



tan'si

KTCEA NEWSLETTER

Winter 2023



Important Dates

APRIL 7 • no school

Good Friday

APRIL 10-14 • no school

Easter/Spring Break

MAY 19 • no school

Family Friday

MAY 22 • no school

Victoria Day

JUNE 21 • no school

National Indigenous Peoples Day

JUNE 28

Student Last Day of School

In This Issue:

Staff Induction	2
KTCEA Sports	4
Graduate Celebration Gala	6
Christmas Concerts	8
Our Land, Our People KTCEA Conference	10
School Highlights	11



New Staff Induction

We welcomed new staff to KTCEA on August 25 & 26 at the Whitefish Lake First Nation Camp where they had a chance to **meet our specialists, learn about the curriculum, and experience Cree language, Indigenous games, and Land-based Learning.** It was hosted by Atikameg School and Whitefish Lake First Nation Chief Albert Thunder and Councillor Darren Auger.





School Kick-Off

For the first time in over two years, KTCEA staff gathered in-person for the 2022 school kick-off at Mihkowapikwaniy Camp (Lubicon Lake Band). **The kick-off event is a chance for all KTCEA to meet and start the new school year in a good way.**

KTCEA Outreach School

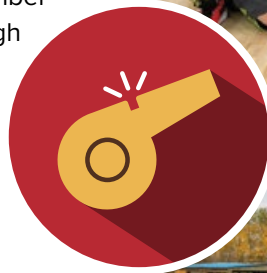
KTCEA Outreach School has **expanded from a single location in Atikameg last year to having another location in Loon River.** Both PTFN and Cadotte Lake outreach locations are in the set-up phase and the plan is to have them open for the next school year.



KTCEA Sports

KTCEA Sports resumed this school year with a cross country race at Clarence Jaycox School in October and a Jr./Sr. volleyball tournament in Kateri School which was the first tournament we held in a long while. Other sports activities included a Grades 4,5,6 floor hockey tournament which was won by Clarence Jaycox, and a Grades 4,5,6 dodgeball tournament won by Elizabeth Quintal School. There also was Jr./Sr. High basketball camps and the Jr./Sr. High Volleyball Championship Tournament in November where Kateri School won both the male & female high school volleyball senior championships. Kateri also won the Jr. High boy's volleyball championship while Clarence Jaycox won the Jr. High girl's championship. **It was great to have our students playing sports again!**

Sports will continue for the rest of the year with indoor and outdoor soccer, basketball, horseshoes, badminton, floor hockey, archery, baseball, beach volleyball and traditional games are all being planned. Join the KTCEA Sports Facebook group for more highlights and information.



LBL, CTS, and CTF Camps with SAIT

High schoolers were at the Mihkowapikwani camp in Lubicon on October 24 where they participated in butchery, chef, outdoor cooking, drone, photography, small engines, welding, and fabrication programs.

We were joined by the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology instructors who led the instruction of many of the programs.

The Land-based Learning camps transitioned this school year to school-based Land-Based Learning activities within the communities of each of the schools.

KTCEA Radio

We are pleased to share that we have a new **Radio Program Coordinator, Barry Henderson.** His role is to set up the radio program in the schools and work with the radio leads at each school to start producing radio content. We will highlight and share more information on the radio programming on our website and Facebook page.



KTCEA 2020, 2021 & 2022 Graduate Celebration Gala

A celebration gala was hosted on Wednesday, November 16 at Kateri School to recognize the graduates from all KTCEA schools who had graduated in the last three years. Due to the pandemic and school closures, many of these graduates did not have a normal graduation and celebration. The KTCEA Board decided to give a night of recognition to these students that persevered and were successful despite the circumstances. **Thanks to all who came out in support and recognition of the graduates.**





Grand Opening for Elizabeth Quintal School and Kateri School

We are pleased to have been a part of Peerless-Trout First Nation's Grand Opening of Elizabeth Quintal School and Kateri School on Wednesday, November 16, 2022. Students from both schools participated by singing the national anthem in

Cree. We were glad to see our partners, federal and provincial partners, representatives and dignitaries attend the Grand Opening and see the **results of the effort put into making these new schools a reality for our students.**

Community Meetings

We held our annual community meetings in November, where we present on our community report. **These meetings give our school communities an opportunity to learn more about KTCEA and ask questions** while enjoying a meal and getting a chance at a door prize. We were only able to visit a few communities in person this past school year with others that had to have their community meetings moved online. We hope to have our community meetings in-person the next school year.



Christmas Concerts

In December, our school's held their Christmas concerts, where we were happy to see the students perform in front of their parents and families. **The schools put on great events and the students put on great shows!**





Staff Christmas Gathering

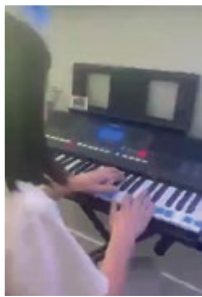
We held our staff Christmas gathering at Kateri School on December 6, to thank all of our staff for their hard work and effort they put into supporting education in our schools. **We had an enjoyable evening with a live show with Bear Grease, dinner, and door prizes.**



Traditional Foods

The traditional foods menu has **increased from one to two meals a month**. Food services sent out more call outs for local hunters to provide additional meat for the traditional foods meals.

KTCEA'S GOT TALENT



KTCEA's Got Talent

We held a contest looking for all the talents of students, parents, and staff of KTCEA. Categories included music, creative, Nêhiyawak, mechanical, performance, academic, and weird & unusual. **We got to see many talented people and received many great submissions from all over KTCEA.**

Congratulations to all of the winners!

The grand prize winners were:

1. **JENNAYA AUGER**
Piano Performance | *Kateri School*
2. **YANNABAH JACKSON**
Singing/guitar Performance | *Atikameg school*
3. **RICHARD NOSKIYE**
Math/Science Entry - Botanical Science | *Kateri school*
4. **LACI YELLOWKNEE**
Art | *Kateri School*

Our Land, Our People KTCEA Conference

We are grateful that our first annual “Our Land, Our People”, KTCEA Conference in Edmonton was successful. **It was a chance for all our staff to be together and join sessions tailored specifically to the needs of our organization.** Thanks to the Nation leadership, dignitaries, elders, speakers, session presenters, vendors, staff, and attendees who made the two-day conference (Feb 16-17, 2023) and the Awards and Recognition Night for the MEC graduates and long service award recipients as memorable as it was. We hope to see everyone again next year!



School Highlights

ATIKAMEG SCHOOL

Cree classes students went berry picking at Mink Lake as part of land-based learning. Land-based learning has also taken place at the school where students learned how to prepare and smoke meat. Students and staff participated in an Orange Shirt Day awareness walk on Sept. 29. Other activities from this semester include the Halloween parade where students dressed up in costumes and the Christmas Concert where students put on a great show. Grades 4-6 went on a ski trip to Little Smoky Ski Hill on Jan 26.



CADOTTE LAKE SCHOOL

Students painted, made crafts, and wore orange shirts in recognition of Orange Shirt Day. Students were also recognized for their attendance on Sept 30. There was an Arctic Winter Games Try-It Event on Oct 17. Grade 7 student Santana Laboucan won the grand prize draw for students with a rate of 80% or more attendance.

We have waited patiently for our gym to be refurbished and we were excited to finally be able to use it in January. Students have been learning how to swim and K4 - Grade 4 have finished lessons; the rest of the classes will have lessons in the winter/spring.

We have had partnerships with several community departments. They provided the students with treats and games for Halloween. Woodland Health also sponsored a school-wide swim and movie Christmas Party for our students.

We had 18 students from grades 9 - 12, attend the LBL, CTS Camp in Little Buffalo, earning credits in Foods, Communications, and Drones.

We have had Equine Therapy and Land-Based Learning Activities including a Bison Harvest, where meat was shared with the community. Students had the chance to learn about the bison, the butchering, and hide stretching. Grade 6 and 7 students went on a fishing trip to Haig Lake on Nov 3 as a part of land-based learning.

Our Inclusive Ed Week in February was exciting with a trip around the world to experience other countries, a winter carnival to try traditional games and snow sports, and a Fashion Show that showcased traditional attire made by students and shared by the community members: leather clothing, beading, ribbon shirts and skirts, as well as formal and grad wear.



CLARENCE JAYCOX SCHOOL

Tara Lynn Gladue was recognized for her achievement of winning the Loon River First Nation Nîkânîwin Kîhçiyîhtâkosiwin Honouring Leadership Award 2022 at the meet the teacher night on Sept 13. We hosted the KTCEA cross-country race on Oct 6. We had a great turnout for our cakewalk and our Halloween costume contest. Congratulations to the Jr. High girl's volleyball team who won the championship tournament!

In December we had our annual Christmas concert. Inclusive Education week was in February when our students participated in dogsledding, outdoor activities and writing/drawing contests. At the end of February, students got to learn how to butcher a bison as a part of Land-Based Learning.



ELIZABETH QUINTAL SCHOOL

Students went on a Truth and Reconciliation walk for Orange Shirt Day. Red Earth RCMP stopped by to surprise students with Halloween candy and to help judge the Halloween door decorating contest for students and staff. We had Halloween activities such as the costume parade, dancing, movies, and class parties and we were glad to see parents/guardians and community members come out to enjoy the afternoon with the students. Sports tournaments returned and our Grade 4,5,6 Dodgeball team became the KTCEA champions! We had a remembrance day assembly

where staff and students sang O'Canada in Cree. Students had a hat day where they enjoyed a meal together in the foyer on Nov 21. We held an art gallery night on Nov 29 where students were able to showcase and sell their art! For Fine Arts afternoon, students had a guitar lesson by Klay and Louise Gambler on Jan 13. Other students participated in karaoke, dancing, painting, and drawing. We had an Oiler's Day at EQS on Feb 3 where we invited students, staff, and parents to wear Oilers gear to be entered into a prize draw.



KATERI SCHOOL

Students created a memorial for students who didn't return for Orange Shirt Day. Grade 4-12 students went to Red Earth Creek arena on Oct 26 to listen to the Nolan brothers. Trickster Theatre helped students create and put on plays themed around "Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Being." Grade 5 & 6 students received Edmonton Oilers jerseys from New Gen Projects. Kateri School had a grand opening with many dignitaries and partners in attendance as well as hosting the celebration gala for 2020, 2021, and 2022 KTCEA graduates on

Nov 16. As a part of Inclusive Education Week in February, students spent time outdoors, learned about rabbit snaring, and went sledding at the old sawmill. They also learned how to clean fish as part of a CTS lab and went ice fishing at Trout Lake. Other activities students participated in included swimming in Slave Lake and horse riding for equine therapy. Our Jr. Chief and Council got to meet the PTFN Chief and Council at the PTFN band office and got a tour of the building. Kira Noskiye was elected as the Jr. Chief.



LITTLE BUFFALO SCHOOL

2023 Jr. Chief & Council were inaugurated February 9 with a round dance in their honour. Jr. Chief is Tanisha Nahachick, Jr. Councillors include Logan Noskey, Wakeen Gladue, Cierra Ominiyak, and Lucas Ward-Ominiyak.



Grade 4,5,6 students participated in sports tournaments at other schools, such as dodgeball at Clarence Jaycox School and floor hockey at Elizabeth Quintal School. Grade 7,8,9 students went swimming in December. There was a Steve Harmer Magic Show in February with a theme of being brilliant and resilient. Local Elders Rosanna Sawan, Maggie Auger, and Doreen Flett came into the school to teach K to Grade 12 students how to cut up moose meat on February 24.

ktcea.ca

communications@ktcea.ca

P 780.649.3103

TF 1.855.965.8298

F 780.649.2841