

# Community Newsletter



**Fort William  
First Nation**



September, 2025



## Welcome to our September Newsletter!

September marks a special time of reflection, gathering, and renewal in our community. This month, we're especially proud to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of our annual Fall Traditional Gathering at Anemki Wajiw—a powerful event that continues to honour our culture and traditions.

Be sure to check out this edition for community events, new employment opportunities, youth program donation requests, important updates on bear-safe garbage carts, and more!

*I tried to catch some fog yesterday.  
I mist.*

### In this newsletter you can expect:

Community Events

Words of Reflection

Bear-Resistant Cart Care

Medical Travel Information

Job Opportunities

# Community Events



## Family Program

**Dates:** September 8<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm

**Where:** Community Centre

**Details:** Lunch included!

## Open House - Youth Centre

**When:** Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup> from 5:00pm - 7:00pm

**Details:** There will be information tables, attendance prizes, food and refreshments.



## Family Centre Parents & Tots Program

**When:** Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> from 12:00pm - 2:00pm

**Where:** Community Centre

**Details:** There will be lunch, activities for children and gift cards for attendance. For families with children aged 0-6.

## 55+ Program

**When:** September 18<sup>th</sup>, doors open at 12:00pm

**Where:** Community Centre

**Details:** Come join us for an afternoon of lunch and bingo!



### Good Food Box

Boxes contain a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables. \$24.00 payable to [accountsreceivable@fwfn.com](mailto:accountsreceivable@fwfn.com) or by cash at the band office reception, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Orion Building.

**Orders due by September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at noon. Pick up September 17<sup>th</sup> after 3:00pm at the Health Centre.**

### 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Traditional Gathering

**When:** Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, with sunrise ceremony starting at 6:00am

**Location:** Anemki Wajiw (Mount McKay)

**Schedule:**

- Grand Entry at 1:00pm
- Candy Dance at 2:15pm
- Youth Dance Special at 3:00pm
- Hand Drum Special at 4:30pm
- Closing at 5:00pm
- Feast at 5:30pm

**Details:**

*Transportation and Parking  
Information Coming Soon!*

Stay tuned for updates on transportation and parking details, which will be shared on our social media platforms and our website.

For vendor inquiries, please email [culturalworker@fwfn.com](mailto:culturalworker@fwfn.com).

### Mountain Bingo

**½ Price Night**

**When:** September 4<sup>th</sup>

**Details:** All main books are half price.

**Whacky Wednesday**

**When:** September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>

**Details:** All special books are half price.

**U-Pick-EM Must Go!**

**When:** September 12<sup>th</sup>

**Details:** If not won in designated #'s before this date, then \$20,000 will be given away on this day!

**Draw Night**

**When:** September 19<sup>th</sup>

**Details:** 5 draws for \$200 in gift cards.

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# Words of Reflection through Truth & Reconciliation

As we approach Truth and Reconciliation Day on September 30, we invite our community to take a moment to reflect, not only on Canada's past, but also on how we move forward together with respect, empathy, and understanding as a community.

This day is an opportunity for us all to honor the children who never returned home from residential schools, to stand with survivors and their families, and to listen to the stories that continue to shape the experiences of Indigenous Peoples across the country.

While the truth is difficult, it is necessary. And reconciliation begins with awareness, humility, and a willingness to learn. Whether it's through attending our Fall Gathering on the Anemki Wajiw, having meaningful conversations with your children, or simply taking a quiet moment to reflect, every act of reflection and learning matters.



We encourage you to wear **orange** as a symbol of remembrance, and to explore ways that you, your family, or your community can support reconciliation year-round. Real change begins with small, consistent steps.

Together, as a community, we can build a future rooted in truth, respect, and healing. Let's continue to walk this path, not just on September 30, but every day that follows.



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# Proper Bear-Resistant Cart Use + Smart Recycling & Waste Reduction Tips

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## Bear-Resistant Cart Care Matters

Improper use of your bear-resistant cart can attract wildlife, cause property damage, spread litter, and endanger animals. **Let's do our part to keep our neighborhoods and wildlife safe!**

- **Use only garbage bags inside your cart.** Never place loose trash directly in the bin.
- **Make sure the lid is fully closed and latched.** Bears are strong but smart latches work—when used properly! Please do not over fill cart.
- **Rinse your cart regularly** to reduce odors that attract animals.
- **Double-bag food waste** if it's especially messy or smelly.
- **Check your cart before collection day** to ensure everything is secure and clean.

By following these steps, you reduce the risk of wildlife encounters and help keep trash from becoming litter.

## Recycling = Less Waste, Cleaner Earth

Recycling is a simple way to reduce our impact and keep reusable materials out of landfills. It also helps reduce how much you put into your bear cart!

### Recycle these:

- Clean **plastic bottles & containers**
- **Paper & cardboard** (flatten boxes)
- Aluminum & tin cans
- **Glass jars & bottles**

### Do NOT Recycle:

- Food scraps
- Plastic bags or film
- Dirty containers
- Foam packaging (Styrofoam)

**Rinse all recyclables!** Dirty items can contaminate the whole batch.

### Reduce & Reuse First

- Choose **reusable items** over single use (bags, bottles, containers)
- Avoid over-packaged products
- Buy only what you need to avoid waste

Even small changes can reduce how often you need to take the trash out—and how much ends up in your bear cart.

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### Together, we can:

- Keep wildlife out of our garbage
- **Protect** bears and other animals **from harm**
- Keep our community **clean and safe**
- **Reduce waste** going to the landfill

### Where to Recycle in Thunder Bay

#### Address:

741 Mountdale Ave.

#### Hours:

Monday - Friday from 8am - 6:15pm

Saturdays from 8am - 4:15pm

Sundays - Closed

Thank you for doing your part!

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## Community Support Needed

Our Youth Centre is seeking a donated **waterproof shed**— even if it's just the frame— **to support upcoming youth-led projects!**

To **donate**, please email Nevaeh at **Nevaehmorriseau-Charlie@fwfn.com**.

We appreciate any donations.

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## Medical Travel Out of Town Notice

Any registered Member that requires medical travel out of Thunder Bay area are required to submit the follow information to the Health Centre CHR Clerks for medical travel:

- A letter from the referring doctor in Thunder Bay
- An appointment letter from the specialist, detailing the date, time, and location of the visit. If an escort is needed, this must be indicated in the letter along with the estimated duration of the Member's absence.
- After the medical travel arrangements are finalized, Members are responsible for obtaining a confirmation of attendance, which must be signed by the doctor upon the completion of their appointment.

This information is required at **minimum of two weeks prior to travel**.

Any delay in getting the required information into the Health Centre may delay payments to the Member and escort. Should you have any questions please feel free to contact the Health Centre at 807-622-8802 during office hours.

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## Job Opportunities

### Social Emergency Response Coordinator

**Employment Type:** Full-time, permanent (based on funding availability)

**Closing Date:** September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025 by 11:59pm

The Social Emergency Response Coordinator is responsible for developing, coordinating, and managing community emergency response plans focused on mental health and public health crises. This role works closely with health professionals, emergency services, and local organizations to ensure timely, effective, and compassionate responses during times of crisis.

### Tollgate Workers

**Employment Type:** Seasonal positions (part-time/casual/on-call positions)

**Closing Date:** September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025 by 11:59pm

Fort William First Nation is hiring part-time, casual, and on-call Tollgate Workers for the upcoming season. This role involves collecting tolls, assisting visitors, and providing a friendly first impression of our community.

For more information on **job opportunities** please visit the employment page on our website at [www.fwfn.com/employment/](http://www.fwfn.com/employment/).

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Want your business featured in our monthly newsletter?

If you're a Fort William First Nation Band Member and own a business, send your business info and an advertisement poster to Kaija at [KaijaMacKay@fwfn.com](mailto:KaijaMacKay@fwfn.com). Let's showcase and support community entrepreneurs!

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