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# ASINIWACIY ACIMOWINA

ASENIWUCHE STORIES

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# Thank You

The month of December was a busy one. AWN would like to thank each one of our industry partners contributions to our Christmas celebrations, as well as our Aseniwuche Group of Companies staff, volunteers, Board of Directors and everyone who helped make our events festive, joyful and something to remember.

On December 4, we had a Christmas celebration for our community elders that included a hearty luncheon and an afternoon of bingo, we were able to provide gifts to approximately 65 elders including the ones who were unable to join the festivities. Prizes for the bingo included household staples which was flour, lard, baking powder, chocolates, cookies, tea etc, it was an afternoon of joy, laughter and fun. We would also like to thank Country Pumpout for donating porta potties as we ran into a situation the day of the elders celebration, they saved the day.

The Tawow Community Centre hosted the AWN Kids Christmas with a pool pizza party where the children ages 0-10 years all got a gift that was given out by a special guest Santa Claus, it was a day of big smiles and lots of fun.

Aseniwuche Group of Companies employees which consist of Aseniwuche Winewak Nation, Aseniwuche Environmental Corporation, Aseniwuche Development Corporation got together and hosted approx 110 employees and their guests to a traditional turkey dinner and a comedian at the Grande Cache Hotel to show their gratitude and appreciation for all their hard work and dedication over the year, it was an evening of fun and laughter.

This year, with the support of our industry partners, we were able to gift approximately 165 AWN community households with turkey gift cards to ensure everyone could have a healthy holiday dinner.

We couldn't have done all of this without the help of our partner's who are our main supporter's in all community events we do, it was a festive joyous season of giving and showing our gratitude. A big warm thank you to our partner's for their donations and sponsorships, from AWN and our community.



from the Aseniwuche Group of Companies Staff

## ELDERS CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



On December 4, our staff came together to celebrate our Elders during the Christmas season with a hearty luncheon, bingo, fun and plenty of laughter. It was a beautiful time of connection, warm fellowship, sharing joy and memories that truly captured the spirit of the season!

Huge thank you to Country Pumpout for the donation of porta potties saving the day, and Sherry Gillard- Assertive Safety Training Grande Prairie for your generous donation to our bingo prize table and gift cards!



## KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY



On December 14, our kids aged 0-10 years of age, celebrated Christmas with a joyful pool party featuring Santa Claus, delicious pizza, exciting gifts, plenty of laughter and endless holiday fun full of festive cheer!

Thank you to our Aseniwuche Youth Council for helping out our little swimmers and to Santa for making an appearance!



# ASENIWUCHE GROUP OF COMPANIES APPRECIATION

## CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

On December 6, we gathered for our Aseniwuche Group of Companies Christmas Staff Party to celebrate the season and sincerely thank our team and show appreciation for a year filled with hard work, dedication, outstanding service and achievements, with a traditional turkey dinner and a comedy show from Howie Miller- Indigenous Comedian. It was an evening of fun, good food and endless laughter!

Congratulations to our employees who were also presented with years of service awards.

### AWN:

- *Michelle Moberly- 3 years of service*
- *Pauline Ireland- 3 years of service*
- *Brenda Moberly- 6 years of service*
- *Stuart McDonald- 6 years of service*
- *Tara Lynne Crane- 6 years of service*
- *Nadine Alexis- 6 years of service*



### AEC:

- *Denise Schiffer- 3 years*
- *Justin Wanyandie- 3 years*

### ADC:

- *Merle Delorme- 3 years of service*
- *Shirley Haggart- 3 years of service*
- *Leonard Rabbit- 3 years of service*
- *Danette Wright- 3 years of service*
- *Wesley McDonald- 9 years of service*
- *Marilyn Smith- 9 years of service*
- *Jason Moberly- 12 years of service*
- *Aaron Gopher- 15 years of service*
- *Bella Karakuntie- 15 years of service*

THANK  
YOU



Thank you so much for your dedication, loyalty, and continued commitment to the Aseniwuche Group of Companies, your hard work doesn't go unnoticed!

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION

## NEW FACES AT AWN

### Penny Anderson FASD Support Worker



Hello, Tansi!



My name is Penny Anderson, I reside at Susa Creek and have been for the last 17 years. I am the new FASD Support Worker at the Tawow Community Centre. I take my job with compassion and integrity with the people that I work with.

My hobbies are reading, writing, photography and sewing. My family doesn't reside in Grande Cache but they are always close in my heart through prayers and communicating with them through phone calls, texting or facetime. Thank you Tawow and AWN for having me as part of your organization!

### Cathy Wanyandie Consultation Support & Intake Coordinator



Hello AWN members & partners!

My name is Cathy Wanyandie, I am the new Consultation Support and Intake Coordinator in the Land and Resources Department here at AWN. I was hired on an interim basis November 2025, while Molly is on maternity leave. I am excited to be a part of this department, hopefully with my years of experience in Administration will bring some new insight and ideas to this crucial division of AGC.

### Bryon Bambrick Land & Resources Manager



Tansi AWN Members,

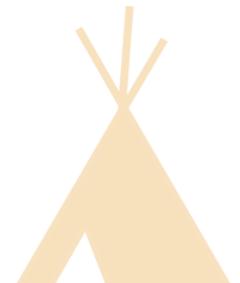
My name is Bryon Bambrick and I am very excited to join the Land and Resources team here with the Aseniwuche Winewak Nation!

I am nehiyaw from Bigstone Cree Nation (Wabasca), where my family has exercised and upheld our Section 35 rights since time immemorial. I come from a proud lineage of the Auger, Gladue, Yellowknee and Cardinal families. I hold a deep pride in my heritage and am actively restoring and strengthening my traditions, culture and relationship with my identity am happily married to my wife Chantelle Bambrick, and together we have three grown children (Shelby, Ethan and Kaden), all of whom reside in Hinton.

I am looking forward to working with AWN, and to continue the good work of our ancestors, who have stewarded and protected our lands for countless generations.

Hiy Hiy  
Bryon Bambrick

# Welcome



## COMMUNITY INFORMATION

### REMINDER

#### CHRISTMAS GIFT PICKUP

##### AWN COMMUNITY ELDERS:

If you have not picked up your gift yet, you can pick up at the AWN office

##### KIDS CHRISTMAS GIFTS AGES 0-10:

If your child wasn't able to attend the kids Christmas party, you can stop by the Tawow Community Centre to pick up your child's gift

##### COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS:

If you reside in town, and haven't picked up your gift card, stop by the office to pick up

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES



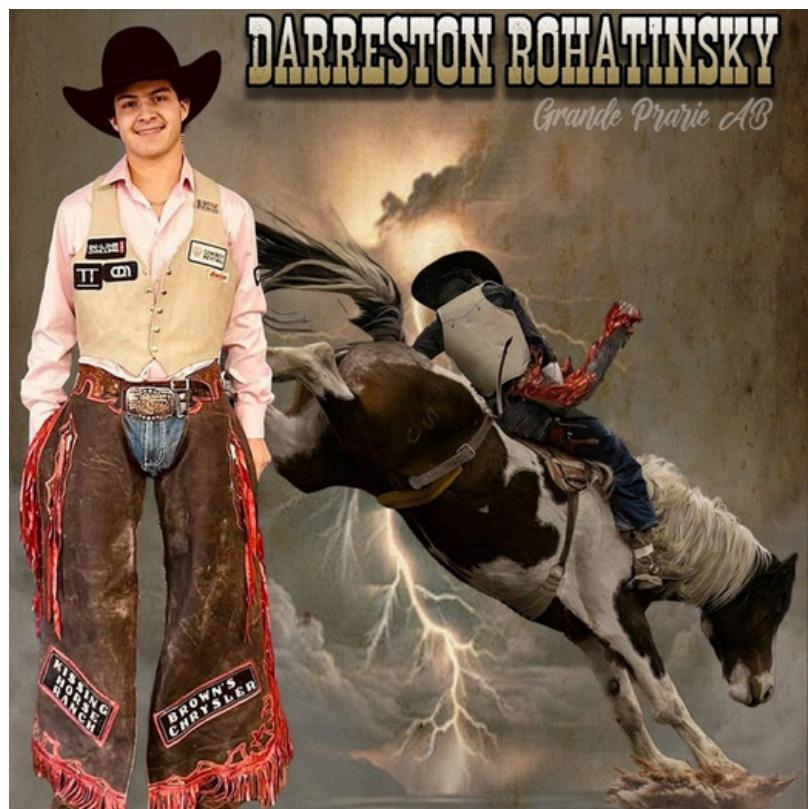
#### CALL FOR DIRECTORS

Aseniwuche Winewak Nation is seeking 2 volunteers to join our Aseniwuche Development Corp. and Aseniwuche Environmental Corp Board of Directors



If interested please send your resume to [michelle@aseniwuche.com](mailto:michelle@aseniwuche.com)

## CONGRATULATIONS DARRESTON



Darreston Rohatinsky recently competed in the Junior World Finals in Las Vegas! This his last year competing, Congratulations Darreston, your community is proud of you!

#### FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION COORDINATOR

We are seeking a dedicated and compassionate professional to deliver a broad range of strength-based, family-centered services designed to teach, coach, and support families and caregivers in building resilience and achieving improved outcomes. A core focus of this role will be on family violence prevention and intervention.

The successful candidate will empower families by enhancing parenting skills, building knowledge and confidence, and fostering healthy, supportive relationships.

To take advantage of either of these opportunities, email your cover letter and resume to: [hr@adcalberta.com](mailto:hr@adcalberta.com)

For more information on the job opportunity, please visit:



<https://www.aseniwuche.ca/job-opportunities> or scan the QR Code

# CARIBOU PATROL PROGRAM

*Contributed by Stephanie Leonard*



## CARIBOU PATROL בְּבָאָדָמִים אַלְפָה

## FROM THE PROGRAM

Happy New Year from the Caribou Patrol Team! We are hoping for bigger and better things in 2026, so keep watching our newsletters and facebook page. Thank you for signing up for the Caribou Patrol mailing list. Here, we will tell you about the program's progress, our plans, and the activities of our caribou and patrol crew. If you have questions that you would like answered or specific topics you would like to see addressed, please let us know, and we'll do our best to include them in a future issue. 

## RECENT ACTIVITIES

With the end of fall migration and the start of the New Year, the Caribou Patrol Team has started to plan for 2026

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Caribou Patrol is excited to announce that we will be attending Deep Freeze Festival in Edmonton as per usual. The festival dates this year are January 17-18, 2026. We hope the weather cooperates with us and the festival does not live up to its name. If you happen to be nearby, please stop in to say hello!



## CARIBOU TIDBIT: DESCRIPTION?

Caribou have a brown body with a cream colored neck, mane, tail and rump. Their winter coat is really dense and heavy to protect from the cold and high winds. They have two layers of fur- fine, crinkly underfur and thick coat of guard hairs on top. The guard hairs are hollow and have air cells in the hair that act like insulation, keeping the caribou's body heat in. They have small tails, short ears, and compact bodies, and that keeps them protected too. These features reduce the amount of heat that can be lost through the skin. Caribou are the only member of the deer family to have a fur covered muzzle which allows them to regulate their body temperature. The muzzle acts as a heat exchanger, warming and cooling air to reduce heat and moisture loss as they breathe in and out.

Woodland caribou are the largest and darkest of the caribou subspecies, and they also have the heaviest antlers. Woodland Caribou can weigh up to 700 pounds and reach 4 to 5 feet in height at the shoulder and have long legs to help them move through deep snow. They have large hooves with four toes, two in the back (dewclaw) which increase the weight-bearing area, and 2 in the front (hoof) which are hollow underneath and can grow to remarkable lengths in the winter. This gives the caribou firm footing on ice and crusty snow while also allowing them to use their feet like shovels for digging for lichen under snow up to a meter deep. In the summer, these hollow hooves also make caribou efficient swimmers, which allows them to jump quickly into the water to escape from predators. Caribou can find their way straight across a lake that is too wide to see the other side. Caribou hooves also spread out quite wide, working like snowshoes in snow and muskeg and paddles in the water, they also are hairy underneath, giving them a good grip when walking on frozen ground, ice, mud, and snow.

Although caribou can withstand the cold temperatures and harsh terrain of the Arctic tundra, they have a tough time coping with insects in the summer. They have been known to run for kilometres just to escape the hordes of bugs.

Caribou are generally silent animals except after calving and during the rut. After calving, cows communicate with their young in short grunts. Males vocalize during the rut with a snorting, bellowing sound. Herds of snorting caribou may sound like pigs. Especially vocal are the bands of cows and new-born calves, constantly communicating with each other. Another sound which caribou make, though not vocal, is the sharp clicking noise resulting from the movement of the tendons snapping over sesamoid bones just above the hooves. This noise is heard most clearly on calm cold days as groups of animals travel together

This YouTube video has a great compilation of the sounds a caribou can make.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5G8CDeJHXJY>

# THE CARIBOU

December was always incredibly quiet. Though the fall migration wrapped up a little later than normal, and there were a few caribou sighting in the early part of the month. We are expecting the quiet to continue through January and February, but our caribou love to buck trends, so please continue to pay attention as you travel Highway 40 and report any caribou you do see.





## JANUARY 2026 CALENDAR

[Like us on Facebook](#)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				01	02	03
04	05	06 MENS PEER RECOVERY 6PM-7PM	07 MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTION DROP IN DAY 10AM-2PM	08 WOMENS PEER RECOVERY 5:30PM	09	10
11	12	13 MENS PEER RECOVERY 6PM-7PM	14 MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTION DROP IN DAY 10AM-2PM NORTHREACH STI CLINIC 10AM-3PM FOOD BANK DAY	15 WOMENS PEER RECOVERY 5:30PM	16	17
18	19	20 MENS PEER RECOVERY 6PM-7PM	21 MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTION DROP IN DAY 10AM-2PM	22 WHAT DO I WANT WHEN WORKSHOP 10AM-3PM WOMENS PEER RECOVERY 5:30PM	23	24
25	26	27 MENS PEER RECOVERY 6PM-7PM	28 MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTION DROP IN DAY 10AM-2PM FOOD BANK DAY	29 WOMENS PEER RECOVERY 5:30PM	30	31

## JANUARY PROGRAMS AT THE TAWOW



**Men's Recovery Group**  
every Tuesday 6pm-7pm

**Women's Peer Recovery Group**  
every Thursday 5:30pm

**Mental Health & Addictions**  
drop in every Wednesday 10am-2pm

## Food Bank Access Days

Jan. 14 & Jan. 28



Tawow staff are increasing our efforts to get our vulnerable community members to get clean & sober now, on their own volition, rather than wait and have it forced on them - potentially requiring months of institutionalization.

If you or someone you care about is struggling with severe drug addiction, alcoholism and/or mental health issues, please come and see our team at Tawow - we will do our best to help you and those you love on the journey to recovery.



**Did you know?**

## Citizenship Applications

Happy new year! it's hard to believe that it is already 2026! 2025 was a busy year.

Citizenship applications remain open, and eligible individuals are still welcome to submit their applications.

The earlier deadline that many people heard about applied only to those who wanted to be eligible to vote in the 2025 elections. In order to participate in that election cycle, applicants needed to complete the citizenship process by a specific cutoff date. That deadline has now passed.

Citizenship itself is not limited to election timelines. Anyone who meets the eligibility requirements can still apply for citizenship at any time. Applications submitted now will continue to be processed according to standard procedures.

Becoming a citizen offers many long-term benefits beyond voting, including greater security of status, access to additional rights, and the ability to fully participate in future opportunities. Missing the voting-related deadline does not affect an individual's ability to apply or be approved for citizenship.

If you have been considering applying but delayed because of uncertainty around deadlines, it is important to know that the application process is ongoing. Eligible residents are encouraged to apply when they are ready and to ensure their application is complete and accurate.

Citizenship is a significant and meaningful step, and while election deadlines may come and go, the opportunity to apply remains open.

Have questions or want an application? come see our citizenship clerk at the AWN Building, or you can email [citizenshipclerk@aseniwuche.com](mailto:citizenshipclerk@aseniwuche.com).