

Pelican Falls First Nations High School

Turtle Concepts Kick Starts 2011-2012 Year

Inside this issue:

<i>Introducing 2011-2012 Administrative Staff</i>	2
<i>Teaching Staff at Pelican</i>	3-6
<i>Sports Season Kicks Off</i>	6
<i>Nursing & Counseling Staff</i>	7
<i>Operations & Maintenance</i>	7
<i>Janitorial Contractor</i>	7
<i>Annual Terry Fox Run and Shave-A-Thon for Cancer Raises in Excess of \$2000</i>	8



Dave Jones, Turtle Concepts founder, posed for the camera with hairdresser Jahyne Morningstar,

Turtle Concepts founder, Dave Jones and his guest Turtle, Jahyne Morningstar arrived in Sioux Lookout to help "kick start and excite the students" about the upcoming school year. Pelican Falls High School and Turtle Concepts has had a long history over the years, and this year they are hoping to do even more great things that benefit all the students. Jones spoke during the assembly and shared how the students are ready for "more!". He spoke of the excitement that they can create in their school environment. He even had them repeat after him words like:

"I am so ready! I am proud! I am brown! I will do great things! Because I was born this way!"

Jones feels that the students are born with confidence and we need to replenish what life sometimes does to our confidence. He challenged the students to come forward and be in a "pretend photo-shoot!" Twenty students stepped forward, and those twenty were offered hair makeovers, skin treatments, hand treatments, and most surprising, they all agreed to be in school posters showing them as confident, beautiful, talented, and amazing individuals. Jones was very

excited to see "that they are ready, and we need to remind them that they are doing some things positively. We cannot only focus on the problems that students face. . . we have to remind them that we are proud of their healthy choices." The posters will come in a few



Autumn and Arlena Neekean pose with Patrick Keesickquayash for photo-shoot

weeks and will be displayed throughout the school. Jones feels that when the students see themselves as "worldwide citizens who have unique qualities" that the world will celebrate them too!"

Teachers were excited to see students take healthy risks and the House Staff were very supportive. This is what will keep the year excitable and motivated and challenge our students to be more involved and more focused on their educational goals. Jones is an Ojibwe from Garden River First Nation and

travels the world extensively teaching "happiness and how to achieve it and how to increase your confidence or how to reclaim it back." He is a former school teacher who does more than icebreakers and gets to the points of what he has researched and what he feels students do not know how to express. He speaks of rez standards versus world standards and introduces how to get more worldly in small remote communities. His techniques are adaptable to all ages and "Jones' own confidence is described as contagious!" Students love it and want more of it.

Jones truly hopes that the Pelican Falls communities will support the new innovative ideas that he proposes for this year. Jones was very excited how many *Pelicans* came to the shops class for facials, and hand treatments. It shows that the students want to try new things and may not only be interested in sports. . . arts, music, drama, etc. We have to catch up and provide these outlets for our students to stay excited about the opportunities that education can bring. Jones wants Turtle Concepts and Pelican Falls to have a very unique, innovative and exciting year all year.



Introducing 2011-2012 Administrative Staff

Darryl Tinney

Booshoo. My name is Darryl Tinney and I am in my 8th year at Pelican and my 3rd year as Principal. We are excited to see all of the returning students



and welcome all of the students who are here for the first time. We are looking forward to improving on our overall student success, especially in the areas of literacy, numeracy and student retention. We have a number of great initiatives in store for the students this school year. We want to wish all of the students the very best of luck with their education this school year whether it is with us at PFFNHS or another school.

"Become What You Can Be!"

Solomon Kakagamic

Boo shoo, my name is Solomon Kakagamic and I am from Keewaywin First Nation.



This is my second year as Vice Principal of Pelican Falls First Nations High School and it's a position I find rewarding and challenging.

I find it comforting to see all our young students making new friends, participating in what our school offers and enjoying our positive and creative environment we have at the school.

I encourage family, friends and loved ones, to come to our school and visit whenever they pass through town.

Tom Hoppe

As the Guidance Counsellor for this year, I look forward to the challenge of seeing the students develop their skills in academics and athletics while sharing their talents, as they approach their goal towards



graduation. With over 20 potential graduates, Pelican looks forward to a

festive and wonderful spring as another group of students leave to begin their future as citizens of our country. I strongly feel that education is the ticket and tool that will open doors for our next generation.

Having been associated with the First Nations communities of Sioux Lookout since 1970, I continue to experience the excitement and enjoyment of seeing numerous families with their children and grandchild-

dren, achieving success and contributing to the well-being of their respective communities. As I begin my eleventh year at Pelican, I look forward to another successful year.

Juliette Blackhawk

From the desk of Juliette Blackhawk:

Welcome back, everyone, to the school year of 2011 and 2012.

I am offering to all students and co-workers my open door on First Nations research information and my good listening 'ears'.

I will be at the office beside the library during school hours. If you are needing to talk or to chat about anything, come and see me.



Come see me.



Blueberry picking with IDP40 class



Mrs. Sharon Newman assisting students during Native Studies FNSSP activity September 30th.

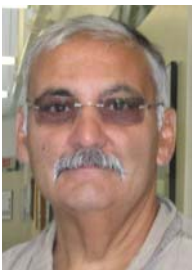


Teaching Staff at Pelican Falls

Chuck Abela

Mr. Abela AKA Mr. Chuck, Education Assistant:

Married to wife Pat, two children Gail and Joseph, and three grandchildren Abby, Micah and Faith.



Mr. Chuck is originally

from London, Ontario, but moved to Sioux Lookout and worked as a Paramedic with Air Ambulance until he retired four years ago. Many of the senior students will remember Mr. Chuck from when he worked as a Supply teacher.

Interests: golf, hunting, fishing, working on building things and travelling.

Ashley Biffis

Hi everyone! My name is Ashley Biffis, and this is my second year of teaching here at Pelican. I'm excited to be back and to get involved in a new school year.



This year I am teaching grade nine English, a section of

grade nine Art and grade eleven Parenting. I'm helping to run this year's Student Council, which is a club where students organize school events, spirit days and help spread some school spirit here at Pelican! I'm also helping out with the grade nine mentorship

program. I encourage any students who are not involved to find a club or sport they are interested in! They make the high school experience a lot of fun!

I had a great summer, with the main highlight being a trip to British Columbia with my husband. I also spent time with my family from southern Ontario, went camping at Aaron Provincial Park and enjoyed my first summer here in Sioux Lookout. It was great to have time off, but I'm glad to be back and looking forward to another great year at Pelican! Best of luck to everyone this year!

Shannon Boyce



As a graduate from Lakehead University in Outdoor Recreation and a varsity track & field athlete I have a

lifelong passion for athletics. I spent some time as a physical education teacher in Korea. This year I am teaching PPL10, NAC10 and CGR4M.

For extra-curricular activities I am excited to be part of the Outers Club.

I am very excited about the upcoming year, and look forward to being part of the team here at Pelican Falls.

Kate Brailsford

Hi. My name is Kate Brailsford. I'm happy to be back teaching at Pelican for a fourth year. This semester I am



teaching two grade 9 Art (AVI 1O) and grades 9 & 10 Applied Science (SNC 2P).

I am grew up in Sioux Lookout; and now live in Hudson. My hobbies include spending time outdoors, walking my dog, and spending time with friends and family.

Desta Buswa

Booshoo, my name is Desta Buswa, and I have been teaching at PFFNHS for 17

years. I am originally from North Spirit Lake First Nation.



Both of my children have entered post-secondary education this year, one at university and one at college, both in B.C. They are really far from home, so I can definitely relate to how PFFNHS parents feel. I know the education, skills and experiences they gain at this stage of their life will continue to prepare them for their future.

This is my second year as the First Nations Student Success Program Teacher. As a team, we are doing our very best to ensure students have literacy friendly resources, engaging Math and cross-curricular materials. Our goal includes improving students literacy, numeracy and overall student success while at Pelican Falls First Nations High School!

I am looking forward to a great year with our new students and all returning students!

Michael Cordeiro

Hi! My name is Michael Cordeiro, and this is my third year teaching at Pelican Falls. I am originally from Sioux Lookout, but



moved to Thunder Bay at a young age. There I remained until my graduation from Lakehead University in the spring of '09. I graduated with a B-Ed with teachables in History and English.

I have really enjoyed my time working at Pelican, while building a positive relationship with my students and athletes. This year I am teaching Geography, English and History.

In my spare time I enjoy golfing, fishing and spending as much time outdoors enjoying life as possible.

John Duclos

Hello my name is John Duclos.

This is my fourth year teaching at Pelican Falls over the past 6 years. I grew up in Thunder Bay, and when I



graduated from Lakehead University, I lived and taught in Webequie for a year and a half. Between my years teaching a

Teaching Staff — Continued

Continued from page 3

Pelican Falls I moved to Kitkatla, B.C. with my partner, Shannon, where we helped the community take over their own education from the provincial system.

It was great to see all the familiar and new faces when I returned to Pelican last winter. I am now happy to be back teaching History and Math. I also help organize and run the Outdoors Club and will be working the students in basketball this year.

When I am not at the school I spend my time doing a variety of outdoor activities including canoeing, hiking, biking, and skiing. I have a feeling that this is going to be a great year here and I am looking forward to it.

Brea-Ann Gilbart

Hey Everyone! My name is Brea-Ann Gilbart. I am happy to be returning back to Pelican for another great year. This



semester I am teaching OLC40, ENG2L, and TFJ2O. This year I will be helping run the Student Council. I

am looking forward to helping the students plan and organize events for the school.

In my spare time I enjoy being active and getting outdoors. It has been great to see all of the returning students, and I look forward to getting to know all of the new students.

Lola Goodwin

Hello again!!! My name is Lola Goodwin. I've been at Pelican



Falls High School since September 2000! Wow!!! Hmmm. A bit too long for me, but time sure

flies by fast. This must mean I like it here, and I do.

This first semester, I am teaching the Ojibwe language, Level 1 and one Social Science and Humanities course (twice) called "Individual + Healthy Family Living."

Also, I am involved in Cultural Activities here at school. The fun part I always look forward to is the Aboriginal Musical Awards we go to every year in Winnipeg. As part of being involved in this committee, we get to go to other places with our students. Our biggest annual event is the Pow Wow in the spring.

Kim Green

Booshoo! My name is Kim Green, and this year will be my fifth year at Pelican Falls First Nations High School. I currently am the Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT).



This year I am involved with Travel Club, and I am excited to embark on the adventures we will have as a group wher-

ever our travels may lead us. I encourage all students, new or returning, to become involved in every extra-curricular activity they are interested in so that the year will become the most enjoyable experience possible. Good luck in the school year!!

Hillary Hardeman

Hello! My name is Hilary Hardeman and this will be my



first year at Pelican. Previously I taught for four years in Sandy Lake. I am lucky to have worked

for Kwayaciwin Education Resource Centre where I had the opportunity to travel to most of the communities in the Sioux Lookout District.

This semester I will be teaching Grade 10 Civics/Careers, Drama, and Communications Technology. I am really looking forward to assisting with The Outers Club and organizing the Drama Club. I hope we have an amazing year!

Shawn Hordy

My name is Shawn Hordy, and I am from Thunder Bay, Ontario. I graduated from Lakehead University in the concurrent education program with a major in Geography and Kinesi-



ology.

This year I am teaching Geography and Physical Education. I have an extended background in a variety of sports and have recently begun coaching the girl's basketball team.

In my spare time I enjoy participating in all sports, fishing, and traveling to get a better understanding of our world.

Nathan Hunter

Booshoo. My name is Nathan Hunter and this is my fifth year



teaching at Pelican. I am really happy to be back, and I'm looking forward to another great school year. This semester I am teaching Grade 12 Traditional Harvesting, and Grade 11 Health Care.

For extra-curricular activity this year I help out with the Outers Club, the Empathy club and the Cultural Awareness Club.

Outside of school I enjoy spending time with my wife and two small children while hunting, fishing, camping, or doing anything else that involves being in the bush!

Paddy Kenny

Lac Seul First Nation band member Paddy Kenny works as a teacher's assistant in the IDP40 courses. Paddy adds a wealth of



Teaching Staff — Continued

Continued from page 5
 knowledge to these courses that focus on traditional technologies and traditional outdoors living. Paddy is a skilled craftsman and outdoorsman who enjoys sharing his knowledge with the younger generation.

Karen Kivinen

Hi! I am Karen Kivinen, and I am happy to be starting a new school year once again at Pelican! This semester I am teaching Gr. 10 Applied Math and Gr. 10 Locally Devel-



oped Science. As the school's Numeracy Coach, I am working with our Student Success Team to help students prepare for the Gr. 9 EQAO math test and improve their understanding and ability to use mathematics. I am also helping out with the Yearbook committee, and help operate the Tuck shop at lunch to fundraise for our yearbook.

I hope everyone has a great school year!

Angelynn Koss

Hi Everyone! My name is Angelynn Koss. This will be my second year at Pelican Falls First Nations High School. This term I will once



again be teaching Native Studies (NAC10) as well as two sections of Learning Strategies (GLS10).

I grew up in Thunder Bay and graduated from Lakehead University in 2010, with a Concurrent Education and English degree.

I have plenty of exciting activities planned for both classes, and I look forward to meeting everyone and seeing what the year brings!

Sharon Newman

Booshoo. My name is Sharon Newman. I am from Sandy Lake First Nation, and I have been teaching here at PFFNHS for about ten years. I currently teach a Native Language (Oji-Cree) course, Native Studies as well as Food and Nutrition. I am involved in the Cultural Awareness Committee.



Craig Niemi

My name is Craig Niemi. I am from Kakabeka Falls, Ontario. I graduated from Lakehead University in 2010 with a Bachelor of Science and a Bachelor of Education in Mathematics.



This is my second year at Pelican, and I am glad to be here. I am currently teaching Media Arts, Geography, and Physical Education. I enjoy sports and all outdoor activities including golf, baseball, hockey, volleyball, fishing, hiking, etc.

I am really enjoying my time at PFFNHS, and I look forward to all my time here in the future.

Colleen Spearns

Hi, I am Colleen Spearns. I am from Newfoundland and moved here about six years ago. I have been teaching Mathematics, Computers and Science for about 27 years now! I have teaching qualifications for intermediate and senior Mathematics, senior Science and recently earned my Special Education Specialist qualification. This is my fifth year of teaching students at Pelican Falls First Nations High School.



This semester, I will be teaching the Applied Math course in Grade 10 and the Grade 11 college entry level Math course, as well as having Special Education duties. I will be helping out with the school yearbook and in any other way I can this year. In my spare time during the summer I enjoy many activities including swimming, hiking, biking, motorcycling, kayaking and gardening. I am eagerly looking forward

to another successful school year at Pelican.

Darby Starratt

Booshoo! My Name is Darby Starratt, and I am from Hudson, Ontario. I am looking forward to my third year of teaching at Pelican Falls. This semester I will be teaching ENG3C, BTT10 as well as taking on the role of literacy coach. I will also be coaching the Junior Boys' volleyball team alongside Ms. Stewart.



I encourage all my students to work hard this year and get involved in the school community. Join the sports teams and the clubs and show some school pride.

Go T-Wolves!

Shannon Stewart

Hello! My name is Shannon Stewart, and I'm excited to be back at Pelican Falls for the 2011-12 school year. This is my second year as Athletic Director, and I will be coaching



boys' and girls' volleyball as well as helping out with the badminton team. I'm pleased to see a lot of returning students as well as many new faces trying out for the T-Wolves this year.

Born and raised in Sioux Look-

Sports Season Kicks Off



Using the Smart Board teachers can assist students with their work.



During FNSSP activity day students vied for the prize of a free lunch. Here Mrs. Lola Goodwin assists students with their quiz.



IDP40 students learned how to pick and dry blueberries as part of their course with Mr. Nathan Hunter

The 2011/12 Pelican Falls sports season is underway! This fall season we are running a Junior Boys' Volleyball team, a Senior Boys' Volleyball team and for the first time in Pelican Falls' history, a Junior Girls' Basketball team!

Teams have been practicing several times a week to prepare for upcoming games. The Junior Girls are working hard to get some real game experience. The Junior Boys consist of five returning players with the addition of some promising young Grade 9's and are looking to be a competitive team this season. The Senior Boys have been practicing almost daily with the hopes of making it to the finals this year.

Boys' hockey practices will begin in October. Boys' basketball and girls' volleyball with begin at the end of November. Everyone is encouraged to try out for all of the teams offered at Pelican Falls. If you aren't interested in being involved on a team, come cheer us on during one of our many home games.

Let's go T-Wolves!

— Shannon Stewart
Athletic Director



Teaching Staff — Continued

Continued from page 5

out, I decided to move to Ottawa for four years to study at the University of Ottawa and at Algonquin College. In 2008 I graduated with a diploma in Recreation Facility Management.

In my spare time I like to golf, fish, play baseball and travel. I also enjoy watching movies, reading and playing almost any game or sport.

This year I wish all of our students the best in their studies and on the court!

Janae Tinney



Hello, My name is Janae Tinney. I am from Sioux Lookout Ontario. I am a qualified Education Assistant, I graduated from Northern College in 07. I have been working as an EA since I was 18 in various schools in the surrounding area; this is my first year here at Pelican. I am very excited to be here and look forward to helping the students succeed with their education. I enjoy drawing and writing in my spare time. I designed the logo for the new hostel here and Sioux Lookout, and I am very proud to have been a part of that as well.



Support Staff

Beth Downey



Hi. I am Beth Downey, and this is my eleventh year as Secretary at Pelican. I have many years of experience working as a program manager and in the support field.

Over the years I have been involved with the Prom Committee, Graduation Committee, Health and Safety and Yearbook. I find this most enjoyable; it brings out my creative side and allows me to work directly with our students.

It is an honour to work with a very dedicated and talented staff. I wish all our students and staff a happy, healthy and very successful year.

Ingrid Cummings

Booshoo. My name is Ingrid Cummings, and I serve as receptionist and keep attendance at Pelican. I am starting my sixth year in this capacity. As well, I am responsible for



publishing a newsletter called The Pelican Herald, coordinating the Yearbook and assisting with Graduation

In my spare time I enjoy needlework, quilting, gardening, and my grandchildren.



Nursing & Counseling

Maryanne Carroll



Booshoo! I have been an R.N. since 1993, graduating from Confederation College of Applied

Arts and Technology Nursing Program in Thunder Bay. This is my 3rd year at PFFNHS, and I look forward to helping care for the students to meet their needs.

My hope is that they take every opportunity presented to them and make the best of their high school years. Perhaps some day, some of them will go on to pursue their own education in

the health care profession (especially in nursing) and return to work in their home communities.

Carol Wood

Carol Wood is one of two Nurses who care for your students' medical needs.

Carol was educated at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute and at Lakehead University. She worked in

Toronto, and in Weagamow Lake, then moved to Sioux Lookout where she has been for the last 20+ years.



Students can have a great learning experience if they take advantage of all opportunities. Carol hopes students will go on to health care careers in their home communities.

Glen Whiskeychan

Booshoo! Wachiya! Hi, my name is Glen B. Whiskeychan. This is my second year working as a Social Counselor at the PFFNHS. My work experience in the past has been in the Social Services Work Field and Pastoral Ministry.

I am excited and looking forward to another year working with our students believing that we can make a difference

in terms of their education and preparing them for a brighter future.

Our goal is to see our students succeed in life, become good leaders and role models in their

communities. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome and encourage our students to reach for their goals and become a healthier person, the one you always dream of. Cheers to everyone and have yourself a wonderful year. Meegwetch ☺.



Janitorial

James Goodwin



Hi! My name is James Goodwin; everyone calls me 'Jimmy'. I have been working for Pelican Falls

for eleven years now. In my spare time I go to my outpost camp on Lac Seul where American rent my cabins. During the winter months skidooring is one of my favorite hobbies as well as ice fishing. I don't have a lot of spare time on my hands, but I would love to go trapping like I did before working for Pelican Falls High School.

Operations & Maintenance

Pelican Falls had a very busy summer with the regular repairing and upgrading the facilities at Pelican Falls. Added to our regular

schedule was assisting PFC as they hosted Wahsa Distance Education for three weeks, the O.P.P. for a week, and evacuees for another week. With the return of the



Glen Stewart



Robert Binguis

students, we are kept busy with day to day maintenance as well as upgrading the road.

I am Peter Barclay, Supervisor of Operations and Maintenance at Pelican Falls. The following people work with me: Glen Stewart on Maintenance, Alan Skunk on Maintenance and Security, and Kevin Buchan and Robert



Peter Barclay



Alan Skunk

Binguis care for the Water Plant. Tyler VanVorris assists full time while Steve Tobey and Jim Lemon are casual employees. They are all vital to the work here at Pelican.



Kevin Buchan



VξΔβ' <Δ•Π' ΔσΰαV ΡΡαL9Δ• βΓ'

Pelican Falls First Nations
High School

P.O. Box 4127, 650 Pelican Falls Road
Sioux Lookout, ON
P8T 1J9

Phone: 807-737-1110
Toll Free: 1-800-378-9111
Fax: 807-737-1449
E-mail: icummings@nnec.on.ca



Annual Terry Fox Run and Shave-A-Thon for Cancer Research Raises in Excess of \$2000

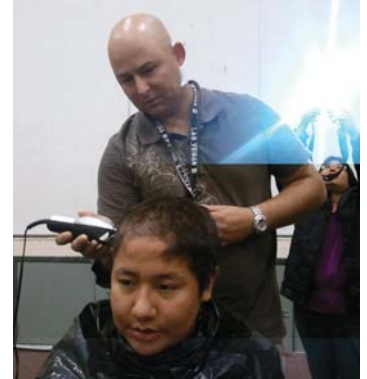
On behalf of the organizers I would like to congratulate the students and staff of PFFNHS for their fundraising efforts in raising **\$2017.34** for cancer research! The money was raised through classroom canvassing by Empathy Club members as well as the Shave-a-thon hosted by the Student Council.

I would like to extend a g'chi-miigwetch to Brea-Ann Gilbert and Ashley Biffis and the student council as well as the Empathy Club for organizing our 4th Annual Terry Fox Run! A big thank-you also goes out to Mr. Hordy's Grade 11 Physical Education class for helping with organization, set-up, and clean-up.

Lastly, one more big thanks goes to Lyle Fox for his encouraging words he shared with students and staff here about his accomplishments.

Here's to looking forward to an even bigger and better event next year!

— Nathan Hunter



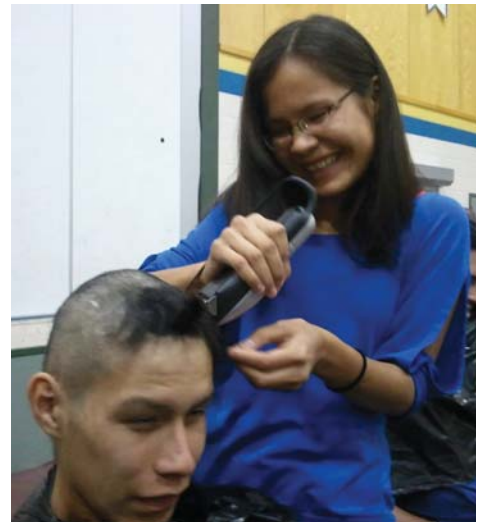
Principal Darryl Tinney took a turn at shaving volunteers.

We're On the Web!
www.nnec.on.ca

'To Be What We Can Be'



Pelican students enthusiastically follow the flag in the annual Terry Fox Run. This is the fifth year that Pelican Falls High School has participated.



Students enjoyed the opportunity to use the clippers on those willing to be shaved in support of people suffering from cancer.

Upcoming Events

Thanksgiving
October 10th

Parent-Teacher Interviews
November 2nd

