There is a green recycling bin located at the post office boxes. This bin is for paper and cardboard.

We would like to make the recycling effort community wide but we need cooperation from members.

Re-cycling is all our responsibility
A Message from the Office of the Chief

Tansi! Hello to all Flying Dust Band members and Friends,

It is about that time when we are all feeling a bit of the Winter Blues but we can all look forward to that special time of year in about one month’s time when we will begin to see early signs of Spring and the new life that comes with it.

There is a lot going on in the office right now. We have our Lands Department working hard on drafting laws concerning Lands Management. The first law passed by the Lands and Resource Commission and Chief and Council is the Land Use and Occupancy Law that will govern the Flying Dust First Nation. With the ratification of our Land Code, we now have the authority to make our own laws and ensure that our lands are managed properly and in an environmentally sustainable manner.

We are in the fourth quarter of our fiscal year for 2013/2014 and we are certainly busy ensuring that we meet our program and services funding requirements. Along with this will be the implementation of a new fiscal action plan with the support of our Band members that we want to implement beginning this fiscal year. We would like to discuss this plan with Band members at our next Band meeting in late March. We humbly ask that all Band members attend and provide us, your leadership, with direction and support of this plan. Remember these community issues are all our issues and we need your direction.

We have also been working diligently on developing our Corporate Business interests with the help of our FDB Holdings Board. The board feels that the patience and hard work that we have put into each of our businesses will start to pay off beginning this year and we can begin to provide support to our Band programs and services where it is needed most.

We have also worked hard to address the lack of adequate water and sewer infrastructure of our own for Flying Dust and with the recent Federal Budget announcement supporting this need for First Nations we feel positive that we may be able to receive a favorable response to our lobbying efforts. This infrastructure would provide us with much improved health and allow us to develop our lands for new commercial, industrial and residential projects.

As Council we are also focusing on programs to engage our Youth and keeping them focused on healthy lifestyles. It is important that we continue to invest in the development of our future community leaders. We also have a responsibility to take good care of our elderly in a responsible and respectful manner and hopefully very soon we will be able to implement the strategy that will see the building of new homes and a common area for our elderly and disabled.

A workshop on Community Crime prevention has been planned for March 20 in the community gym, I encourage all band members to attend to provide your thoughts as to how we ensure that our community is safe for all of us.

On behalf of my Council, I thank you for the honor of serving our Flying Dust community as your Chief and Council and I encourage you all to continue to be respectful and supportive of each other. Our proud community of Flying Dust benefits so much more when we support and empower each other.

Treaty Day is scheduled for _MAY 7TH_- this year. We would like to involve membership by starting a planning session for events and ideas, So those of you who are wanting to help organize can leave your name and number at the front desk with Tamara.

Taxes— _are due by April 30th/14_, for _2013 tax year_. Valere will be assisting the Elders and disable—Forms to bring include the T5007/T4A(P) /T4A (OAS)/ Coop stub if member. Tina and Geraldine will be assisting other band members. Information that will be needed will include: T4Z/Coop stub if member/DOB-DATE OF BIRTH/ SIN #/ Address/ Spouse & children info: date of birth/Contact number.

So please be reminded that if you don’t get your taxes done by April 30th/14—you will _not_ get your GST/CHILD TAX/OLD AGE PENSION.
Education Announcement

Good day;
The Flying Dust First Nation and all respected First Nations within Canada are approaching some new direction due to Federal policy changes.
Last year, the Federal Government implemented the Bill C-45 guidelines to First Nation Education that allows for First Nations to establish their own direction as to how they wish to administer their education systems within their respected regions. First Nations operating schools could be required to choose how they deliver education to all students who are ordinarily resident on reserve.
The possible modes of delivery according to the guidelines are as status quo;
   Where a school exists, the school or schools could be operated as independent schools on reserve (community operated schools).
   The authority to operate a First Nation school could be delegated to a First Nation Education Authority (aggregate of all 9 MLTC First Nations).
   The First Nation could enter into an agreement with a provincial school board based on delegating authority to the provincial school board to operate the First Nation School.
The Meadow Lake Tribal Council along with the respected leaders of each community have been discussing the options above and have decided to pursue the aggregate model for their communities.
Prime Minister Steven Harper announced on Feb 7, 2014 at the Blood Tribe Reserve, (north of Cardston Alta), that the federal government will highlight the investments in our children and our schools to respond to what we have all been pressing for over decades. This is to say that;
   Eliminating the gaps, ending the 2% gap (funding will be equal to First Nations as is Provincial/also known as A based funding) and establishing a reasonable, stable and fair rate of growth now and in the long term.
   There will also be investments to support the transition to and building of systems supporting the work that is underway and enabling others to take it on.
   And finally there are and will be investments to build schools.
With federal policy changes and the announcement made, the First Nations are forced to expidiate the processes in defining the next steps we have to take in building a First Nation Education Authority/School Division.
We have been working closely with the Meadow Lake Tribal Council to establish a conceptual Meadow Lake First Nation School Division. A Position Paper has been developed and we are positive that the MLTC First Nations concept will be accepted and come to see it pass in 2016.
Regards,
Howard Gladue/Education

What Does This Mean for Flying Dust

Recently the Government of Canada made a landmark announcement that it will invest $1.9 Billion in new funding in First Nations Education and remove the 2% funding cap. This announcement came as a result of aggressive lobbying across the nation by Chiefs and communities in their determination to address significant inequities in Education funding. We are optimistic about this announcement and it raises hope that we are now in a better position to enhance opportunities for our children in Kohapawakenum School and plan improved education for Flying Dust First Nation in the future. It is our vision as a community to expand our school from a K—4 to a K—9. This will be a major endeavor for our community and will definitely help our children to better prepare themselves for success in future educational, employment and career interests.

Please find included in this issue, an insert; a recent “Open letter to all Chiefs”, received this week from the AFN, that provides additional information.

Marie McCallum, Education Portfolio
HOUSING & SERVICE FEES

With the coming of the 2014 new year, so comes a new year for Service Fees. Invoices were sent out mid January that show any outstanding balances you may have. These amounts need to be cleared up as soon as possible so there won’t be any disruption on services. These services include; garbage pickup, road maintenance and water & sewer.

These fees DO NOT have anything to do with housing related problems. The money generated from the Service Fees is used to offset some of the expenses related to Operations and Maintenance to provide these services. The $10.00 per month is very low considering the cost for the same services in the City of Meadow Lake.

RENOVATIONS

All matters in Housing have been put on hold until after April 1, 2014. This includes renovations, supplies, windows, etc. Only emergency requests will be looked at - furnaces, frozen pipes, etc. This is a practice we observe every year when we near the end of our fiscal cycle. If you require a renovation or smaller issue fixed, please fill out a Request for Renovation form which can be found at the front desk of the Administration office. These will then be reviewed by the Housing Corp.

HOUSING APPLICATIONS

All applications need to be filled out every year. If you have already submitted one, you must renew it in order for your name to be placed on the list for the following year. This includes those who already have housing but are looking for larger accommodations.

To be on the list, your application has to be up to date. If applying for a CMHC home, you have to include a verification of income form or cheque stubs. Also, you will have to include the number of people who will be residing in the unit as well as where they are registered.

ALL HOUSING MATTERS ARE DEALT WITH BY HOUSING CORPORATION.
ACTIVE MEASURES

The Active Measures Program has been changed to the Enhanced Service Delivery Program. Target ages is 18—24 residents on reserve—you don’t have to be status just living on reserve and have a reserve address.

If you are over 25, I can still help with services but not financial.

Please come in and see me if you have any questions.

SECURITY OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

Participants will receive training in a classroom and practical setting with on site job experience where practical

Requirements

- 18 yrs old
- Class 5
- Grade 10
- Criminal Record Check
- Able to pass a drug test

INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAM CHANGES

Greetings!!!

There are some changes coming for the Income Assistance program and it is my job to inform clients of any changes that will affect them. Please understand, these changes are coming from the Government and not this office. The changes are not directed personally— they are changes to the program.

1. All Medicals and Level of Care must be renewed annually or as needed
2. All Applications must be renewed annually
3. Applications require documents:

   - Personal ID—Treaty Number, S.I.N., Sask Health Card
   - Tax Return from previous Tax Year
   - EI Confirmation—if applicable
   - Resume
HEALTH & WELLNESS

The Flying Dust First Nation Health Department is committed to the health and well-being of our members. We offer services for the benefit of our members. We invite you to come in if you are having problems or just need someone to talk to.

Mental Health—Rhonda Harkins
Family Visitor—Florence Bell
Addictions—Angie Merasty
Justice—Marla Fidler
Family Support—Flora Gladue
School Health Educator—Brenda Norman
Nursing—Phyllis Lavallee
Medical Transportation—Cheryl Villeneuve

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference....

Flying Dust Addictions Services are here to help with weekly support meetings

AA Meetings—Thursday @ 8:00 pm
NA Meetings—Tuesday @ 8:00 pm
Meetings held at the Band Office
Women’s Sharing Circle—Tuesday @ 2:00 pm at the Elders Lodge
Contact Angie or Andrea for more information 306-236-4437
**Family Visitor**

Hello and Tansi!!

Nice to be back to work. Beginning March 4th, we’ll be having pre-natal and post-natal classes on nutrition with the community health nurse and nutritionist from MLTC.

Also during the month of March, we’ll ask an Elder to come in for an afternoon tea party with nutritious snacks. We will discuss how mothers—women—should be respected, honored and held with the highest regard.

Yours in Friendship

Florence Bell

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**For your funny bone**

**Oh Grandma!**

A dying grandma tells her grandchild, "I want to leave you my farm. That includes the barn, livestock, the harvest, the tractor, and other equipment, the farmhouse and $24,548,750.45 in cash."

The grandchild, absolutely floored and about to become rich says, "Oh grandma, you are SO generous! I didn't even know you had a farm. Where is it?"

With her last breath, Grandma whispered, "Facebook..."

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**An Indian Goes to Heaven...**

Soon after God calls down to Satan. “You have to take this guy!! He keeps plucking the angels wings talking about making a bussle!!”

“Sure! Send him down I’ll teach him.” replied Satan.

A few days later Satan calls God back, “NOPE! You have to take him back. He keeps complaining the rocks aren’t hot enough!”
SPORTS & RECREATION

The Sports and Rec program has been keeping busy.

YOUTH CENTRE—Cheryl Bear

At the Youth Centre we have activities throughout the week scheduled for the youth of Flying Dust. Everything from cook nights to sports to outings to the movies and swimming. Our aim is to keep our young people active and learning new things.

To this end we also bring in presenters and workshops who speak to the kids about important issues they may be experiencing. We welcome any and all involvement from the parents and community members.

SPORTS

With the upcoming Saskatchewan First Nation Winter Games, we have been transporting athletes to various locations so they can tryout for the MLTC team.

We are also proud to announce 2 athletes who will be competing for Team Saskatchewan in the North American Indigenous Games; Trevor Lachance and Kole Norman will be heading to Regina in July to compete in Track. WAY TO GO GUYS!!

Sports and Rec is always looking for volunteers for events to help make our program better.

$5000.00 BINGO MARCH 28

At the Flying Dust Gym
$300 per page!!
$1000 Guaranteed on Jackpot!!
Bonanza!!
Snowballs!! Beachballs!!!
Full Concession!!
FUN!!! FUN!!! FUN!!!

Proceeds to the FDFN Sports & Recreation Program
The Flying Dust Eagles are going to the FSIN Championships!!

The children in the Flying Dust Hockey Program have been working hard to prepare for the annual Provincial Championships. The 2013 Games were their first attempt and they had a blast. The Team has begun fundraising to cover the cost of travel and accommodations.

On March 30th at the Flying Dust Gym, there will be a cash and prize bingo. The program will be the same as the regular weekend bingo but the prize structure will be different. We have many different prizes of both merchandise and cash up for grabs. There will be a concession and a bake sale on sight for all your munchies needs.

If you would like to donate for the fundraising, please contact Eric Gladue or Jeremy Norman.

Please come out and support your Hockey Team!!

Last years Novice team, coaches Eric Gladue, Rubyn & Jeremy Norman
Making your final arrangements....

We have all, at one time or another, lost someone close to us. It is a very difficult and painful time, perhaps what makes it more complicated is when those who are grieving have to make arrangements and remember all the details. Sometimes the stress is too much and family fights and arguments begin. No one wants to think about the end but, no one wants to leave their family like this, it is important to make your final arrangements to take the stress off of your family and loved ones. A “will” can go a long way in making this process easier. Also, if you have strong feelings about what you want done in the case of a major stroke or bad accident, you can draft what is called a “living will”.

Some things to consider are:

1. Do I want to be kept alive on a machine?
2. If I have a terminal illness, do I want the Doctors to bring me back if I go?
3. Do I want to be cremated or buried? If buried, where do I want to be buried? If cremated, what do I want done with my ashes?
4. I have insurance, how do I divide it?
5. I don’t have insurance, but I have stuff, how do I divide it?
6. I don’t have anything but I have paid for my arrangements ahead of time
7. I have things of sentimental value, who gets what?

The arrangements you make now will save your family heartache and bad feelings. Planning your own funeral is not being morbid or welcoming death, it is merely being prudent in your families survival after you are gone. You may even want to create a video will where you can leave personal messages to your loved ones.

Wills have to be notarized and witnessed. You may wish to see a lawyer to have it looked over. Marcia Mirasty in Health will have information on creating a Last Will and Testament.

Ben Lachance used to say,

“From the moment we are born, we begin to die. Its all a part of life”.

How will you say good-bye?
Edie Gladue
Sept. 8, 1954 - Feb. 4, 2014
Edie was a loving, soft spoken woman who loved children. She leaves behind loving husband William, 4 children and 14 grandchildren, her mother and siblings will also miss her.

“You need to think of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

My wish and my legacy is to pass on the love of the Lord and the gift of music and that my children continue to walk in faith and truth.”

In Loving Memory....

Tommy Merasty
Nov. 10, 1924—Feb. 2, 2014
Tommy was a very hard working man all his life. He leaves behind a legacy of 14 children and numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren. He joins his wife—Victoria, five children, parents Eliza Merasty and Tobias Lenograph and 5 siblings.

Tommy’s surviving brother Joe and sister Clara would like to thank everyone for their support.
The Flying Dust First Nation Newsletter is a service created and printed for the benefit of the Members of the Flying Dust First Nation.

If you have any items you would like to submit for publication, please contact

Val Desjarlais, Office Manager

or

Carolyn Lachance, Executive Assistant