

# GESGAPEGIAG COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



Volume 3, issue 3

August 2004

## **CAC NNADAP PROGRAM/WORKER, Rena Martin**

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According to the Gesgapegiag Health & Community Services Evaluation Report 1996-2001, the NNADAP Program is a service to be provided to different age levels in our community. (The National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program.) Personally, I like to use the Awareness Program which is geared more to the ages of 8-18, especially children who are still in school and according to some community members, this would be the target group that will be the focus of this program, but not the only one.

This is what I can do for now because we have not had a NNADAP worker for a while, it will have to be started at a quarterly rate, so changes and demands can be met to the best of my ability and can be ongoing. As the saying goes, "It takes a community to raise a child," this saying can be considered the community's motto. So, I see community support is needed to get this program started and keep it going.

This is where I and other community members see how this program can help our

community (but not necessarily in this order):

- Encourage alcohol/drug free social/recreational/sports activities.
- Awareness of dangers associated with alcohol, drugs and solvent abuse videos or workshops can be provided where and when needed.
- Counseling sessions at office, home or school can be provided.
- Assist a community member that needs professional care such as rehabilitation for their chemical abuse.
- Awareness program such as FASD for pregnant mothers.
- Programs to increase better self-esteem for a more productive life: after school program (Youth Group has already been started)
- Help start support groups such as Al-anon, Narcotics Anonymous or Alateen. AA groups have already been established and a schedule is already available.
- Red/Black/Yellow-Ribbon Campaigns like MADD.
- Radio messages/newsletter.
- Aftercare for those who go to treatment if requested.

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- Provide information ie: pamphlets, videos, and books.
- Provide suicide intervention (need more training ASAP).
- "Role model" recognition.
- Networking
- Fundraising for summer Youth Group activities.

So far, and according to the Evaluation Report, this is what this program can do and is already doing for our community. The Community Health Representative or CHR will be someone I will be working with on matters such as FAE or FAS and Stop Smoking Program and more as we go along. Also, other community resources and parents will be asked to work with us in this program.

As far as I am concerned, I have been working in this field for at least ten years and have a BA in Applied Social Sciences, which is now known as Applied Human Sciences, and as of 2002, I am a Certified Addictions Counselor.

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**To the community members of  
Gesgapegiag,**

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My name is Chi Metallic-Larocque and I would like to introduce myself as your interim social worker for the Gesgapegiag Health and Community Services as of May 3rd, 2004. I am very pleased and honored to be able to work in your community.

My hours of work are from Monday to Friday 8:00am to 3:00pm. I am also available during lunch hour for any appointments.

I look forward to be able to work with you,

In Peace & Friendship  
**Chi Metallic-Larocque**

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**Medical Transportation Coordinator,  
Theresa Romich**

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## Reminder to Community Members

Please be advised that for Medical Transportation services you have to call 24 hours in advance to book the services. For long distance travel, please call 7 days prior to your appointment to ensure that all scheduling is prepared before you leave.

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Thank you for your cooperation. Together we can ensure quality service delivery.

## **Community Economic Development Officer, Christianne Bernard.**

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**Dear Community Members,**

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Community Economic Development Officer. I have earned this unique opportunity to work as the Economic Development Officer while continuing my education in Economics. Although I am still learning the business I will try to assist you the best way that I can, therefore do not hesitate to come and see me at the band office if you need any assistance that relates to economic development, business development or the CEDO's duties.

I am very pleased and enthusiastic to begin this new and challenging job. Economic Development is an important part of our community's growth and I will not take this responsibility lightly. It is through Economic Development that we will break free from government dependency. We will not have to depend so greatly on government funding

once we can get the community economics flowing and strong. This will take years of hard work, dedication and teamwork. I believe that it is the community's present and future entrepreneurs that will make this possible.

If I can be of assistance to you, don't hesitate to call.

## **Gesgapegiag Housing**

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Please be advised for housing issues you are to contact Maxime Condo Jr. so he will assume the position of Interim Housing Officer until the position is posted.

**Dear Community Members;**

Due to the financial situation of the Housing Department, we are unfortunately only allowed to repair units that need emergency repairs. All other concerns for your homes will be assessed accordingly, however, it will take some time before any decision is made.

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These emergency repairs include:

- Plumbing: (leaky pipes, or hot water tanks)
- Electrical: (electrical panel or heaters, etc.)

I know that this may come as a big disappointment for many of you in the community, however be rest assured that we are doing everything we can to satisfy all the needs and concerns that you may have for your homes.

Respectfully Yours,

Maxime Condo Jr.  
Interim Housing Officer

**Interim Lands & Membership Clerk,  
Carolyn Larocque.**

**Dear Community Members;**

This letter is to advise you of the recent change in the Lands and Membership department. Starting May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2004, Carolyn Larocque is the new Lands and Membership clerk/Council Secretary for a period of 17

weeks. During this time an evaluation will be done to see if the program is working effectively. In the mean time a temporary replacement receptionist was also hired for 17 weeks after which, this position will be posted possibly as a full time position. Ida Martin is the temporary receptionist.

The following are new rates for Indian status cards as well as hunting cards.

- Status cards - \$7. for mail outs \$15.
- Hunting cards - \$7.

## Update in Lands & Membership:

As stated on the above issue, the temporary Receptionist position is extended for a period of one more month due to the fact that the analysis of the lands and membership program started a bit later than anticipated.

Once the report is finalized I will be presenting it to Council, and depending on the results of the report, the Receptionist position will be posted which should be in early October 2004.

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I would also like to take this opportunity to inform you that our Membership department in conjunction with Health Services is working closely together in order to meet with the individuals who have not yet registered their children to the band list.

It is vital that we register in order to have access to Medicare and other services. Our membership clerk, Carolyn Larocque will be making home visits soon to help you with the process, so be expecting a friendly call from her. In certain cases, we will try our best to help you obtain the birth certificates that are required to register your child, however a reimbursement plan must be negotiated in advance. This service will be offered to individuals in special circumstances only. Thanking you in advance for your kind cooperation.

**Executive Assistant, Corrine Caplin**

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**Fisheries Department.**

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Dear Community Members;

I would like to introduce myself to you in my new position as Administrative Assistant to the Director of Fisheries, Lina Condo.

My duties will be to assist the director in the daily operations of in-shore and mid-shore fisheries as well as to provide assistance in the financial and administrative management of the Fisheries Department.

I am very pleased and excited to be a part of the fisheries team and looking forward to working with the community on this new adventure and should you wish to contact me, please feel free to do so at the Micmacs of Gesgapegiag Band.

**Yours Truly,  
Administrative Assistant, Virginia Martin  
Fisheries Department**

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**Community Health Services.**

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On behalf of Chief & Council, the management team and staff, we would like to extend a warm welcome to Victoria LaBillois as the new Interim Director of Health. Victoria is from Listuguj and has recently

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completed her Master's degree in Business Administration at the University of New Brunswick. Victoria has experience working at the federal, regional and Band levels in First Nation programs and services. We wish her success in helping our community to fulfill the mandate of the Gesgapegiag Health and Community Services directorate.

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