**Boozhoo Everyone**

Well, here we go again, Fall is here and soon the snow will be coming as it does each year at this time… But with the fall also comes exciting times for our young people who are venturing out into the world to follow their dreams of finding their place in our oh so complicated world these days.

As the manager for the office I have the privilege of reviewing the applications that come in for **Education** bursaries, and I get excited each time I read through the letters that outline each student’s plans and goals for their futures. At present we are supporting the following students with goals to become Teachers, a Dental Hygenist, a Lawyer, Doctors, Electricians, Special Education Teacher who has already graduated and is now broadening her horizons with more education, Early Childhood Education Teacher who is also going on to be a Teacher and others who are exploring their options to further their goals to go on to get their masters degrees. These students are from far and wide across Canada and it makes me proud as a Ginoogaming older person and an employee of the Timber Claim Trust to know that our efforts to support our young people within the community and away from the community is very gratifying. I sincerely enjoy doing what I do and look forward to the years to come and see where we are going.

As well, we have the **Recreation** Funding that also helps our members from far and wide to be able to afford their children to be involved in physical activities. We are involved with helping them with any sports, hockey, soccer, basketball, horseback riding, elite sports that allow our young people to compete with other athletes, kickboxing, as well as camps that enhance their creativity and to dream big for themselves.

As you in the community are all aware we are going through some construction and many changes in the community ie; our roads and ditches getting updated, land being cleared for future projects and progress most certainly being made. We continue to plan to make the community a better place through the programs offered to our community members that will create not only pride but a sense of hope for a brighter future for all.

The Timber Claim Trust **Annual General Assembly** will happen on **Friday November 1, 2024** at the Ginoogaming Training Center, which includes that annual meeting with the leaders of the community and the community members who are able to come together to share each other’s company and be aware of the changes we are making together with leadership and with membership support.

**Speaking of goals**: I will be working on updating the Timber Claim’s Website and will make every effort to keep it updated regularly moving forward. The latest update is that we now have a new trustee on board, please welcome **Brittney Mendowegan** as the newest board of trustee for the Timber Claim Trust. She has a great gift to offer to the Trust as she is a teacher of the Ojibway language and is young and enthusiastic and has much to offer to our membership. As posted on the website you will see the following Board of Trustees;

Michael Charles Chairperson, Bryan Hart, Professional Trustee

Calvin Taylor Sr, Trustee Etienne Esquega our Legal Trustee.

Maureen Echum, Trustee Todd Mendowegan, Trustee

Brittney Mendowegan, Trustee

As the Trust we also support the tougher times when we experience losses when our loved ones continue on in their journeys in life. Helping to assist with the costs of **Funerals** and helping to buy headstones are also a service that is very much in use and so needed for our members.

Ginoogaming Timber Claim Trust is set up to support membership for years to come to help where it is able to within the structure of how the Trust is designed. I believe as the General Manager and a proud member of Ginoogaming we are making a difference. We are moving forward with goals that were set out by the Elders who were involved with the making of the Trust and ensuring the promise to support long term goals for the community and especially the young people who will one day become our keepers.

As always, we are open to any suggestions from our membership to make things better for everyone and to build on the cultural, social economic and self-determination goals of all membership.

Our gift of beauty ‘My favourite time’ Fall



Miigwech !!

Maryann Charles, General Manager for the Ginoogaming First Nation Timber Claim Trust