

First Nations Bulletin

ONTARIO MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS

Spring / Summer 2011

Welcome to the first edition of the **First Nations Bulletin**. Inside you will find information and important dates for relevant Ontario programs and services.

YOUTH SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

The **First Nations Natural Resources Youth Employment Program** is now recruiting. This two-year program provides youth from First Nation communities in northern Ontario the opportunity to work on forestry projects, receive workplace training and take personal development workshops.

Jobs for the **Aboriginal Youth Work Exchange Program** are now posted. This program provides Aboriginal youth with eight-week work placements in the summer. Youth will focus on resource management projects, job skills readiness training and personal development training.

Check out the **Ministry of Natural Resources' Youth Program Jobs—Now Hiring!** for other employment opportunities.

To learn more about these programs, go to ontario.ca/mnryouthemployment.

Summer Jobs for Youth helps young people aged 15 to 18 gain workplace skills through summer employment. The program is available in 19 communities across Ontario. Teens will receive job training, and employment placements for up to eight weeks in the summer.

Go to ontario.ca/youth

Your Guide to Preventing Type 2 Diabetes

This new resource from the Ministry of Health Promotion and Sport provides information on type 2 diabetes and steps that can help prevent it. Copies can be ordered from ontario.ca/publications.

Make the Right Choice – Available June 2011

This is a new healthy living resource created for Aboriginal communities in Ontario. To learn more and to find other valuable tools to encourage healthy living go to ontario.ca/health-promotion.

Minister's Annual Report on Lake Simcoe 2010

This report is the first of Ontario's reports on the implementation of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan. Copies can be downloaded under [Learn More at ontario.ca/lakesimcoe](http://ontario.ca/lakesimcoe).

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EDUCATION—BURSARIES

Colleges, universities and Aboriginal postsecondary schools are accepting applications for the **Aboriginal Postsecondary Education and Training Bursary**. This bursary is for Aboriginal students studying full-time or part-time with demonstrated financial need.

Applications for the **First Generation Bursary** are also being accepted. This bursary is for first generation postsecondary students with demonstrated financial need. A first generation student is someone whose parents have not participated in postsecondary studies.

To learn more about these bursaries, go to the **A-Z List of Programs** at ontario.ca/osap.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT—FAR NORTH AND ENERGY

Far North First Nation communities are invited to apply to the **Northern Training Partnership Fund (NTPF) - Far North Land Use Planning**. This is a project-based skills training program for Far North First Nations. The program's focus is to help First Nations build land use planning capacity within their communities, and prepare for future resource-related job opportunities. There are no deadlines. Applications can be submitted at any time and will be assessed on a continuous basis.

To learn more about this program, go to the **Far North Land Use Planning Initiative** at ontario.ca/farnorth.

The **Aboriginal Energy Partnerships Program** supports the participation of communities in the renewable energy sector and helps build sustainable and stronger economies. The Aboriginal Energy Partnership Program includes:

- ♦ The **Aboriginal Community Energy Plan Program**, which helps communities understand electricity use and plan for future energy needs. Applications are being accepted on a continuous basis.
- ♦ The **Aboriginal Renewable Energy Fund**, which can assist with some of the initial project development costs associated with Aboriginal community renewable energy projects. Applications are being accepted on a continuous basis.
- ♦ The **Aboriginal Renewable Energy Network**, which is a web-based information-sharing network. Aboriginal communities can go here to learn how to participate in renewable energy generation and community energy planning.

To learn more about these energy initiatives, go to www.powerauthority.on.ca/first-nations-metis-relations/aboriginal-energy-partnership-program.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Submissions for the **James Bartleman Aboriginal Youth Creative Writing Award** are due by **May 31, 2011**. The award program is open to all Aboriginal youth in school, regardless of where they live in the province. All types of creative writing are acceptable, including short stories, songs and poems.

Go to ontario.ca/bartleman

Applications for the **Creative Communities Prosperity Fund** are due by **June 6, 2011**. This fund provides municipalities and Aboriginal communities with financial assistance for cultural planning projects.

Go to ontario.ca/creativecommunitiesfund

Applications for the **Cultural Strategic Investment Fund** are due by **June 6, 2011**. This fund invests in projects that enhance the culture sector and support Arts Education, Cultural Diversity and Aboriginal Engagement, Cultural/Heritage Tourism and Heritage Preservation and Archaeology.

Go to ontario.ca/cultureinvestmentfund

Applications for **Celebrate Ontario Blockbuster** are due by **June 7, 2011**. This annual program helps new and existing Ontario festivals and events enhance their programs and activities. This year, Celebrate Ontario 2011 is introducing funding for major one-time events and festivals attracting out-of-province visitors.

Go to ontario.ca/celebrateontario

Applications for the **Showcasing Water Innovations** program are due by **June 24, 2011**. This program will fund leading edge, innovative and cost-effective solutions for managing drinking water, wastewater and stormwater systems in Ontario communities. Aboriginal communities are strongly encouraged to apply.

An information session is being held **June 8, 2011** in Toronto. You may attend in person or by webinar or teleconference.

Go to ontario.ca/waterinnovation

July 1, 2011 is the next deadline to submit your grant applications to the **Ontario Trillium Foundation Community and Province-wide Program**. The Foundation supports community-based initiatives that strengthen the capacity of organizations in the arts and culture, environment, human and social services and sports and recreation sectors.

Go to www.trilliumfoundation.org

July 4, 2011 is the next deadline to submit applications to the **Northern Training Partnership Fund**. This fund helps Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal northern Ontarians train for new jobs in emerging resource sectors, like the Ring of Fire, and green and innovative technology.

Go to ontario.ca/aboriginaleconomy