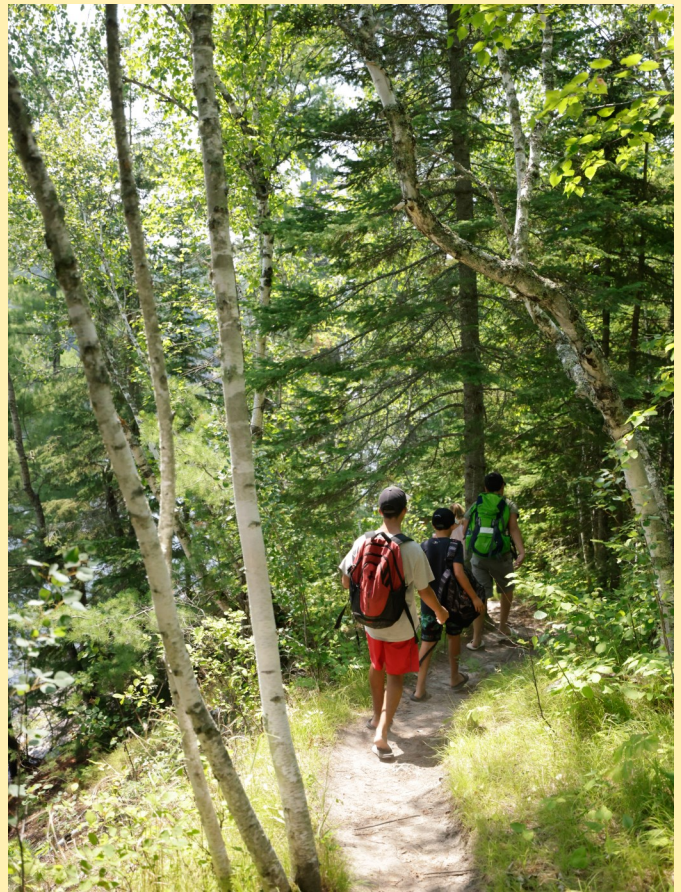
The **Youth Life Program** had a summer student, Shane Lemke, they joined up with our **Urban Aboriginal Healthy Living Program** for a variety of activities such as rock climbing at the University of Manitoba, horse back riding out at Streckers Farm, fishing at Silver Birch Lodge, and canoeing and hiking at various trails and lakes in the Kenora area.

Shane is off to University this fall to study biology, we wish him the best!





# Youth Life





# Staff Event





# Staff Event



A big thank you to the **Social Committee** for organizing a staff event at **Anicinabe Park**, it was a great opportunity for staff to socialize outside of the office.



# Program Announcements



Ne-Chee Friendship Centre

## HEALING BLANKET WORKSHOP

September 14, 2021

1 PM - 3 PM

Ne-Chee Friendship  
Centre Event Space

Learn the Métis teaching of the healing blanket and create one of your own with knowledge holder Colette Surovy.

Limited spots available. To register, please email Emily at [healingandwellness@nechee.org](mailto:healingandwellness@nechee.org).



Join us  
for

## LAND BASED PHOTOGRAPHY

September 9th, 16th and 23rd  
3:30pm-6:00pm

*Photography lessons featuring professional cameras, drones, and filming equipment brought out onto the land to capture nature and animals in their elements.*

Led by:

DAVID FRIESEN AND TEAM

MEETING POINT:

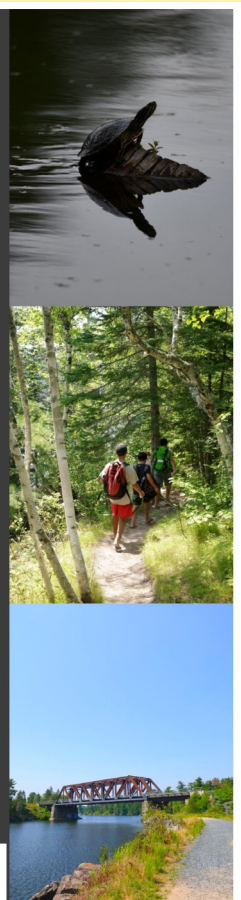
Kenora Youth Wellness Hub  
120 Main Street South

Please be at the Youth Wellness  
Hub FOR 3:30pm

Dinner will be provided to participants



youth wellness hubs  
ONTARIO  
KENORA



## INDIGENOUS STUDENT SUCCESS!

### Back-to-School Supports Available!

APATISIWIN EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING OFFERS ELIGIBLE  
INDIGENOUS STUDENTS FUNDED SUPPORTS FOR SCHOOL



Contact the Apatisiwin Program to  
discuss your back-to-school needs and education goals!

#### AVAILABLE SUPPORTS INCLUDE:

Transportation, computer technology, tuition & course fees,  
training allowance, tutoring, assessments, language, upgrading,  
uniform, adaptive technology and more!

#Apatisiwin #IndigenousStudentSuccess #LimitlessIndigenous



Contact Information:  
Jasmine S. or Dalaney S.  
Employment Counsellors  
Ne-Chee Friendship Centre  
Phone: (807) 468-5440 Ext. 247, Ext. 248  
[youthemployment@nechee.org](mailto:youthemployment@nechee.org)  
[employmentcounsel@nechee.org](mailto:employmentcounsel@nechee.org)

## Weekly Sharing Circle Kenora Emergency Shelter

(Next to Knox United Church)  
Starts August 26, 2021  
2 - 3:30 PM

- Priority to patrons of the Emergency Shelter and members of our houseless population
- Maximum occupancy of 8 people due to COVID-19 safety guidelines.
- Drinks and snacks provided
- Screening will occur before entering facility
- Lockers provided to store belongings upon entering

All welcome!

Book your spot.  
Contact Evelyn Larsen  
at 807-468-5032 ext. 4  
or [elarsen@cmhak.on.ca](mailto:elarsen@cmhak.on.ca)

Hosted by: CMHAK and Ne-Chee Friendship Centre



# Program Announcements



Ne-Chee Friendship Centre



## LIFE LONG CARE PROGRAM

This program provides programming & advocacy for people of all ages who have physical disabilities, serious health issues or those who are frail or elderly.

**Programming includes:**

- Weekly crafts/bingos/lunches
- Outdoor seasonal activities
- Assistance with medical appointments
- Transportation
- Referrals to access community-based services
- Nutritional support
- Family counselling & respite
- Security checks & friendly visits

**CONTACT LLC COORDINATORS**  
(807) 468-5440  
Tamsen ext. 227  
Carolyn ext. 228



## Art in the Garden

371 Strecker Rd. Kenora, ON

**Thursdays**  
**July 15/21 - Sept 2/21**  
**10-2pm**

No previous art experience necessary! Everyone Welcome  
Make your own art or dive in to the many activities offered.  
Water, snacks, and art materials provided.

questions? email: [eboutette@fireflynw.ca](mailto:eboutette@fireflynw.ca)

- July 15 painting garden rocks
- July 22 woodburning garden signs
- July 29 nature mobiles
- Aug 5 fence weaving
- Aug 12 painting bird houses
- Aug 19 watercolours
- Aug 26 fairy gardens
- Sept 2 plein air drawing/painting





# Staff & Board Directory



COURT WORKERS Courthouse # 468-9657 NFC # 468-5440			
Amy Kristalovich	Criminal Courtworker	criminalcourtwork2@nechee.org	Ext. 256
Brianna Boucha	Criminal Courtworker	criminalcourtwork@nechee.org	Ext. 220
Sherman Kabestra	Family Courtworker	familycourtwork@nechee.org	Ext. 233
JAIL WORKERS Jail # 468-2871			
Meagan Lacombe	Native Inmate Liaison Officer	Kenora2-Nilo@ontario.ca (468-2871) ext 231	
Theresa Jamieson	Native Inmate Liaison Officer	Kenora-Nilo@ontario.ca (468-2871) ext 315	
Pending	Drug, Education & Living Worker	Kenora.DEAL@ontario.ca (468-2871) ext 314	
JUSTICE PROGRAMS NFC # 468-5440			
Raquel Leutschaft	BVSP Supervisor	bvsp@nechee.org (464-1908)	Ext. 243
Loy Herbacz	Bail Verification & Supervision Worker	bailcoordinator@nechee.org (464-5849)	Ext. 242
Jake Tellier	Bail Supervision Case Manager	bailcasemanager@nechee.org(464-1854)	Ext. 241
Amanda Boucha	Bail Verification & Supervision Worker	bvsp2@nechee.org(464-3000)	Ext. 242
Brady Myles	Indigenous Community Justice	communityjustice@nechee.org(464-4371)	Ext. 245
Brianna Boucha	Restorative Justice Liaison	RJLiaison@nechee.org (464-0069)	Ext. 245
Pending	Kizhaay Anishinaabe Niin Coordinator	kizhaayniin@nechee.org	Ext. 246
BAIL RESIDENCY # 468-4619			
Steve Carnegie	Bail Residency Manager	brp@nechee.org (464-4880)	
Chris Bennett	Bail Residency Worker	bailaftercareworker@nechee.org	
Dayna Jamieson	Bail Residency Worker	bailaftercareworker@nechee.org	
Robert Lauren	Bail Residency Worker	bailaftercareworker@nechee.org	
Aden Zacharuk-Lessing	Full Time Bail Residency Worker	bailaftercareworker@nechee.org	
Cass King	Bail Residency Worker	bailaftercareworker@nechee.org	
Erin Redsky	Bail Residency Worker	bailaftercareworker@nechee.org	
Dylan Ricklef	Bail Residency Cook/Life Skills	lifeskills@nechee.org	
HEALTH PROGRAMS NFC # 468-5440			
Carolyn Rodger	Lifelong Care Program	lifelongcare@nechee.org (407-1443)	Ext. 228
Tamsen Unrau	Lifelong Care Program	lifelongcare2@nechee.org (407-1442)	Ext. 227
Emily O'Connor	Indigenous Healing & Wellness Program	healingandwellness@nechee.org	Ext. 226
Al Sayers	Cultural Resource Program	cultural@nechee.org	Ext. 225
Calisha Wilcott	Urban Aboriginal Healthy Living	uahl@nechee.org	Ext. 230
Amy Kristalovich	Mental Health Peer Support Coordinator	criminalcourtwork@nechee.org	Ext. 256



# Staff & Board Directory



## ADMINISTRATION NFC # 468-5440

Patti Fairfield	Executive Director	aces@nechee.org (807) 407-2482	Ext. 222
Aurea Dufresne-Fedus	Finance	finance@nechee.org	Ext. 224
Crystal Page	Office Administrator	OfficeAdmin@nechee.org	Ext. 223
Janet Shodin	Administrative Assistant	reception@nechee.org	Ext. 221

## CHILDREN and YOUTH PROGRAMS NFC # 468-5440

Sheri McNeill	Akwe:go Children's Program	akwego2@nechee.org	Ext. 234
Stacey Francis	EarlyON Program	earlyon@nechee.org	Ext. 235
Lauren Hansen	EarlyON/Sioux Narrows/Nestor Falls	earlyonsn@nechee.org (807) 276-4425	
Sunny Copenace	Family Support Program Coordinator	familysupport@nechee.org	Ext. 236
Savannah Morrison	Family Support Program Assistant	familysupport2@nechee.org	Ext. 236
Ashlynn Surovy	Indigenous Healthy Babies Program	healthybabies@nechee.org	Ext. 237
Pending	Indigenous Children's Wellness Program	icw@nechee.org	Ext. 238
Kristin Ross	Wasa-Nabin Youth Program	was-nabin@nechee.org	Ext. 239
David Friesen	Youth Life Promotion Program	youthlife@nechee.org	Ext. 240

## EMPLOYMENT and EDUCATION NFC # 468-5440

Dalaney Smith	Apatisiwin Employment Counsellor	employmentcounsellor@nechee.org	Ext. 248
Jasmine Scheurmann	Apatisiwin Youth Employment Counsellor	youthemployment@nechee.org	Ext. 247
Becky Gartner	Alternative Secondary School Counsellor	education@nechee.org	Ext. 231

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Marlene Elder	Acting President	Board Email: bod@nechee.org	
Terence Douglas	Treasurer/Secretary		
Jennifer Beilner	Board Member		
Vanessa Baxter	Board Member		
Keith Singleton	Board Member		
Alicia McCready	Board Member		

## Vision Statement

To improve the quality of life for Indigenous People living in an urban environment by supporting self-determined activities which encourage equal access to and participation in Canadian Society and which respects Indigenous distinctiveness.