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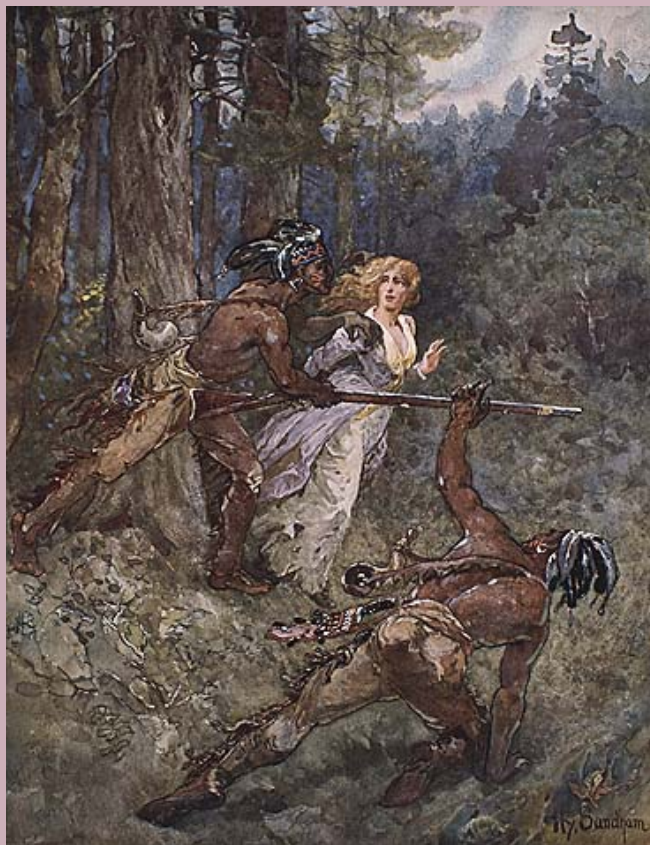
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The articles in this Newsletter are the opinions of the authors and not necessarily those of the producers of The Feathers In the Wind Newsletter.



"Flowers are for our souls to enjoy"

~ Sioux Saying



On The Blog: Laura Secord and the Natives - Heroes of Canada



Aydin Torkabadi uses Cree language books to help translate part of his Industrial Engineering thesis into Cree. (Nichole Huck-CBC)

"It's a sign of respect": Non-Indigenous University of Regina PhD student writes thesis abstract in Cree

Aydin Torkabadi says just finishing his PhD thesis in Industrial Engineering was a daunting task, so it's understandable that his advisers thought it a bit strange when he asked if he could translate his abstract into Cree. After all, the Iranian born University of Regina grad student speaks four different languages, but Cree is not one of them.

It wasn't the first time Torkabadi has written an abstract in a local Indigenous language.

Before he moved to Regina five years ago to pursue his PhD, he lived in Malaysia while he completed his Master's at the University of Technology in Malaysia. The program was in English, but required the abstract to be in the local language of Malay.

"It's a sign of respect and a contribution to that language," Aydin said.

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How To Make Delicious Wine, Coffee, Jelly, and Even Bread from Dandelions

Dandelions are certainly plentiful this time of year. Some see them as weeds, but traditionally, dandelions were a useful and versatile food and medicine. Here is a collection of some amazing recipes to help remind us all why dandelions are amazing!

[See Recipes](#)

Tecumseh: The Last Warrior - Native Tribes Into One Nation (Movie)

Upper Canada in the late 1700's through to the early 1800's was an exploding melting pot, and while progress towards true country-hood was marching forward, the trials and tribulations of expansion were still very much apparent. After continual battles in the United States between the British and the Americans, British loyalists were fleeing in droves to Canada - still a British colony and considered to be safe territory for the loyalists.

One such loyalist, Thomas Ingersoll, fought on the side of the rebels. His family lived in Massachusetts, but eventually decided that it was time to move the family somewhere more amenable to his political leanings. In 1795, the family immigrated to Uppper Canada, obtaining a township grant there as many loyalists did, and looking to make a new life and protect the commonwealth from the increasingly aggressive Americans. There were many parties brewing into further conflict - the British and Americans were playing a bloody tug-of-war back and forth for several territories, the Canadians were working to defend themselves from any potential invasions, and the Metis and First Nations groups that had allied themselves with the various players were also heavily involved and held a major role in the outcomes of many skirmishes and battles.

[Read The Full Blog Post Here](#)



Mary Lou Parker, 82, Grand Chief of the Eastern Woodland Metis Nation NS. is seen at home in Hebron, N.S. on Saturday, May 12, 2018.

'We're reclaiming our heritage': The controversial rise of the eastern Metis

It was 1948 when her father told her. He was laying on the chesterfield in the living room of their Yarmouth, N.S., home, his body ravaged by tuberculosis.

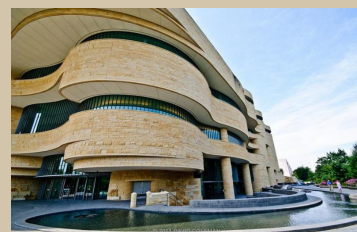
"He had consumption and he knew he only had a few months to live," recalls Mary Lou Parker. "He told me we had Indian blood in us, which made us Metis."

The 12-year-old felt proud of her Indigenous roots. But she was warned never to reveal her "half-breed" heritage, as it was then called, for fear of being shunned.

So she kept it secret until years later, in a quest to explore her identity and gain recognition, she formed the Eastern Woodland Metis Nation Nova Scotia, using a term - Metis - usually associated with Western Canada.

[Read The Full Article Here](#)

On The Blog: The National Museum of the American Indian, Washington, D.C.



This article was originally posted in our March 2014 edition of Feathers In The Wind.



Protagonist of the film is Tecumseh (1768-1813), Shawnee leader and arguably the greatest leader of all American Indians.

His road to history books was paved when he tried to unite all surviving Indian tribes of North American continent into single nation, able to resist constant pressure from white colonies at the Atlantic coast (and used British-American rivalry in order to achieve that goal).

Tecumseh's father was Puckshinwa, a minor Shawnee war chief of the Kispoko band and the Panther Clan of the tribe. According to some sources, Puckshinwa's father was Muscogee (Creek) and his mother was Shawnee. Either because his father died when he was young, or because among the Creeks a husband lives with his wife's family, Puckshinwa was considered a Shawnee.

[Read More and Watch Here](#)



When Sweat Lodge Was Human

Long ago, in the days of the Animal People, Sweat Lodge was a man. He foresaw the coming of Human Beings, the real inhabitants of the Earth. So one day he called all the Animal People together to give each one a name and to tell him his duties. In the council, the Sweat Lodge stood up and made a speech: "We have lived on Earth for a long while, but we shall not be in our present condition much longer. A different People are coming to live here. We must part from each other and go to different places. Each of you must decide whether you wish to belong to the Animal beings that walk, fly or creep or those that swim. You may now make your choice."

Then Sweat Lodge turned to Elk. "You will first come this way, Elk. What do you wish to be?"

"I wish to be what I am - and Elk."

"Let us see you run or gallop," said Sweat Lodge.

So Elk galloped off in a graceful manner, and returned.

Upon graduation from the School of Architecture in 1991, Rod worked on various Archaeological digs in the South of France helping to recreate, through drawings and paintings, the early Roman town and theatre established by Pompey (Military and Political leader 60 BC). Following 4 years of work in Sudbury On, Rod was hired by Douglas Cardinal Architect (Blackfoot) in 1995 as Project Architect on the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington DC. The Smithsonian chose Douglas as the Designer for the Washington Museum after visiting the World renowned Canadian Museum of Civilization in Gatineau/Ottawa.

Rod worked closely with Douglas Cardinal and Native Elders from across the Americas to develop Design Options for the Museum based on numerous Vision Sessions. A series of themes emerged from these dialogues. One involved the intuitive nature of the building: it needed to be a living museum, neither formal nor quiet, located in close proximity to nature. Another was that the building's design should make specific celestial references, such as an east-facing main entrance and a dome that opens to the sky. Many comments expressed the desire to bring Native stories forward through the representation and interpretation of Indian cultures as living phenomena throughout the hemisphere. Some basic parameters for the building structure were dictated by the 4.25-acre trapezoidal site, the building restrictions for the National Mall, and an active creek bed flowing below the site.

[Read The Full Post Here](#)



These Asian hunter-gatherers may have been the first people to domesticate horses

The horse revolutionized prehistoric living, allowing people to travel farther and

faster than ever before, and to wage war in yet-unheard-of ways. But who first domesticated horses is a hotly debated question. One leading hypothesis suggests Bronze Age pastoralists called the Yamnaya were the first to saddle up, using their fleet transport to sweep out from the Eurasian steppe and spread their culture-and their genes-far and wide. But a new study of ancient DNA suggests that wasn't the case in Asia, and that another culture, the Botai, domesticated the horse first.

"This is a really exciting paper," says Priya Moorjani, a geneticist at the University of California, Berkeley, who notes that the field of ancient DNA is moving so quickly that every study reveals something new. Yet other researchers caution that the debate isn't anywhere near settled.

[Read The Full Article](#)



Bimadoshka (Annya) Pucan and Museum London's regional history curator, Amber Lloydlangston hold a photo of Robert Thompson and Dr. Edwin Seaborn. (Chris dela Torre)

The surprising connection between 1938 recordings and the Anishinaabe woman who tracked them down

You might call it a strange coincidence, but Bimadoshka (Annya)

"You are right," decided Sweat Lodge. "You are an Elk."

[Read The Full Legend Here](#)



When It's Okay (or Not) to Feed Birds

Whether we identify as birders or photographers or both, we are always looking for ways to get closer to birds, or to bring them closer to us. Offering food-sating the hunger that is such a primal drive for all of us-is an easy way to do that. But knowing what kind of food is okay to supply, and when, and where, can be confusing. Over and over, in nature-photography forums and on social media, I see the following questions: "Isn't all bird feeding harmful?" and "What's the difference between feeding birds at a feeder and feeding owls?" and "How can you be okay with handfeeding Gray Jays and opposed to feeding owls?"

These are false equivalences that, in the end, only hurt birds. To paint every species with one broad brush is to ignore or deny the varying needs and circumstances of every kind of bird and the realities of its particular life-realities that depend on population status, habitat, physiology, and the unique challenges it faces. There is no one-size-fits-all approach. So how do we make sense of it all?

[Read More Here](#)



Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation hosts Canadian military to celebrate friendship

Today, the Chief of Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation in Alberta and the commanding general of the Canadian Army in Western Canada met to exchange gifts and celebrate friendship and trust.

Chief Tony Alexis and Brigadier-General Trevor Cadieu, 3rd Canadian Division Commander, participated in the ceremony held at the Band hall of the Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation near Glenevis, Alberta (about 85

Pucan calls it fate.

Pucan, a student at Western University, hails from Saugeen First Nation in the northern part of southwestern Ontario.

In 2011, she stumbled across wax cylinder recordings from the late 1930s. The recordings contain conversations between Dr. Edwin Seaborn - a founder of London's University Hospital who wrote about medicines of various cultures. ...and Robert Thompson, an Indigenous community leader who lived on Chief's Point reserve near Sauble Beach.

The recordings - which sat untouched for years - were donated to Museum London in 1975. Pucan set out to interpret them, with the help of elders in her community.

[Read The Full Article](#)

LOOTING OF MÉTIS POSSESSIONS POSES BARRIER TO RECONCILIATION

As gunfire erupted in Duck Lake, Saskatchewan, Métis leader Louis Riel held up his crucifix and fervently prayed for victory. Although the Métis were victorious at the Battle of Duck Lake, Canada ultimately crushed the Northwest Resistance. Looting of Métis possessions was widespread during the chaotic final days of the

Resistance. Today, Riel's crucifix, knife, and book of poetry, as well as several articles of Métis clothing are held in the RCMP Heritage Centre in Regina. The RCMP never adduced any evidence to legitimize their possession of these artifacts. Without such evidence, a reasonable observer would view the RCMP as profiting from the wartime theft of cultural and spiritual items. An argument that 'to the victor belongs the spoils' rings hollow in an era of reconciliation.



A crucifix, an artifact that belonged to Louis Riel, is shown on display at the RCMP Heritage Centre museum in Regina. (THE CANADIAN PRESS)

[Read The Full Article Here](#)



Members of the Muskowekwan First Nation want to save its former residential school, built in the first half of the 20th century. (National Trust of Canada/Supplied)

'A dark history': Muskowekwan First Nation fights to save former residential school building

A First Nation in east-central Saskatchewan wants to save its former residential school building from the wrecking ball.

The school, located on the Muskowekwan First Nation, is one of the few residential schools in the country that is still standing in its original condition.

Now, the school has been added to the National Trust for Canada's 2018 Top 10 Endangered Places list. The National Trust for Canada is a not-for-profit organization that works to save and renew Canada's historic places.

"I know it's a dark history for most of our older generations," said band councillor Cynthia Desjarlais. "But they're the ones that said let it be known before people forget it."

[Read The Article Here](#)

kilometres northwest of Edmonton).

As part of the event, the Canadian Army also presented a decommissioned parachute to Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation to be used in future ceremonies, renewing a tradition between the two communities.

[Read The Full Article](#)

Ontario Métis Family Records Center



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Our editors are always looking for original submissions that would be of interest to our community. Do you know of any upcoming events that you would like to share through the Newsletter, Facebook, or our new website?

If you have something you would like to add to future issues we would be happy to consider it; please call or email us with the title "Submission" on the email. Thank you!

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The OMFRC would like to thank everyone that is standing with us to support the Ontario Metis Family Records Center Community Facebook Page.....your response is nothing short of incredible!

Stay connected and celebrate your heritage! Share that you're a member of the OMFRC Community with your family members on Facebook. It has never been more important to stand up and be counted!

Have you visited our Facebook page? We welcome you to join our OMFRC Community - we want to hear from you.

