



Cumberland House Cree Nation
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For Immediate Release:

Cumberland House Cree Nation Celebrates Delta Day 2022 – “Reaffirming Our Commitment to the 2021 Declaration on the Jurisdiction and Protection of the Saskatchewan River Delta”

Community celebrates the one-year anniversary of Cumberland House Cree Nation’s Declaration on the Jurisdiction and Protection of the Saskatchewan River Delta

Cumberland House Cree Nation, SK., June 10th, 2022 – The community of Cumberland House Cree Nation celebrated the one-year anniversary of their Declaration on the Jurisdiction and Protection of the Saskatchewan River Delta. The celebration brought together community members, band leadership, teachers, and students, for a fish fry, moose meat, and fresh Bannock lunch.

The celebration was an opportunity for Chief Rene Chaboyer to reaffirm his Nation’s commitment to the sustainable management of the Saskatchewan River Delta and future of Cumberland House Cree Nation.

"The Saskatchewan River Delta and its management has a rich history and is evolving daily as we consider traditional Indigenous knowledge and new information from a large network to plan its sustainable management for the benefit of future generations.

– Chief Rene Chaboyer, Cumberland House Cree Nation

At the celebration, Grade 12 student, Christopher Deschambeault-Morin, spoke about his essay, “The Ripple of Time”, which he wrote about the Saskatchewan River Delta and why he believes it is important to protect it.

"Being a hunter and going out with my father, I notice a lot of changes. After witnessing all of these changes for years, I felt I needed to say something to make people aware of what is happening to my home. I want to one day return to my beautiful community, and I hope one day to have my children with me and to take them out on the land, as my father did with me. I want to be able to ensure that future for me and for the little ones."

– Christopher Deschambeault-Morin

Christopher was one of four Cumberland House students recognized by Heritage Saskatchewan, as the inaugural winners of their High School Heritage Challenge, where students in Grades 9 and 12 were given the chance to share stories about Canadian heritage.



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Invited representatives from Foran Mining, Dunkley Lumber, Peak Renewables and One Sky Forestry, University of Saskatchewan, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Project Forest, and CPAWS Saskatchewan, joined Cumberland Wood Products in celebrating the day.

“On June 10th, 2021, Cumberland House Cree Nation made The Declaration on the Jurisdiction and Protection of the Saskatchewan River Delta, affirming our Nation’s leadership and commitment to the conservation, stewardship, and utilization of our traditional and economic territory. The Declaration governs the path forward to protect and sustain the gifts and services of the Delta while utilizing its resources responsibly for the benefit of all peoples.

On Delta Day we celebrate our partnerships in this shared effort.”

– Chief Rene Chaboyer, Cumberland House Cree Nation

June 10th also saw the completion of the planting of over 4,000 seedlings in the first phase of development of the Cumberland House Cree Nation Community Forest, with an estimated 26,000 additional food, cultural, and medicinally significant plants to be planted in 2023. The development of the 15-hectare Community Forest on Pemican Portage will provide community members plants which were traditionally used, re-introducing them back onto the landscape.

At the conclusion of the event, Cumberland Wood Products made a special presentation to the community with a \$5,000 donation of canoe paddles and life jackets in support of recreational canoeing.

Delta Day will be held as an annual community event to commemorate Cumberland House Cree Nation’s Declaration on the Jurisdiction and Protection of the Saskatchewan River Delta.

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