

Six Nations band council has responded to an incident at talks to end the current crisis in Caledonia on Wednesday. Although the main table talks never actually got underway that day, it was because government representatives were not comfortable in continuing further talks that day after entry to the talks was denied to elected chief David General. In a press release given to the media today, General is quoted as saying "It's regrettable that there are a few people who feel that intimidation will prevent me from providing the main table discussions with thoughts and ideas." General went on to say, "It's my responsibility to participate in the discussions and I will continue to participate once main table meetings resume." Chief General hasn't always been as involved in attending the talks. At one time, he had been opposed to the reclamation of land outside of Caledonia. A meeting to discuss the matter further has been scheduled to take place Saturday night at Six Nations.

(CKRZ)

Brant County, the city of Brantford, Six Nations and New Credit Tourism launch of the new tourism guide for this year was done in grand style. The new "Grand Memories" visitors guide has 55 pages of attractions and events that take place throughout the year and also includes a look at some of the famous faces from the

area such as Joseph Brant, Gary Farmer and hockey dad, Walter Gretzky. Dignitaries on hand for this year's launch included MP Lloyd St.Amand and MPP Dave Levac who spoke to the many accomplishments of the tourism industry in this part of the province and to the accomplishments of the people that have been dedicated to the industry each year. This year's "Grand Memories" visitors guide also features a picture of one of the stained glass windows in the Mohawk Chapel which will be celebrating its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.



(CKRZ)

Global TV reports that the supposed thieves call themselves the Native Warriors. They say they stole the flag in honour of a native elder who was jailed for protesting the expansion of a West Vancouver highway that's being upgraded for the Olympics. Harriet Nahanee died of pneumonia-related causes last month

after serving a 14-day jail sentence for civil contempt but was also suffering undiagnosed lung cancer. Const. Tim Fanning of the Vancouver police department says investigators will be taking a close look at the photo to determine if it's legitimate. Police say those responsible for stealing the flag can expect to face criminal charges for theft and mischief. Tewanee Joseph, executive director of the Four Host Nations, says he's not familiar with the group and hopes they'll drop off the flag.

(Global TV)

Matawa First Nations says it's taking legal action against the Ontario government and two pulp and paper companies that failed to include nine aboriginal communities in regional forestry planning developments. The group, a tribal council comprised of Ojibway and Cree First Nations, has filed an application for judicial review against Natural Resources Minister David Ramsay, the director of industry relations for the ministry, Terrace Bay Pulp Inc. and Neenah Paper Company of Canada. The group seeks to set aside the ministry's decision to transfer Neenah's sustainable forest licence in the Kenogami Forest to Terrace Bay on the basis they weren't consulted about it. The group says the province has a legal obligation to ensure equal participation by aboriginal peoples when it comes to forestry management planning under the Class Environmental Assessment Order. Chief Veronica Waboose says little has been done to 'honour or implement' those legal requirements. All Matawa First

Nations reserves are either in or adjacent to the Kenogami Forest which means its members have treaty rights to harvest, hunt, fish and trap in the area.

(BN)

A northeast B-C native band says oil and gas drilling may disrupt its ancient gravesites and warns there could be a "major confrontation" over the issue. The Halfway River First Nation is pointing to work by Calgary-based Arcis Corporation about 100 kilometres northwest of Fort St. John. It says the work went ahead despite the band's objections and it's demanding the provincial government step in to resolve the dispute. But the B-C Oil and Gas Commission says the concerns of the Halfway River band were worked into the conditions applied to the permit granted to Arcis.

(Alaska Highway News)

A Saskatchewan First Nations group is reviewing whether ousted leaders should be allowed back into the fold, possibly paving the way for the return of David Ahenakew. The Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations has asked its senate to determine if the group needs a reinstatement clause. Chief Marcel Head of the Shoal Lake Cree Nation says it's an unprecedented move, adding that to his knowledge the senate has never been asked to consider adding such a clause. Ahenakew was kicked out of the federation in 2002

after he was convicted of making hateful comments made about Jews. His conviction was overturned, but the Crown is appealing that decision on April 30. Head says he personally opposes the idea of reinstating Ahenakew and worries about what impact the action could have on the integrity of the federation.

(BN)

A former bookkeeper who stole more than 40-thousand dollars from a charity that supports needy First Nations people in Nova Scotia will spend 90 days in jail. Forty-year-old Bessie Maud Cox of River Hebert used the money to support a gambling habit. Court was told she passed 92 fraudulent cheques between September 2004 and August 2005 while she was acting director of the Truro-based Mi'kmaq Benevolent Society. Defence lawyer Dave Mahoney said Cox was suffering from extreme depression. Cox will serve her sentence on weekends, serve two months of probation, perform 100 hours of community service and make restitution to the society.

(Halifax Chronicle Herald)

In a provincial election campaign so far dominated by the ever-present promise of another referendum on Quebec sovereignty, everything old is new again. And so Quebecers are being asked again to ponder whether, if Canada can be divided at the behest of Quebec

separatists, a sovereign Quebec could itself be carved up along federalist lines? Parti Quebecois Leader Andre Boisclair, who has promised another referendum as quickly as possible if he wins the March 26 election, said Wednesday that Quebec can't be cut into pieces. Boisclair said international law and, ironically, the Canadian Constitution never approved by Quebec, rule out partition. "The question of territorial integrity is something that has been settled," Boisclair told reporters during a campaign stop in Trois-Rivieres. Quebec First Nations disagree. Ghislain Picard, chief of the Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador, said Quebec aboriginals have the right to remain within Canada. "Obviously, Quebec can decide for itself for its own future," Picard said in an interview. "But Quebec can't decide for aboriginal peoples."

(CP)

Indigenous people from throughout North and South America are coming together for a summit in Puru. The gathering is to fulfill what is being called the "Pre-Columbian peace prophecy. The fulfillment of the prophecy, known by Native American nations as the story of 'The Eagle and the Condor,' has been believed by many for centuries to be a precursor to a new era of peace and prosperity that will begin in the Western Hemisphere and spread throughout the world. The symbolic story says that when the Condor of South America flies again with the Eagle of Central and North America, peace will reign on earth. The summit, being

coordinated by Earth Works For Humanity, will be held March 19-23 and is expected to attract several hundred people for the five day event.

(CKRZ)

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CKRZ NEWS

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Not much to report today on main table talks to resolve the land woes at Six Nations. That's because the talks, which were scheduled to take place yesterday, were suspended because of a misunderstanding that took place between Six Nations elected chief David General and community members at the Oneida Business Park. It took place just before lunch hour as General tried to make his way into the meeting which was supposed to get underway at 1 p.m.

As a result of whatever may have caused the incident that took place, government representatives chose to suspend the talks until the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Between now and then, participants in the talks from Six Nations have scheduled a community meeting which will be held at Six Nations Polytech Saturday night at 7 p.m.

In a press release, lead negotiator for Six Nations, Allen McNaughton is quoted as saying, "it is deeply regretful that this incident occurred, but it is understandable." McNaughton also invited General to attend Saturday's meeting 'to explain his actions' to the community.

(CKRZ)

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