

# THE BRIDGE CAMPAIGN

## MAMAWI ATOSKETAN NATIVE SCHOOL

TAKING FIRST NATIONS TEENS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

CAMPAIGN UPDATE | No. 3 SEPT 2016

Total:

**\$3.9 million**

Goal:

**\$4.9 million**

### PTARMIGAN FOUNDATION MAKES SCHOOL CULTURAL CENTRE A REALITY

In July, the Calgary-based Ptarmigan Foundation made a major investment in a distinctive program and feature of the new MANS high school: its Cultural Studies program and Cree Cultural Centre.

“This gift affirms the value of teaching our students about their origins, and the genius found in many aboriginal cultures,” says Lynn McDowell, PGTS Director and Campaign Manager. “It was such a pleasure to work with the principal of the Ptarmigan Foundation. He asked tremendously insightful questions, and it is gratifying that a private foundation that takes such care chooses to be associated with MANS and the Cultural Centre in a major way.”

The display case that will ultimately be housed in the Ptarmigan Cree Cultural Centre debuted at Foothills Camp near Bowden in July. The one-of-a-kind maple cabinet, by Gull Lake craftsman Will Braun, anchored the display at the back of the main auditorium during Foothills Camp Meeting.

### HEAVY EQUIPMENT ROCKS CAMPUS

Superstar drum group Northern Cree had hardly put down their drumsticks after MANS' May 25 Ground Breaking when building contractor William Persanti and the Thorarinsen brothers of Calgary arrived on the scene to start excavation for the new Mamawi Atosketan Native School High School and Industrial Arts Centre. (drawings below).

Persanti and the Thorarinsens are donating valuable skills and time equivalent to tens of thousands of dollars, and feeling great doing it!

“When you have the chance to do something like this,” Persanti says, “you should take it. You don't get many opportunities to change lives on this scale.”

*View video and photos of the big earth movers reshaping the landscape and future at MANS' Facebook. Architectural drawings can be viewed at [www.mans1.ca](http://www.mans1.ca)*



### MANS PARENT GETS BEHIND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM



MANS parent Levi Nepoose, a well-known pow wow organizer who works across Canada, is bringing his many traditional skills to MANS' After School Program. Nepoose, who attracted the Grammy nominated drumming group Northern Cree to perform at MANS' ground breaking, crafts all his own regalia and other cultural implements.

The MANS After School Program is key in keeping kids positively occupied and safe during a time of day when risk of exposure to gangs is high.

*View Levi's handiwork and performance skills as well as those of his wife and his son, who plans to graduate from the new high school, in the MANS Ground Breaking video online at [www.mans1.ca](http://www.mans1.ca)*

**MAKE A GIFT CATALOGUE NOW ONLINE! [www.mans1.ca](http://www.mans1.ca)**

# A SUPER MANS SUMMER!



**SDACC Principal of the Year** - MANS principal Gail Wilton receives the 2016 SDA Church in Canada Principal of the Year Award from SDACC President Mark Johnson and Alberta Conference Superintendent of Education Janet Griffith at Foothills Camp, July 16.



**Walking the Walk, not just Talk** - Curtis Letniak, Conference Executive Committee member and owner of Spyder Controls, shares why he supports MANS' expansion and the new Industrial Arts Centre during the first Sabbath divine service at Foothills Camp Meeting.



**Cree Camp Crafts & Food** - Besides providing information and videos, MANS stepped up its presence at Camp Meeting 2016 with Cree Camp—three authentic teepees, Moose Stew and Bannock at the International Food Fair, and aboriginal-themed crafts for kids (bead and pipe cleaner "Indian Corn" pictured).



**SUPER MANS at Family Fun Day** - SUPER MANS (Pastor Lyle Notice) captures the missing Campaign Fortune from Bad Guy (Daniel Innocent) while Bridge Campaign Manager Lynn McDowell and Myken McDowell serve up cotton candy, and MANS teacher Cheri Notice transforms into a superhero herself during an afternoon of fun at Foothills Camp Meeting.



**Construction Begins** - Footings are poured and plumbing's underway for both the new high school building and industrial arts centre.