



# AAMJIWNAANG FIRST NATION CHIPPEWAS OF SARNIA

## Education Department

978 TASHMOO AVENUE  
SARNIA, ONTARIO  
N7T 7H5  
Phone: (519) 336-8410  
Fax: (519) 336-0382

**To: Members of Aamjiwnaang First Nation**

**From: Vicki Ware – Education Coordinator**

**Re: Comprehensive Evaluation of the Junior Kindergarten program**

**Date: December 8, 2015**

---

The information below is shared with you to provide information about a community education initiative involving the Aamjiwnaang Junior Kindergarten Program.

### **WHAT**

Aamjiwnaang First Nation will be completing a community-based and comprehensive evaluation of our Junior Kindergarten program.

### **WHEN**

Effective immediately and to be completed by March 2016

### **WHY**

Chief and Council together with education administration are supportive of this evaluation because education itself has been and continues to be of great importance and value for our community. The completion of an evaluation is a significant and effective tool utilized within education systems to better understand issues, highlight successes, and to facilitate improvements for the benefit of all education stakeholders, especially the students. This evaluation will also fulfil mandatory reporting requirements to Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada as well.

Input about our JK program will be sought from a variety of education stakeholders, such as Elders, parents/ guardians, community members, administrators, teachers, education staff, and other personnel providing supports for education. Information will be obtained through the completion of a series of confidential individual interviews and or focus groups. The confidential feedback will be important to help facilitate meaningful and responsive improvements to the JK program with a goal for ongoing student success and achievement.

### **WHO**

Consultants have been engaged to design the evaluation, gather relevant information from community education stakeholders, and to provide sound recommendations. The lead consultant is Cindy Hare and she is supported by Christy Bressette who will be assisting by conducting the interviews. Cindy will be on-site in the community on February 1 -3, 2016. Please see the photos and short bios of the consultants below.

**Lead Consultant**

**CINDY HARE -**

Cindy Hare is a member of the Temagami First Nation - Deep Water People. Cindy started in the field of Early Childhood Education. (ECE), then continued to complete a BSW - Native Human Services at Laurentian University in Sudbury, ON. This was followed by a Bachelor of Education and Masters of Education at Nipissing University specializing in Educational Leadership. Cindy has been a lifelong educator, working as a JK and SK Primary teacher, College Professor teaching Early Childhood Education and Anishnaabe Studies, Program Coordinator for Native Community and Social Development, Education Consultant and Education Manager and Principal on Bear Island, Lake Temagami. Cindy's overall professional goals are to help Anishnaabe students be successful in all forms education and to live a good life (mno maaudis). Also, to teach others about the richness and wonderment of the First Nations Anishnaabe Culture and Heritage.



**Consultant**

**Christy Bressette –**

Christy is an Anishinabe parent, student, teacher, and community member of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation. She is an educator within provincial public schools, First Nation schools, and within several Canadian universities. She is an active supporter of programs designed to empower Aboriginal youth and increase parental engagement and community participation in education.



Kindly note that you will likely be contacted by Christy Bressette shortly wherein she will be interested to book an interview (approximately 30 – 45 minutes) with you to be completed at the Community Centre. All participants will be presented with a small gift card out of appreciation for your participation in this initiative.

If you have any questions about the evaluation, please contact Vicki Ware at 519-336-8410 or [vware@aamjiwnaang.ca](mailto:vware@aamjiwnaang.ca)

**Miigwech to all the participants!**