

# Aboriginal Circle

## HUNTING: IT'S A PASSION!

Every autumn, Lyndsay Cote has only one wish - to go hunting in the forest with his wife Abby and their little girl, Shaiyena. Lyndsay is an Anishinaabai from North Bay, in northeastern Ontario. The Anishinaabai nation belongs to the large Algonquian family.

Lyndsay's grandfather showed him how to hunt with traps and snares. The snares are made with rolled-up copper wire and are placed along hare paths, because hares tend to always follow the same route. Snares are also used to capture foxes, lynxes and wolves.

In addition, Lyndsay hunts beaver, weasel, otter, mink, sable and, sometimes, brown bears. Their fur is used to make hats, moccasins and mittens. He gives the skins to a friend who extracts oils and gum from them that are used in traditional Aboriginal medicine.

The Anishinabek have great respect for the forest. For them, hunting is a means of coming into contact with nature and eating as their ancestors did. Lyndsay's grandparents gave him the secret recipe for his delicious hare stew.

## DID YOU KNOW THAT?

Within the Anishinabek, the families are grouped into clans and each clan has an animal emblem. For instance, the emblem of Lyndsay Cote's clan is the loon. According to tradition, if Lyndsay traps a bear, for example, he must hand over the animal's head to the bear clan.

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