



## Quarterly Newsletter January to March 2023

Netmizaaggamig Nishnaabeg  
Boozhoo, Netmizaaggamig  
Nishnaabeg indoonjibaa, Ogimaa  
Louis Kwissiwa indizhinikaaz  
miiniwaa Maang indoodem.



Happy new years!  
we have been a  
council of  
leadership for NN  
just over a year  
now. There are  
several new staff,  
departments, and

external partners that you can read  
about in our first quarterly  
newsletter. The following articles will  
introduce you all to the senior  
management team, our two new  
internal departments as well as a  
valued participant in the community  
ISN Maskwa.

### Senor Management Team

Joe Moses is a proud First Nations  
leader with extensive experience in  
education, business, government &  
Indigenous relations. He has held  
several leadership positions and  
served on numerous boards. Joe is  
currently completing his EMBA  
from University of Fredericton. He

lives in Marathon, ON, with his  
family and enjoys outdoor activities  
such as hunting, fishing, and  
camping. Joe loves to cook and  
share meals with family and friends,  
playing guitar, and cheering the  
Boston Bruins.



Joe  
Moses  
CEO

Donna Sutherland  
Band General Manager



Donna Sutherland is a Nishnaabe  
Kwe from Wikwemikong First  
Nation. Donna has lived in the NW



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Ontario since 1985 and spent good part of her life cooking and baking in the local area restaurants while raising her daughter. At the age of 40 Donna made the decision to go back to school and change the direction of her life. Donna began her Career working with Netmizaaggamig Nishnaabeg in 2009 as an Economic/Community Development Officer after completing her education with Northern College. Through her employment experience she developed a passion for helping people with education and training and securing employment opportunities in our surrounding area and in 2009 secured the position of Ontario Works Administrator.

In December 2021 Donna is now humbled to be the Band General Manager and remains passionate about helping people and seeing this community grow healthy and prosperous and believes Netmizaaggamig Nishnaabeg deserves the best that life has to offer.



Joel Merrylees is a Haweater, he was born and grew up on a dairy farm on Manitoulin Island. He obtained an Honours B.A. in Business Administration from Brock University. He is an accountant with his CMA, CPA designation. With over 25 years working in private industry and public agencies he has been part of and led many departments and projects. He has also been a member and Board Chair for several boards. Joel currently resides in Echo Bay, ON. Joel enjoys the outdoors, hunting, fishing, and gardening. In his younger days Joel enjoyed playing fastball and golf. He coached his son's baseball teams for many years. He loves to take his hunting and fishing successes from field to table including butchering,



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processing, smoking, canning, and sausage making.

See [Picmobert.com/leadership](http://Picmobert.com/leadership) for extended profiles on Chief, Councillors, and the Senior Management Team.

### Culture and Landbase Team

This Department designed to wrap around each department of Netmizaaggamig First Nation. We host cultural & community events each year.

We bring the spiritual component into the meetings and giving teachings on seven sacred teachings. Our Landbase Family Team try our best to role models for the students and community members. We live the mino-bimadiwin 'goodlife'. Our team members are the following:

- Julie Michano Landbase Manager
- Don Michano Landbase Coordinator/ Specialist
- Anna Gugelyk Cultural Wellness Worker
- Baz Sabourin Cultural Advisor
- Josh Hamilton Youth Mentor
- Tiffany Michano Youth Advocate

We work great together and compliment each others gifts we hold.



The following is a list of events that you will notice annually:

Winter fest ~ which is being planned for February 21-24. Activities will be ice fishing, snowshoeing, cook out, sled rides, and more.

Spring fast ~ date to be determined. This is where you return to the land and connect with nature. Renew yourself and listen to teachings and song.



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Community week ~ week before pow wow. There is activity planned to help engage members to enjoy each other company, have fun and learn new things.

Moose Camp ~ date to be determined. Week long event, with lots to do. Come out to camp as a community, sit around fire drink tea, share stories. Hunting crews, are made up to go out and harvest a moose bring back to community and process together to pack and clean it. Last year have a menu of traditional meals was a good idea. So each day, we plan to do the same.

The team has started with the Education department to bring more cultural awareness and land base activities for the students. It's a learning curve for everyone. Once anyone steps on to the land they feel totally different from being in a building. Nature takes over, and it's an experience you can not explain.



*Biidaaban Healing Lodge Staff Mitch and Annie created a wall hanging from Netmizaaggamig Students at moose camp 2022*

There are other activities and ceremonies we conduct. We all have a wild variety of skills and talents these are just a few:

- Sweatlodge
- Drumming & singing
- Drum & rattle making
- Men and women groups
- Assist youth outings
- Cultural workshops
- Life skills programs
- Outdoor skills



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*Julie and Tiffany Michano*

Right now we are based at the Cultural Centre, Rec Centre and Health Centre.

But the office is out at the pow wow grounds, and on the land. We are here to support the community with anything they need for spiritual connection to the land. Please feel free to call Julie for more information. 807-228-1703



*Successful hunting at Moose Camp October 2022*



*Councillors holding Truth and Reconciliation flag on Sept 30th 2022*

### Band Representative Program

The Band Representatives are led by Tamara Gagnon. The Band Representatives are Danielle Taylor, Jamie Moses, Brandi Greenwood, Jacqueline Dennis and Elizabeth Starr.



*Band Representative Program Staff with Chief Louis Kwisiwa; From Left, Brandi Greenwood, Chief, Tamara Gagnon, Jaqueline Dennis, Jamie Moses, Danielle Taylor.*

This department will support families through child welfare



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matters. They are a resource for on reserve matters as well as off reserve. They provide advocacy and support to Pic Mobert families who become involved with a Children's Aid Society (CAS) to ensure that the rights of our children and families are respected by CAS.

The Band Representative is a legal party to the proceedings that are before the court in child protection matters on behalf of Pic Mobert and are there for the best interest of our children.

Band representatives are available to Netmizaaggamig Nishnaabeg members located both on and off reserve.

Band Representatives will work to ensure that our children are not displaced from our strong and vibrant community.

Often participating in outreach and repatriation services as well as customary care process and CAS agency home visits.

Your band representative will advocate and mediate in a supportive role to assist parents in developing healthy plans for their children and family.



Advocate to find a resolution when addressing child protection concerns for the best interest of our child(ren).

### ISN Maskwa



Owned by Missanabie Cree First Nation, ISN Maskwa is Canada's first Indigenous Emergency Operations Centre (IEOC) and a leader in training and deploying teams into Indigenous communities for a variety of specialties.



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Established in November of 2020, ISN Maskwa has been working extensively to build on the concept of an “Indigenous-led Community Support” with regards to evacuation and emergency response. The ISN Maskwa team strives to establish and build upon many meaningful relationships with First Nations, Metis and Inuit leaders and communities across the province of Ontario.

In February 2022 ISN Maskwa deployed a team into Pic Mobert First Nation to provide support with a focus on promoting community safety and well-being. The team remains in-community and is comprised of a Manager, an on the ground Supervisor and our trained Community Support Personnel (CSP).



The ISN Maskwa team, with assistance from a speciality trained consultant in community safety and well-being, has been engaging community members, service providers and leadership to identify priority areas and new initiatives to further promote safety and well-being for all. Because of the unique approach of engaging the community and asking what they require, ISN Maskwa has been able to deliver services to address community needs in the areas of social development, prevention, and risk-intervention that mitigated and improved the crisis situation that was impacting the community.

One example of how the ISN Maskwa CSP’s assist in the community is by conducting regular wellness checks and providing direct mental health first aid to those who benefit from additional supports.

Working with the community the ISN Maskwa Team has also organized, operated and assisted with the following activities:

- Fishing Derbies;
- Fish Fry’s;



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- Gym Workouts;
- Community Dinners;
- Camping Trips;
- Ball Hockey Tournaments;
- Sledding Days;
- Painting and Art Projects;
- Games Nights;
- Cooking Lessons;
- Community Garden;
- ISN Maskwa Firepits;
- Movie Nights;
- Hiking Adventures;
- Swimming Trips;

Attending Sporting Events - Hockey, Volleyball, etc Moving forward, the Pic Moberg Community Safety and Well-Being plan outlines five community priorities as well as an action plan that will guide the implementation of a sustainable community-based model for the promotion of safety and wellness for the community.

