



RECOGNITION AWARDS DINNER

WEDNESDAY 5:00 - 8:00 PM
SCANDIA ROOM - VALHALLA INN

The Housing Innovation Showcase is an opportunity to recognize innovations and achievements in housing initiatives at a community level. Listening to those recognized as part of this popular awards program is one of the most motivational and inspiring parts of the conference. This year we have 3 recipients: Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug, Batchewana First Nation, and Muskrat Dam First Nation. CONGRATULATIONS!

KITCHENUHMAYKOOSIB INNINUWUG **2013 INNOVATION HOUSING AWARD RECIPIENT**

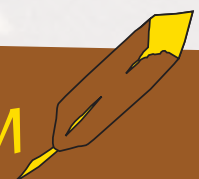
Located about 580km north of Thunder Bay, Ontario on the north shore of Big Trout Lake is Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug, also known as the Big Trout Lake First Nation or K.I. for short. Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug is one of the largest First Nations in Northern Ontario with approximately 1300 on reserve residents. Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug is a fly-in community accessible by air, and winter road in the colder months.

Dating back to the community's early roots in the fur trade, serving as a key transshipment and trading point, business and people have always gathered at Big Trout Lake. Continuing

this tradition today is Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug businessman Stanley Bluecoat and his newly opened Sunset Lodge. The lodge is a fully functioning modern bed and breakfast operation featuring all the amenities expected by travellers. Not only is the Sunset Lodge a business operation, it is Stanley's home.

Lodge owner Stanley Bluecoat had said that the wait for Band supplied housing was not in keeping with his ambitions so he decided to take on the challenge of home ownership and construction himself. Stanley initially approached the construction of his new home in a phased multi-year plan. After completing the first phase of construction Stanley approached the bank for additional funding.

He received a pleasant surprise when the bank showed support for his project and suggested a full mortgage to allow the completion of the home in a much shorter time period. Stanley was aware that the



issuances of mortgages and private home ownership on reserves are a rare situation but with the support of his bank his plans were fulfilled. The feeling of excitement upon receiving the news that his mortgage was approved is a memory that Stanley won't soon forget.

Home construction on remote reserves faces many challenges, not the least of which is access to quality building materials and sound advice from construction professionals. Stanley credits the support of his technical services advisor Mel Barber and the trust and support of his materials vendor Springhill Lumber as key elements in the successful construction of his new home. Assistance also came from the Band through the supply of gravel material and the loan of heavy equipment required for the construction.

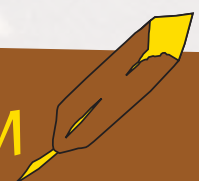


Not only is this new dwelling Stanley's own home it is also his new business. Stanley operates his home as a lodge offering some of the best accommodations in the North. The Sunset Lodge is a successful operation often booked to capacity. Stanley is already considering the addition of a second building to expand his business.

Even though it was a long and tough road Stanley offers encouragement for others on his reserve and in other First Nations communities that home ownership is indeed a rewarding experience. Home ownership not only strengthens the individual but the community as a whole. Stanley also wants prospective homeowners to know that financing is not an insurmountable obstacle. Even if Band financing is not available there are other options that can be used to make their home ownership ambitions come true.

The First Nations Northern Housing conference is pleased to present Stanley Bluecoat of Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug with the 2013 Community Innovation Housing Award. Private home ownership can be a reality in remote First Nations communities where quality homes can be constructed and financed by band members on their own terms and for their own benefit.

ONCE AGAIN CONGRATULATIONS TO STANLEY BLUECOAT OF KITCHENUHMAYKOOSIB INNINUWUG FOR THE 2012 ABORIGINAL ENTREPRENEUR AWARD.



BATCHEWANA FIRST NATION 2013 COMMUNITY INNOVATION HOUSING AWARD RECIPIENT

Batchewana First Nation is a proud First Nation made up of 2,605 registered members of whom 739 currently live on reserve lands. Batchewana First Nation's traditional territories run from Pukaswa, ON inland from the height of land, down to Sault Ste. Marie, ON. There are communities in Goulais Bay, Obadjiwan, Rankin and Whitefish Island. The geographical distance of these satellite communities makes managing the housing situation challenging for Chief and Council.

In 2006 the Chief and Council of Batchewana First Nation directed the Administration of the First Nation to ensure there was equal and comparable services and programming to all the communities. Many members were forced to leave the communities due to the lack of suitable housing. This led to the development of 10 houses being built in Batchewana and Goulais Bay and an additional four houses to be constructed in the spring of 2013.

The Batchewana First Nation Housing Department has advanced leaps and bounds over the past few years. The Housing Department offers several services to the community through various programs such as financing assistance, ownership programs, renovation assistance and a housing rental program. A successful housing program is about empowering community members with ownership and pride. If they take pride in their homes and their neighbourhoods



they will take care of the community. The housing department is continually enhancing the programming to benefit the community and its residents.

Batchewana First Nation has not only constructed new homes for members but also enhanced their capacity in the housing programming field. Their housing programs have been a considerable success and many members that had been forced to leave the communities have now returned. Batchewana First Nation has also strengthened their economic outlook through their housing program by engaging member businesses and generating meaningful skilled employment on-reserve.

The First Nations Northern Housing conference is pleased to present the Batchewana First Nation with the 2013 Community Innovation Housing Award. Building strong communities through housing and capacity building programs not only gives Band members' homes but also a bright future for generations to come.

ONCE AGAIN CONGRATULATIONS TO THE BATCHEWANA FIRST NATION FOR THE 2013 COMMUNITY INNOVATION HOUSING AWARD.

MUSKRAT DAM FIRST NATION 2013 COMMUNITY INNOVATION HOUSING AWARD RECIPIENT

Three hundred and seventy kilometers north of Sioux Lookout on the shores of Muskrat Dam Lake is the community of Muskrat Dam First Nation with a population of 387 on reserve residents.

In 2013 the community of Muskrat Dam First Nation is being recognized for their innovative designs utilized in new home construction.

In consultation with Muskrat Dam technical advisors, improved designs were identified and implemented for use in future homes in the community. Muskrat Dam broke away from the conventional models of home construction and approached their projects on their own terms and with their own designs.

Not only are the new designs a success from the point of view of the housing department but also from the people who live in the homes. The new designs have achieved their goal of greater comfort and efficiency.

Gary Beardy is very proud of the accomplishments and recognition given to Muskrat Dam and credits the hard work and determination of the community for this success.

The First Nations Northern Housing conference is pleased to present the Muskrat Dam First Nation with the 2013 Community Innovation Housing Award. Quality and innovation in design leads not only to better homes but also to happier and healthier residents.



ONCE AGAIN CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MUSKRAT DAM FIRST NATION FOR THE 2013 COMMUNITY INNOVATION HOUSING AWARD.

