

# WIGWAM TO WIGWAM

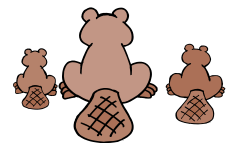
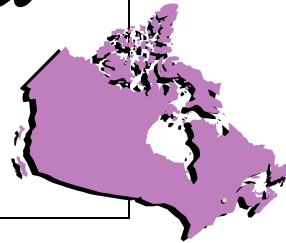
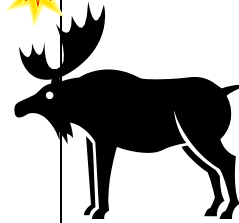
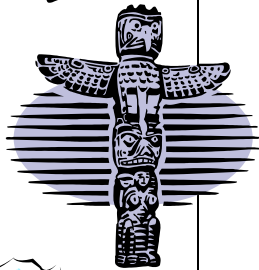
YOUR HOUSE TO HOUSE NEWS

JULY 2010

*Fete du Canada*



# Happy Canada Day!



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Please be advised that the office  
will be closed for Canada Day on

**Thursday, July 1, 2010**



## IN THE NEWS

### Kids connect with their roots at Grundy Lake

Campers can learn about nature and Aboriginal traditions

By Leslie Ferenc, June 10, 2010, Toronto Star



On the four-hour bus trip to camp, all Nikoiya Wile could think about were earwigs. Someone had told her they'd crawl into her ears as she slept.

There had also been talk about bears - big brown burly ones that roamed the woods each night in search of food.

Not prepared to take chances, Nikoiya, then 8, slept in her grandpa's trailer until her fears of bugs and wildlife subsided.

But once she took up residence in the teepee at Camp Grundy Lake, there was no going back to the mobile home. It was just too much fun to be with her friends, sleeping under the stars in a traditional canvas house.

For the grade 4 student at Eastview Jr. Public School, camp is an opportunity to discover all that the great outdoors has to offer at Grundy Lake Provincial Park, a natural paradise just south of Sudbury.

"I haven't seen any bears in my teepee, but I did see a bunny hopping across the road last year and a chipmunk," said the veteran camper whose name means laughter.

Hiking and canoeing are high on her list of activities every summer.

They give her a chance to get up close with the natural world around her - from spotting woodland creatures to identifying wildflowers.

"It's fun to explore," she said.

The Native Child and Family Services of Toronto camp is where Nikoiya discovered her Aboriginal roots.

"We learn about native traditions and culture in a fun way," said the 11-year old. "Did you know that a strawberry represents the heart?"

The sweat lodge ceremony holds the greatest meaning for her.

"It brings spirits together," Nikoiya said, referring to the seven grandfathers who teach about respect for nature and mankind. The grandfathers are represented in the sweat lodge by sacred rocks which are sprinkled with water to cleanse and balance mind, spirit and heart.

This summer will be the first year at camp for her brother, Jaden, 6, and Nikoiya is already preparing him for the adventures that await.

"We play sports and games and do lots of crafts," she said. "He'll like the activities."

Though camp is several weeks away, she's already planning ahead.

"I'm taking my duck, Yellow," she said of her favourite stuffed toy which helps melt the blues away when she's homesick.

"I'll take a picture of my mother, too."



## What's happening in the City during the month of July?!

### Caribana

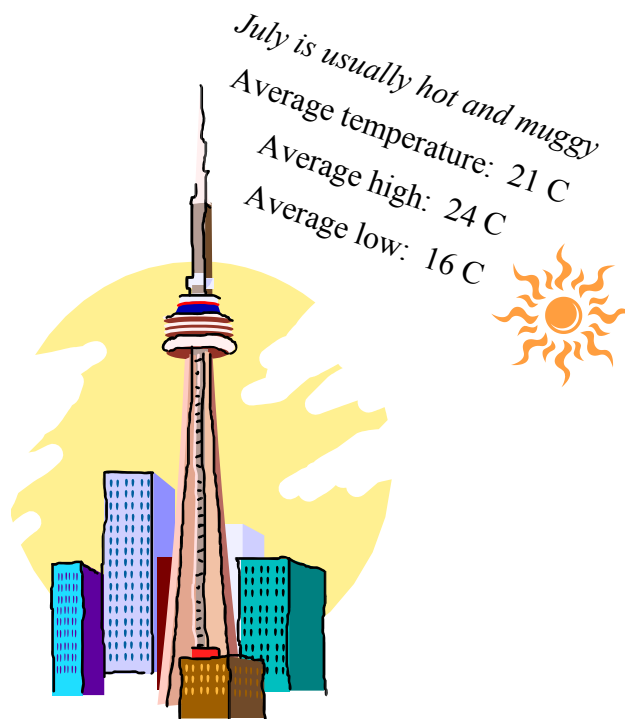
July 13 - August 2, 2010

The 43<sup>rd</sup> annual Caribana Toronto Festival is just around the corner and hundreds of Caribbean inspired events, classes and parties have been planned to mark to this year's festival. Toronto's Caribbean Caribana festival has grown exponentially since its start in 1967 and is currently North America's largest cultural festival. What was once a three-day event has now grown into three weeks of celebration, absorbing most of the city with its infectious feel-good vibes.

Over a million tourists are expected in Toronto during the last week of July to experience everything Caribana has to offer. The beauty of Caribana in Toronto is the varied audience it attracts: everyone from families across Canada and the U.S, young singles looking for a good time, to celebrities throwing Caribana themed parties in clubs across Toronto.

For more information and event schedules, go to:

[www.caribanatoronto.com](http://www.caribanatoronto.com)



### Free Weekends At Toronto's Historic Sites!

July 3 - August 29, 2010

Each weekend this summer - Saturday, July 3 and running until Sunday, August 29, 2010 - visitors can enjoy programming at Colborne Lodge, Fort York National Historic Site, Gibson House Museum, Mackenzie House, Montgomery's Inn, Scarborough Museum, and Todmorden Mills Heritage Museum and Arts Centre. Programming at the sites features music, drama, crafts for kids, heritage recipes to taste and other fun for the entire family.

- ~Colborne Lodge
- ~Fort York National Historic Site
- ~Gibson House Museum
- ~Mackenzie House
- ~Montgomery's Inn
- ~Scarborough Museum
- ~Todmorden Mills Heritage Museum and Arts Centre

For more information, go to:

[www.toronto.ca/culture/museums/freeweekends.htm](http://www.toronto.ca/culture/museums/freeweekends.htm)

### Beaches International Jazz Festival

July 16 - 25, 2010

Toronto's highly anticipated summer event, the Beaches International Jazz Festival, celebrates its 22nd year with a 10-day musical bash from July 16-25, 2010. Building on the tremendous success of the past couple of years, Beaches Jazz will once again kick off the Festival with the Woodbine Park Concerts. The concerts will be filled with the musical talents of both established and emerging artists performing on the TD Canada Trust Music Main Stage, the New Generation Stage and the Youth Stage.

For more information go to:

[www.beachesjazz.com](http://www.beachesjazz.com)



## CANADA DAY

*Canada Day is a statutory holiday in Canada and is always on July 1st.*



### Canada Day celebrations in the City:

#### Mel Lastman Square:

The 2010 Canada Day celebrations at Mel Lastman Square kick off with Wonder+® hosting an evening packed with activities to promote healthy living for kids, in partnership with KidSport™. This is an opportunity to meet Olympic athletes like team Canada hockey player and gold medalist Vicky Sunohara, 2010 Olympic medalist Speed Skater Kristina Groves and Gold Medal winning short track speed skaters Charles and Francois Hamelin. Activity stations open at 5 p.m. followed by a KidSport™ Fundraiser BBQ at 6 p.m. and the first annual Wonder+® 100-Metre Canada Day Dash at 7 p.m. Around the Square see magicians, jugglers, fire-breathers, urban dancers, live music performances and more!

WEBSITE: [http://www.toronto.ca/special\\_events/canada/2010/index.htm](http://www.toronto.ca/special_events/canada/2010/index.htm)



### Canada Day Fireworks Celebrations:

#### Downsview Park:

Starting at 11:00 a.m., free family activities will include midway rides, a petting zoo, performers, and a historical re-enactment. The festivities wrap with a fireworks display beginning at 10:00 p.m.

WEBSITE: <http://downsviewpark.ca/eng/canday.shtml>

#### Ashbridges Bay:

Grab a blanket and head down to the Beaches on July 1st to enjoy a free fireworks display that should start after 9:30 p.m. But why wait until then? The Beaches Lions Canada Day Family Festival will be on in Kew Gardens while Vinyl 95.3's Summerfest will be on in Woodbine Park from noon to 9:00 p.m.

WEBSITE: <http://www.beachesbia.com/Events.asp?opt=2&sopt=july>

#### Ontario Place:

Come Canada Day Ontario Place will actually be in the middle of the Canada Dry Festival of Fire, which involves three nights of themed fireworks displays set to music. On fireworks days the Ontario Place attractions will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. (8:00 p.m. for the water park), then the grounds will remain open until 11:00 p.m., with regular admission prices in effect. You can also buy a ticket for reserved bleacher seating during the fireworks displays.

WEBSITE: <http://www.ontarioplace.com/en/index.html>





Do your part in creating a cleaner, greener and more liveable Toronto. What better way to live green than to attend a *Community Environment Day* event.

Bring us your unused and unwanted household items and you will help to:

- \* Extend the life of a product by offering it to someone for reuse;
- \* Reduce the amount of waste going to landfill and ensure that it is properly recycled;
- \* Ensure that hazardous waste materials are disposed of safely.

Saturday, July 3	Black Creek Pioneer Village	1000 Murray Ross Pkwy. (east of Jane St., off Steeles Ave.)
Saturday, July 3	Central Technical School	725 Bathurst St. (enter at Borden St. and Harbord St.)
Saturday, July 10	Loretto College School	151 Rosemount Ave. (west of Dufferin St.)
Saturday, July 11	Dufferin Mall	900 Dufferin St. (south of Bloor St. W.)
Saturday, July 17	Ramsden Works Yard	1008 Yonge St. (across from Rosedale subway station)
Saturday, July 17	Leaside Memorial Gardens	1073 Millwood Rd. (at Laird Dr.)

**Saturday** events are from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



## DIABETES WELLNESS GARDEN

**Anishnawbe Health Toronto** is offering a Diabetes Wellness Garden every SECOND TUESDAY and FOURTH WEDNESDAY of each month.

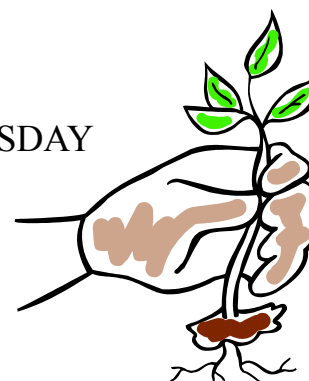
*Snacks will be provided and gardening goodies will be enjoyed!*

WHERE: 255 Queen St. E. (Back Patio)

TIME: 5:00 pm - 7 pm

WHEN: every SECOND TUESDAY and FOURTH WEDNESDAY

For more information, please contact:  
LAUREN TRIBE, Registered Dietician  
(416) 360-0486 ext. 253



## MOTHELCRAFT Early Childhood Education Diploma

Have you always wanted a career working with children?  
Seeking a learning environment that honours Indigenous knowledge?

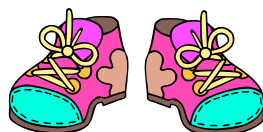
Mothercraft is now accepting applications for the 12 month  
*Early Childhood Education Program* beginning in August 2010,  
offered at Mothercraft College - 646 St. Clair Ave. W.



For more information about Mothercraft and their programs, please contact:

Jason Taylor-Mercredi (416) 483-0511 ext 212

[jt@mothercraft.org](mailto:jt@mothercraft.org)



## Toronto Urban Aboriginal Strategy

### A BRIEF HISTORY

The Urban Aboriginal Strategy is a community based initiative developed by the Government of Canada to improve the social and economic opportunities of Aboriginal people living in designated urban cities.

### INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

The UAS was designed to allow aboriginal communities a means to address and set local priorities, develop local innovative solutions, and involve community partners.

### TORONTO'S MANDATE

In Toronto, the Urban Aboriginal Strategy is overseen by a steering committee, Toronto UAS Management Committee (TUMC). TUMC is responsible for identifying community priorities and developing a subsequent community plan to address these priorities. The committee's goals for 2009- 2010 are to select projects for the funding year, host a Community Forum, Community Engagement Sessions, and Board Development Training for Community Organizations.

The aim of the UAS is to promote self-reliance and increase life choices for aboriginal people in key centres across Canada. To accomplish this, UAS projects will focus investments in three priority areas: improving Life Skills, promoting Job Training skills and entrepreneurship, and Supporting Aboriginal Women and families.

For more information about the TUAS, check out their website - [www.tuas.ca](http://www.tuas.ca)



### In the Spirit of Unity



The unity button is a reminder of the medicine wheel's teachings and the four directions as handed down to us by our Elders. In traditional storytelling, many Elders teach about equality and respect for all the people of the four colours. This is what the campaign behind the unity button is all about. It is also a celebration of our identity as Aboriginal people and the diversity of our many nations. The most important part of each button is its center because this is where the spirits of the four colours meet.

People who wear this symbol are not only proclaiming pride in their own culture but respect for all the cultures of the world. When you wear one of these buttons, people tend to stop and ask you what it is and what it means—and this is precisely the reason behind its existence. It is a means of sparking communication, to get us talking to one another, and to share our pride for Aboriginal cultures.

For more information about the unity button:

**CEDAR BASKET GIFT SHOP**

16 Spadina Road Toronto, ON M5R 2S7

(416) 964-9087

## SCHOLARSHIPS 2010

As you know, Wigwamen Incorporated has tried over the years to provide services and assistance above and beyond what an ordinary landlord would provide. That's why, for instance, we hold an annual tenants' picnic, that's why we have our flower and garden contest and our monthly zero balance award, and that's why we publish "Wigwam to Wigwam."

In 2006 we launched the Wigwamen Incorporated Post-Secondary Scholarship, offering to award one scholarship of up to \$2,000. And I'm pleased to be able to report that *we hope to award a post-secondary scholarship again this year, of up to \$2,000 for a full-time program, or up to \$1,000 for a part-time program of study.*

To qualify for consideration, you must:

- be a tenant of Wigwamen identified on the lease;
- have been continuously resident in a Wigwamen unit (any of Wigwamen's family housing units, Wigwamen Terrace, or 20 Sewells Road) for a minimum of six consecutive months; and
- be entering a Canadian college or university, or currently enrolled in a Canadian university or college.

Applications will be assessed by a jury composed of members of the Board of Directors and staff of Wigwamen Incorporated, and evaluations will be based on a combination of academic merit and community involvement.

*Deadline for applications is Friday, August 6, 2010.*

Scholarship applications were mailed to all tenants so check your mailbox for more info!



### YOUR "HOUSE TO HOUSE" NEWS

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 Toronto, Ontario  
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 Fax: 416-481-5002

If you have submissions for the "Wigwam to Wigwam" newsletter, please contact:

Danielle Powell  
 (416) 481-4451  
[dpowell@wigwamen.com](mailto:dpowell@wigwamen.com)