



First Nations Child & Family
Caring Society of Canada

@Caringsociety f CaringSociety fncaringsociety

Summer 2018



Spirit Bear Book News!

It's been a busy few months for Spirit Bear as he continues to spread the word about his first children's book, *Spirit Bear and Children Make History*. Spirit Bear can *bearly* wait to share the latest news with you!

In April, Indspire endorsed *Spirit Bear and Children Make History* as a Successful Practice in K-12 Indigenous education! Indspire is a national Indigenous-led charity that invests in the education of Indigenous people. Indspire's database of Successful Practices is available online at indspire.ca/k12-institute.

In May, Spirit Bear was *pawsitively* thrilled to announce the release of his book in French: *Spirit Bear et les enfants passent à l'histoire*. You can purchase the book online, in English and French, through distributor Fitzhenry & Whiteside. Visit fitzhenry.ca and search "Spirit Bear" to place your order. Trade discounts are available to educational institutions and retail outlets. Please contact Sonya Gilliss or Judy Ghoura to place orders: 1-800-387-9776 Ext. 225 (Judy), Ext. 250 (Sonya).

Also in May, with the help of Ottawa Teachers for Social Justice, Spirit Bear released a free Learning Guide to accompany his book. The guide is designed to support families, educators, and communities in using Spirit Bear's book to teach about equity, reconciliation, and how kids can make a difference. Topics include: learning outcomes and a rubric for holistic learning, comprehension and reflection questions, reconciliation campaigns and multimedia resources, colouring sheets, word searches, and other handouts! Download Spirit Bear's Learning Guide at fncaringsociety.com/spirit-bear-book-learning-guide. 🐻

Bear Witness & Spirit Bear's 11th Bearthday

On May 10, 2018, hundreds of children, youth, and adults brought their teddy bears to daycare, school, or work to celebrate Bear Witness Day and post pictures online using **#JordansPrinciple** and **#BearWitnessDay**. This annual event honours Jordan River Anderson, founder of Jordan's Principle. Jordan's Principle ensures all First Nations children receive the services they need, when they need them. Bear Witness Day parties were held across the country, including an event hosted by the Senate of Canada!

This Bear Witness Day was extra special as it marks Spirit Bear's 11th *bearthday*! Spirit Bear is grateful for all the birthday wishes and felt honoured to be included in many celebrations across the country. |



Spirit Bear and Children Make History
Learning Guide

By Ottawa Teachers' for Social Justice and the
First Nations Child & Family Caring Society

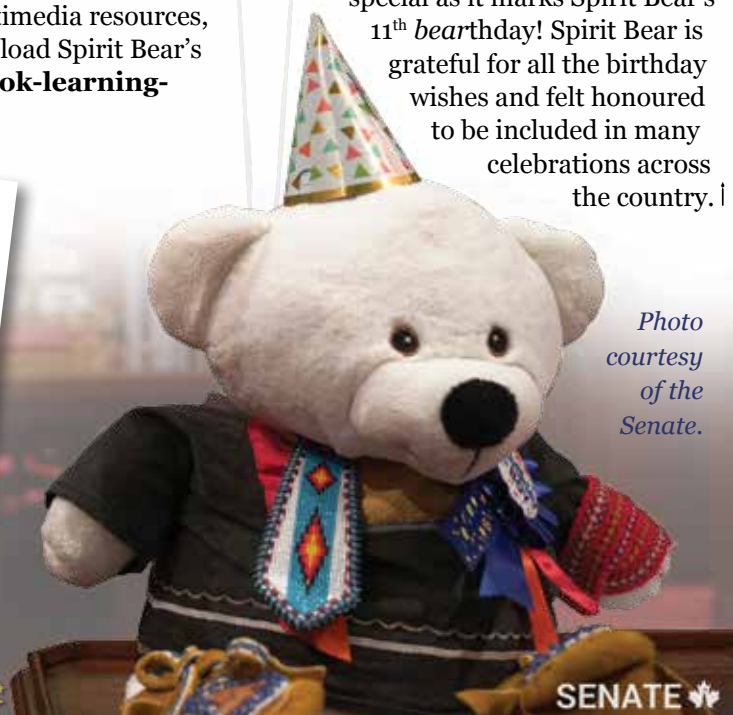


Photo
courtesy
of the
Senate.

SENATE 🐻

Guest Submission

Tyler Shewaybick

Youth from Webequie First Nation, Receives DAREarts Leadership Award

By Natasha Hope Morano

On Thursday, May 10, six remarkable youth from across Canada received DAREarts Leadership Awards for overcoming life challenges and becoming leaders. One of our young leaders, 16-year-old Tyler Shewaybick of Webequie First Nation, has shown exceptional leadership through his mentorship of younger participants and devotion to his education.

Tyler says, "When I was in elementary school, I was bullied every day because I attended classes. DAREarts really helped the youth in Webequie who were disrespecting me and other people, and today I am friends with the people who used to like bullying me. I volunteer in my community and am the Youth Liaison, connecting my culture for an

*Photo taken on previous
day where Tyler was
congratulated by Madame
Sophie Grégoire Trudeau.*



upcoming documentary project. In the future, I want to be a pilot. DAREarts will always be a part of my life no matter what because I am Disciplined, I take Action, I take Responsibility, Respect and Reflect, and I strive for Excellence."

Tyler has now graduated from the DAREarts Webequie program. DAREarts is a national charity that uses the arts to empower children facing life challenges with confidence, courage and leadership skills to unlock their potential and ignite change in their lives and communities. Visit darearts.com/what-we-do/darearts-indigenous-first-roots. 🏆

Honouring Memories, Planting Dreams

Every year in spring and early summer, individuals of all ages from across the country celebrate Honouring Memories, Planting Dreams. This event encourages people in Canada of all backgrounds to plant heart gardens in memory of children lost to the residential school system, to honour residential school survivors and their

families, and to support the legacy of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The act of planting a heart garden symbolizes our commitment to finding our place in reconciliation. Get your seed packets and register your heart garden at fncaringsociety.com/honouring-memories-planting-dreams.

To help your heart garden grow, we are selling seed packets full of beautiful perennial wildflowers for \$5 plus shipping. Each packet will cover a garden of approximately 16 square feet! To place an order, visit fncaringsociety.com/honouring-memories-order-seeds. ❤️

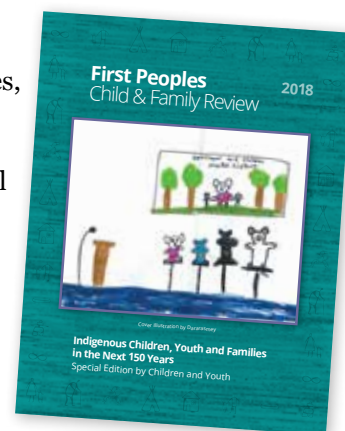


First Peoples Child and Family Review

Young people are experts in love and fairness, and leaders in the reconciliation movement. Published earlier this year, 12(2) of the *First Peoples Child & Family Review* is a very special child and youth edition. Thank you to all the children and youth who sent in submissions! We encourage all of you to keep up your amazing work to make this country one that uplifts both Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in love and fairness!

We will be publishing 13(1), a general issue, this summer. Also, we are thrilled to accept submissions for 13(2), our first audiovisual issue! People of all ages, including children and youth, are encouraged to submit their short films, videos, poetry, songs, and all other audiovisual pieces! To learn more visit fncaringsociety.com/first-peoples-child-family-review. 🎬

Cover illustration by Dararasmey



Reconciliation Ambearssadors

The Reconciliation Ambearssadors Program invites groups to host one of our Reconciliation Ambearssadors as a way to take part in reconciliation and promote the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action. Ambearssadors guide groups through a year of reconciliation activities and ways to make a difference.

We encourage hosting groups to "teach" their bear Indigenous languages and stories, and make sure it joins in cultural activities. In order to properly acknowledge and respect the traditional territory in which the Ambearssador will live, groups are encouraged to build stronger connections by asking for the help of the Indigenous community residing in that territory to help care for their Ambearssador.

Are you interested in hosting an Ambearssador?
Please contact Robin McLeod at rmcleod@fncaringsociety.com. 🐻

Below: A few of the Caring Society's Ambearssadors.



STAFF CHANGES

The Caring Society welcomes **Andrea Auger** back from her parental leave! While Andrea was away, **Marc St. Dennis** provided support to communities and organizations in the area of Reconciliation and Research and as a Coordinating Editor of the *First Peoples Child & Family Review*. We are happy to announce that Marc will continue to be part of the Caring Society team in his role of Reconciliation and Research Coordinator and, starting in July 2018, he will be the sole Editor of the *FPCR*.

We are also thrilled that **Brittany Mathews** will be taking over the position of Reconciliation and Research Coordinator! 😊



Finding Peter Bryce

On May 10, Andy Bryce (writer/producer) and Peter Campbell (director/producer), alongside the Caring Society, hosted a screening of the documentary *Finding Peter Bryce* at the Mayfair Theatre in Ottawa. The documentary features teacher and journalist Andy Bryce's journey to uncover the story of his great-grandfather, Dr. Peter Henderson Bryce.

Dr. Bryce was a pioneer in public health and fierce advocate for Indigenous children in the early 1900s. Peter Henderson Bryce stood up for the safety, health and well-being of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit children even when it was a hard thing to do. Although others criticized him, Bryce knew what was right and in 1922, he published a report recording the atrocious health conditions of Indigenous peoples in Canada. *Finding Peter Bryce* is an important film showcasing the legacy of an early hero for Indigenous children.

After the film, Jennifer King from the Caring Society led a panel discussion featuring Cindy Blackstock, Andy Bryce, and Adam J. Green (University of Ottawa Invited Professor in the Department of History) on the film and its importance.

For more information on *Finding Peter Bryce*, please contact Peter Campbell at peter@gumbootproductions.com. ☎

Below: Finding Peter Bryce at the Mayfair Theatre





First
Nations
Children's
Action
Research and
Education
Service

Translating Research into Solutions

FNCARES, located at the University of Alberta's Faculty of Education, is a research and education service committed to working in partnership with First Nations communities to address structural inequities and to create practical, community-based solutions. Each year, they hold numerous educational events such as lectures, workshops, film screenings, and panel discussions. Learn more at fncaringsociety.com/fncares. ☺

#CSGALA2018



Save the Date

10th Annual Gala
Thursday, October 18, 2018
Contact Rena or Rosella at
1.866.636.6100 for tickets 🍷

Congratulations! Jordan's Principle Scholarship

In honour of their commitment to Indigenous children's health and community service, we are thrilled to present Christopher Severight, Kelsey Kerr, and Keenan Andrew with the inaugural Jordan's Principle Scholarship! May they always hold Jordan River Anderson in their hearts and minds and remain champions for Jordan's Principle as well as equity for all Indigenous children. To learn more about the recipients and how to apply for the 2019 Jordan's Principle Scholarship, visit fncaringsociety.com/jordans-principle-scholarship. 🐻

*Jordan's Principle Scholarship winners (top to bottom):
Christopher, Kelsey and Keenan.*



OUR DREAMS MATTER TOO

Our Dreams Matter Too has decided to retire and will be hanging up its hat after the 2018 event!

This event is a walk and letter-writing event calling on federal and provincial governments to give First Nations children the same chances as others in the country. It has been taking place annually on June 11, the anniversary of the Residential School apology (2008) given by the Prime Minister on behalf of the Canadian government, since 2012. From 2012–2017, over 15,000 people from across the country participated in approximately 160 unique events.

We are so grateful for all of those who have supported Our Dreams Matter Too. THANK YOU!!!

As the spirit of Our Dreams Matter Too was dedicated to Shannen Koostachin and her fight for safe and comfy schools, we have decided to create another annual event in her honour for September-October. Stay tuned for more information! ➡️★



First Nations Child & Family Caring Society of Canada

Membership Information

If you would like to join the First Nations Child & Family Caring Society as a Member under one of the following categories:

- Individual Membership: \$75
- Student Membership with ID or Elder: \$5
- Small FNCFCS Agency Membership (1–50 employees): \$500
- Large FNCFCS Agency Membership (50+ employees): \$1,000
- Small Associate Membership (Organizations with 1–50 employees): \$500
- Large Associate Membership (Organizations with 50+ employees): \$1,000

Please contact us at:

309 Cooper Street
Suite 401
Ottawa ON K2P 0G5
ph: 613.230.5885
info@fncaringsociety.com

Design and Layout

Leah Gryfe Designs
leahgryfedesigns.com
Editor
Andrea Auger
aauger@fncaringsociety.com

www.fncaringsociety.com

🐻 @Caringsociety 📺 CaringSociety 📺 fncaringsociety