

Winter Carnival

AGS students got to take a break, even if it was too cold for the outdoor plans.

The Winter Carnival was held on March 3rd and 4th. And while the two days included activities like watching movies and playing basketball games, the events also had other benefits for the Elementary and Middle School kids.

Jean Isaac is one of the teachers responsible for organizing the events for the Middle School students.

"We wanted to challenge them," she said.

The students all began in their homerooms, and then moved to different classrooms, for 30 minutes at a time. Some of activities required math skills, or concentration. Others had benefits that weren't quite so obvious.

The day was deliberately planned to encourage the students. They had to interact with some of the

teachers they haven't had classes with yet. For one game, they had to get in front of the group, even if they are a little shy.

Jean has found that smaller groups helps encourage the kids to interact. A little competitive edge helps too.

Jean supervised games of "Heads Up." The game requires one student to hold a phone to his or her forehead. The group can see a word on the screen, and they have to act it out. The person holding the phone has to guess what the word is. Guys played against the girls for "b r a g g i n g rights."

"They were laughing, they were engaged. They were sharing, they're helping each other, which you don't see everyday," Jean said.



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Mystik Mannion making moccasins during the AGS Winter Carnival, with Anita Basque of the Student Services Dept. and Ethan Lind in the background. (PHOTO: Adam Hodnett.)

PROFILE

Research brings community member to New Zealand



Danielle Root in New Zealand. She attended the "Healing Our Spirits Worldwide Gathering." (PHOTO: Submitted)

Look for a gap in research — that's what students starting their master's degree are often told. So Danielle Root drew from her own experience.

Root is raising her daughter while attending Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax. When her daughter was born, the hospital waiting room was filled with people. Only a few were allowed in to see her though. The others weren't considered "immediate family."

"Well, yes, yes they are," says Root.

Root is now a part of the Child and Youth Study program. She planned on getting into primary prevention for teens, but now focuses her studies on early development. "What is better primary prevention, then working with young children" Root thinks.

She says a lot of the assumptions about family relations, and their degrees of importance, stem from the "attachment theory," developed by John Bowlby. Root doesn't believe it is entirely relevant across

cultures, particularly in many First Nation's communities, and indigenous cultures worldwide.

"The attachment theory falls short of our community as being family," Root said.

She is now working on her thesis, titled "Aboriginal Families: Fostering Attachment Our Way." Her work opened many doors, including the opportunity to present at a prestigious international conference in New Zealand this past November, known as "Healing our Spirits Worldwide" — a gathering of indigenous peoples from all around the world, with each day organized around a theme, such as "Indigenous Leadership," and "Indigenous Solutions."



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DJ XS7 is hard at work

Alex Jerome has been building a career one step at a time. Gesgebegiac to Campbellton, to Moncton, to Halifax, to Toronto. Next – Europe, and rest of the world.

As DJ XS7, Jerome has been developing his skills for years. He now lives off his DJ career, and even won 4th place in Canada in the DMC DJ Championships in Toronto last year. It was his first year participating. He's taking a shot at the world title this year.

He performed at Real Bar in Campbellton on March 11th and 12th — a location he's familiar with.

He lived in Campbellton and developed a popular DJ night years ago, when "Rumours" was running. He's also given workshops at the LMDC on entrepreneurship, and now has even more to share about his experiences developing a career as a First Nation's artist.

"There's tons of opportunities," he said.

Whether it's researching grants, or honing in on market-



Alex Jerome, known as DJ XS7, played two shows in Campbellton recently. (PHOTO: Music Nomade)

ability, Jerome has been learning all about the industry. He's been pitching his ideas, attending seminars, developing ideas for tours, and is even starting a record label with hip-hop artists in Halifax.

One idea of his particularly bridges traditional and modern influences.

"[It] tries to bring in a lot of the language, a lot of the dancing, a lot of the traditional heritage," he said. "All that comes together with grass dancers and stages lights, black lights, and

all such ideas. More on a futuristic level."

He's been working on it for three years, and says it is being well received now. This is partly due to recognizing the international appeal to an idea like this. "Aboriginals get high amounts of respect on an international level," Jerome said. "More than in Canada."



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Winter Carnival at AGS

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Community Listings

Job Opportunity

In-Community Coordinator for Post Secondary Education

CONTACT:
Lorna Sook
(418) 788-1347

Anti-Racism Symposium

Organized by the Ant-Racism Strategy.

WHERE: Bingo Hall
WHEN: March 21
TIME: 9am to 3pm

Culture Day

The Culture Day was scheduled for March 18, has been postponed. It will now be held on March 24th.

Writers Award

The deadline for submissions to the 2016 Mi'gmaq Writers Award is April 29th.

Visit www.facebook.com/migmaqwritersaward for more information.

Editor's Note:

Some changes are coming to the Nujignua'tegeg. We're excited to share them with you.

Now – more than ever – we want to hear what you would like to see us cover.

Is there anything you would like to know more about? Is there an interesting person you would

like us to profile? Are there events or activities you would like to see photos from? We're open to any ideas, be it stories, photos, or videos.

We're really hoping to increase our interaction with our readers. Any thoughts or opinions would be very appreciated.