350TH
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
MAY 24, 25 & 26, 2018

Help us celebrate Waskaganish in all its beauty and wonder!

Information Guide

350th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION PLANNING COMMITTEE

Charles J. Hester, Director of Culture, Sports and Leisure
Darryl S. Hester, 350th Anniversary Coordinator
Stacy Bear, Cultural Department - Member
Ryan Erless, Director of Community Services - Member
Hugo Cowboy, Recreation Department - Member
Jimmy (Tim) Whiskeychan, Tourism Coordinator - Member
Conrad Blueboy, Youth Chief - Member
William T. Hester, Elders Council - Member
Simeon Trapper, Elders Council - Member
Ruth Salt, Elders Council - Member
Roy Weistche, Community Planner - Member
A. Thomas Hester, Communications Officer - Member
Walter Hester Jr., Local Radio - Member
Darryl J. Salt, Cree Trappers Association - Member
Bradley Wyman, Northern Store Manager - Member

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Waskaganish Albert Diamond Golf Classic,
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MESSAGE:
From Chief Darlene Cheechoo

On behalf of the Council of the Cree Nation of Waskaganish, the Elder's Council and the Youth Council, I would like to welcome you to Waskaganish as we commemorate our 350th year. The second event of this year's festivities takes place May 24-26, 2018.

We would like to share with you, through traditional activities, games and demonstrations, some of the skills and knowledge that have enabled us to survive and thrive through the ages and up to modern day. During the commemoration events, you shall meet some of our highly regarded traditional artisans from Waskaganish and the Cree territory.

We proudly maintain our strong connection to the land and waters within our territory and to the activities which are so integral to our culture and identity. We are grateful for all of our elders who are eager to share the wealth of their knowledge and life experience.

Come and enjoy the family activities, games, workshops and demonstrations that are usually done during the spring. In addition to the activities join us at the entertainment venue where the following musicians and artists will be performing: John Cafferty and the Beaver Brown Band, Vern Cheechoo, Lawrence Martin, the fiddle dance group - Saagkeeng's Finest, local performers, comedians and musicians.

Looking forward to seeing you in Waskaganish for the spring event and festivities!
God Bless You All!

MESSAGE:
From 350th Anniversary Celebration Committee

Waachiyehkw misiwe! Greetings to all! The Waskaganish 350th Anniversary celebrations organizing committee welcomes you to our community! Since time immemorial the site on which Waskaganish is built was known as "Kaneyaauhkaatshiid". It served as a summer gathering place for our people. In 1668, the establishment of the first trading post in James Bay not only changed Kaneyaauhkaatshiid into a permanent settlement but is also gave birth to its name. Waskaganish which means "little house" in the Cree language and is in reference the little house built to serve as the first trading post.

Included in this publication is all the information you will need to enjoy the Spring Edition of the 350th Anniversary Celebrations which run from May 24-26, 2018. We encourage you to visit the display booths of our many talented Eeyou/Eenou artists/craftsmen. One of our objectives is to showcase the Cree crafts, traditional tools, techniques and skills used by our people to survive in the harsh winter climate of Eeyou Istchee. These artists/craftsmen will also conduct workshops for those interested in learning how to make Cree traditional tools and garments.

We thank those that have traveled near or far to join us. Like our ancestors in the days of old, we welcome again you to Kaneyaauhkaatshiid! Together we will feast, dance, play and sing as we celebrate the 350th anniversary of Waskaganish and honour the many contributions made by our people to make Eeyou Istchee what it is today! *Meeg-wetch and Enjoy!*

WASKAGANISH:
A SMALL TOWN WITH A BIG HISTORY

Many towns and cities are proud of their history, and rightly so. However, our small Cree community on the shore of James Bay is a town that has made history for not only its people, but for all First Nations as well as for Canada itself. It is with pride that we celebrate our 350th anniversary. In 1668 it was the birthplace and then in 1670, the first trading settlement of the famous Hudson's Bay Company. It was the first 'capital' and governor's residence for the huge colony of Rupert's Land; a colony that included most of Canada and parts of the United States. The townsite, or a nearby location, was the 1610-11 wintering site of the ill-fated Henry Hudson expedition looking for the fabled Northwest Passage and an island in our archipelago was the 1632-33 wintering site of the Thomas James Northwest Passage expedition and thus the site of. Charles Town, one of the earliest towns in the Canadian North after the Viking settlement and the ancient fishing communities in Newfoundland and Labrador.

A replica of the Nonsuch, it was built by Messrs. J. Hinks & Sons of Appledore, Devon. Today, the replica Nonsuch has a permanent home in Winnipeg at the Manitoba Museum.

Our community is part of a traditional territory and we think of town and the land together. Their histories are intertwined even though the land has been occupied for at least 4,400 years and our 'town' was begun only 350 years ago. Interestingly, the idea of a town has been shown to be consistent with traditional patterns of Cree land use; namely concepts surrounding "resource areas".

In more detail, our traditional territory is the location of camps of about 4,400 years old belonging to hunters with cultural tradition that appears to be similar to ancient Maritime Archaic sites of Newfoundland and Labrador. Research may yet demonstrate the relationship between these ancient populations and our people. Later, about 1,600 years ago, waves of Peoples with clearer possible ties to ourselves swept over our territory.

Our ancestors were a part of a continent-wide trading network that existed for thousands of years before the arrival of Europeans, and for this reason Cree hunters, in the year 1610, traded with the explorer Henry Hudson before his crew put him overboard and sailed back to England. Again, we welcomed the English in 1668 when they arrived here to see if they could tie themselves into our trading network as a source of exotic European goods we could trade with our neighbors. It was this 1668 arrival of these English, on the ship, Nonsuch, with their desire to find a way to tie into our ancient commercial trading network without having to deal with France's control of the Saint Lawrence River that we mark as the beginning of our permanent

"town". Because these English were judged to be creating a resource area for exotic goods to feed into our network, our ancestors were quite welcoming and ready to help keep them fed and safe until several hundred hunters could come the next spring to fill their ship with quality furs. Our welcoming of those traders in 1668, and our readiness to provide for and partner with them in the fur business gave birth to the famous Hudson's Bay Company and the proclaiming of Rupert's Land in 1670. THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY WAS BORN HERE AND THEIR SETTLEMENT HERE BECAME NOT ONLY THE FIRST HBC POST IN THE WORLD, BUT IT ALSO BECAME THE 'CAPITAL' OF THE 'COLONY' OF RUPERTSLAND'. The colonial governor made his residence here and initiated the first mineral prospecting in James Bay. Perhaps, because he was an egalitarian Quaker, he also established friendly relations with the famous French trader and explorer, Louis Jouillet by 1670, even though his competition farther inland was not legitimate in the eyes of England.

Rupert House, 1968

Also, in England's eyes, our territory was a 'kingdom' and the first "king" was a principle hunter/trade negotiator named Cuscudah.

After our original fort, called "Charles Fort" was moved to a better military position, it was attacked by France and its New France colonists. The New France hero, Iberville, put a quick end to the attack by dropping a grenade down the chimney, thanks to a ladder left in place for quick access to the roof in case of chimney fire.

Though we continued to use the location as needed, the HBC abandoned our townsite for 90 years after this attack during a period when England and France were not at war. In 1775 they returned and built two small wall tents of log and canvas, possibly giving rise to our present name of "Little House" or Waskaganish. This humble European rebirth grew into a major settlement with large warehouses which provisioned several trading communities in the interior throughout the 19th century. During the early 1820s we also established what is possibly the earliest wildlife preserve in Canada on Thomas James' Charlestown (Charlton) Island; the Sir George Simpson Beaver Preserve. During the 19th century we also welcomed a small band of starving Inuit into our hunting territory so they could survive and become a small, friendly part of our people's history.

Today we are a rapidly-growing town with our interests in both traditional time on the land and in new economies. We are strong and proud of being called both Cree and Canadian.

Rupert House, 1930

Store, Rupert House, 1930

Rupert House, 1934

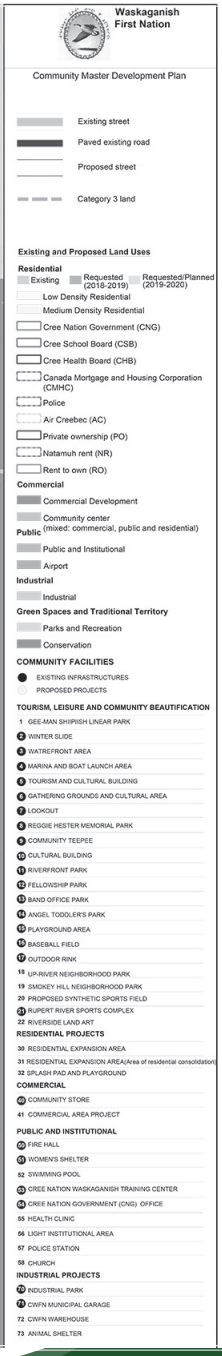
Rupert House, 1934

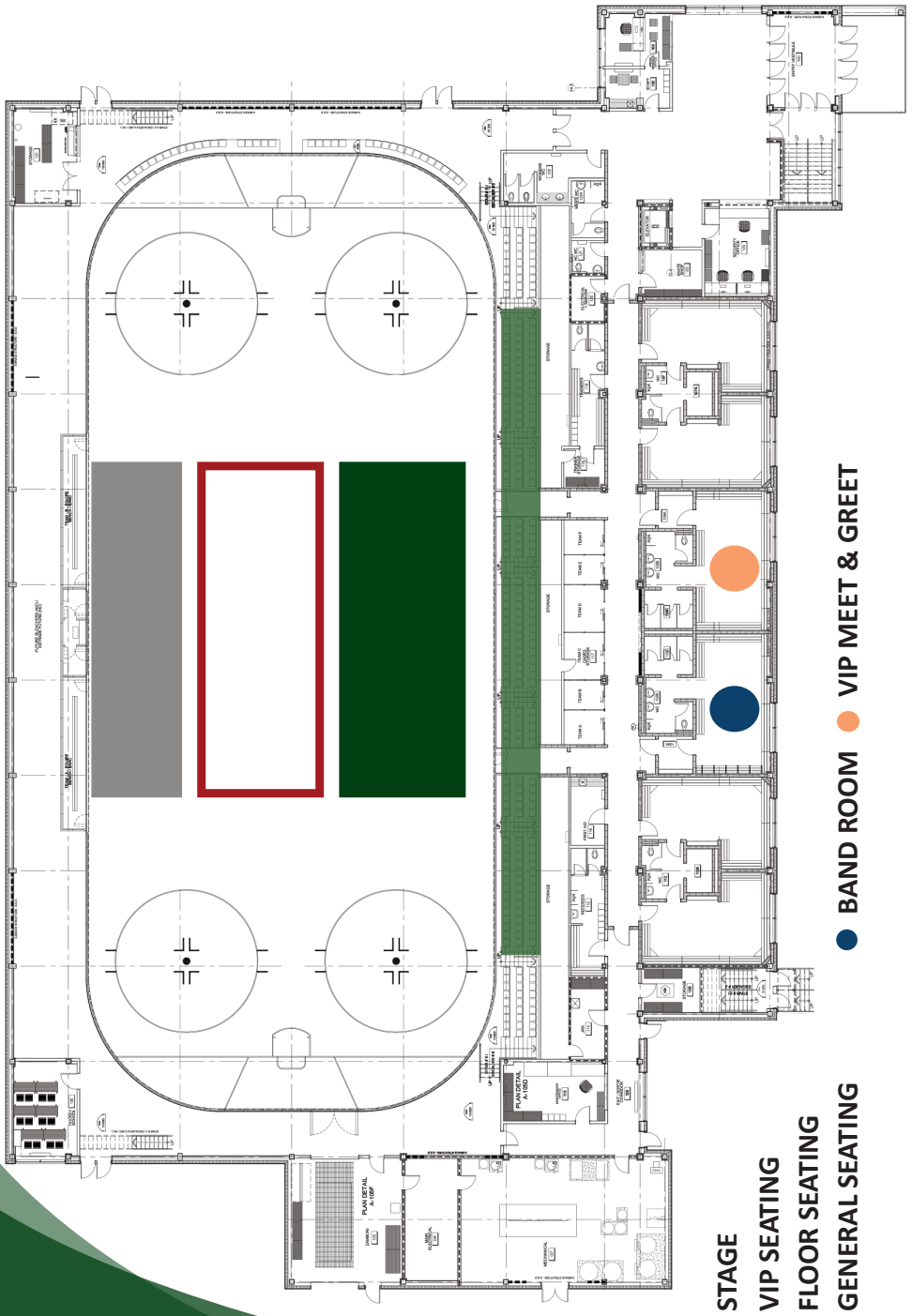
Salute to Governor, Rupert House, 1934

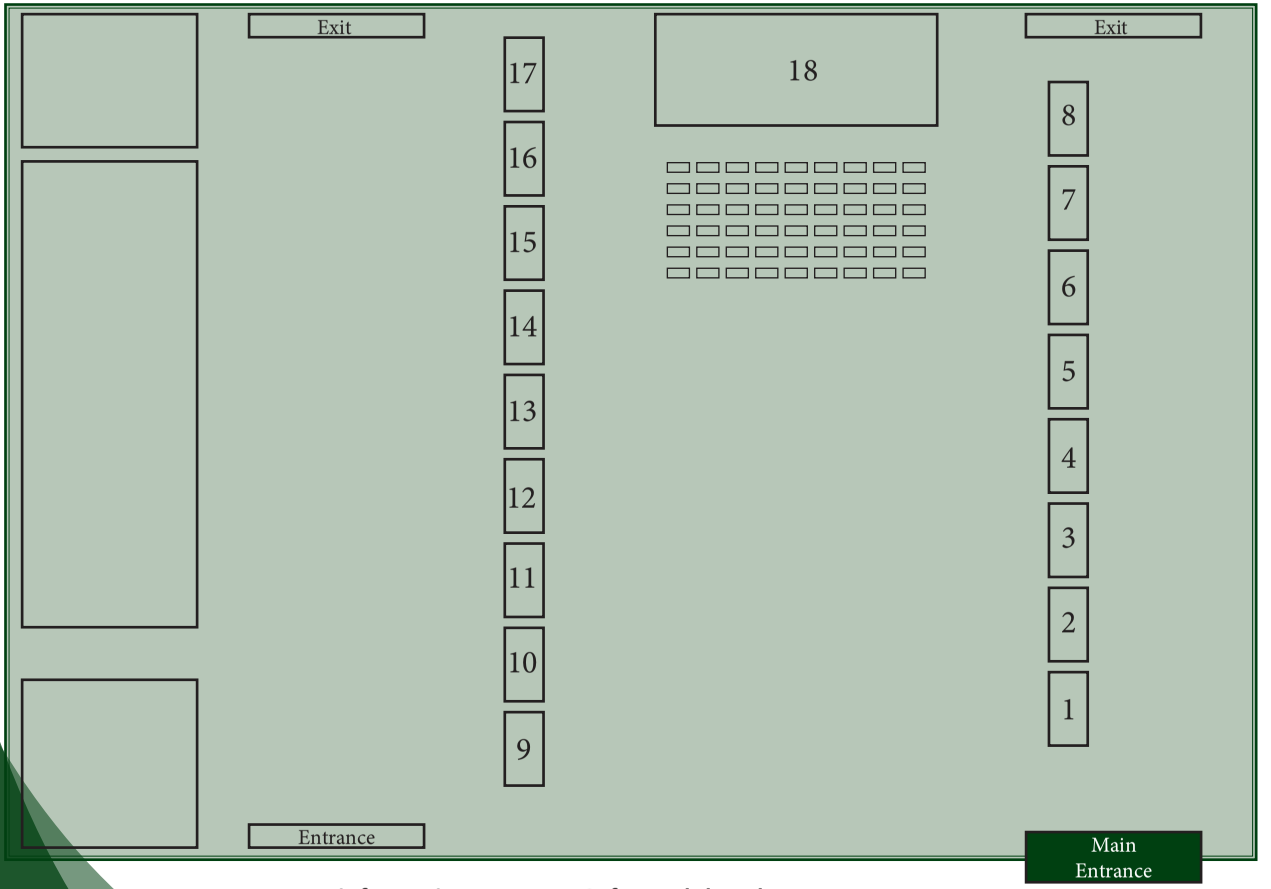
Rupert House, J.S.C. Watt Memorial Hall

Map of Waskaganish

* Road to Water Intake --->
1
GEE-MAN SHIPISH LINEAR PARK
SHIPISH PARK
MAATWASHTIN STREET
KAPESHIN STREET
KAPUSKUM STREET
JOHN BLACKNEY MESKANUU
ROSE JOLLY MESKANUU
CHIEF ISAIAH SALT ROAD
NUCHIMII MESKANUU
PAAPACHUU MESKANUU
30
RESIDENTIAL EXPANSION AREA
18
56
LIGHT INSTITUTIONAL AREA
41
COMMERCIAL AREA
STREET M
STREET O
STREET P
STREET Q
19


Waskaganish First Nation
Community Master Development Plan
Existing street
Paved existing road
Proposed street
Category 3 land
Existing and Proposed Land Uses
Residential
Existing
Requested (2018-2019)
Requested/Planned (2019-2020)
Low Density Residential
Medium Density Residential
Cree Nation Government (CNG)
Cree School Board (CSB)
Cree Health Board (CHB)
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC)
Police
Air Creebec (AC)
Private ownership (PO)
Natamuh rent (NR)
Rent to own (RO)
Commercial
Commercial Development
Community center (mixed: commercial, public and residential)
Public
Public and Institutional
Airport
Industrial
Industrial
Green Spaces and Traditional Territory
Parks and Recreation
Conservation
COMMUNITY FACILITIES
EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURES
PROPOSED PROJECTS
TOURISM, LEISURE AND COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION
1 GEE-MAN SHIPISH LINEAR PARK
2 WINTER SLIDE
3 WATREFRONT AREA
4 MARINA AND BOAT LAUNCH AREA
5 TOURISM AND CULTURAL BUILDING
6 GATHERING GROUNDS AND CULTURAL AREA
7 LOOKOUT
8 REGGIE HESTER MEMORIAL PARK
9 COMMUNITY TEEPEE
10 CULTURAL BUILDING
11 RIVERFRONT PARK
12 FELLOWSHIP PARK
13 BAND OFFICE PARK
14 ANGEL TODDLER'S PARK
15 PLAYGROUND AREA
16 BASEBALL FIELD
17 OUTDOOR RINK
18 UP-RIVER NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
19 SMOKEY HILL NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
20 PROPOSED SYNTHETIC SPORTS FIELD
21 RUPERT RIVER SPORTS COMPLEX
22 RIVERSIDE LAND ART
RESIDENTIAL PROJECTS
30 RESIDENTIAL EXPANSION AREA
31 RESIDENTIAL EXPANSION AREA(Area of residental consolidation)
32 SPLASH PAD AND PLAYGROUND
COMMERCIAL
40 COMMUNITY STORE
41 COMMERCIAL AREA PROJECT
PUBLIC AND INSTITUTIONAL
50 FIRE HALL
51 WOMEN'S SHELTER
52 SWIMMING POOL
53 CREE NATION WASKAGANISH TRAINING CENTER
54 CREE NATION GOVERNMENT (CNG) OFFICE
55 HEALTH CLINIC
56 LIGHT INSTITUTIONAL AREA
57 POLICE STATION
58 CHURCH
INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS
70 INDUSTRIAL PARK
71 CWFN MUNICIPAL GARAGE
72 CWFN WAREHOUSE
73 ANIMAL SHELTER


STAGE
VIP SEATING
FLOOR SEATING
GENERAL SEATING
BAND ROOM
VIP MEET & GREET



Note: More information on page 13 for each booth.

ART SYMPOSIUM/TRADESHOW - WORKSHOPS
Location: BOOTH #18 at the GATHERING PLACE GYMNASIUM
29 SMOKEY HILL

DAY 1 THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2018

TIME	ARTIST NAME	ART
10:00am-11:00am	Edwin Jolly	*Wooden Crafts*
11:00am-12:00pm	Cecilia B. Mianscum	*Sewing*
12:00pm-1:00pm	**LUNCH - Traditonal Food served at Community Teepee**	
1:00pm-2:00pm	Nancy Snowboy	*Sewing*
2:00pm-3:00pm	Peter Weistche	*Setting Traps*
3:00pm-4:00pm	Clymie Weistche	*Sewing*
4:00pm-5:00pm	Agnes Stephen	*Net Weaving*

DAY 2 FRIDAY, MAY 25, 2018

TIME	ARTIST NAME	ART
10:00am-11:00am	Vera & Jimmy George	*Cree Medicine*
11:00am-12:00pm	Marlene Namagoose	*Sewing*
12:00pm-1:00pm	**LUNCH - Traditonal Food served at Community Teepee**	
1:00pm-2:00pm	Cynthia Blackned	*Arts & Crafts*
2:00pm-3:00pm	Bessie Blackned	*Sewing*
3:00pm-4:00pm	Geraldine Weapenicappo	*Sewing*
4:00pm-4:15pm	Sagkeeng's Finest	*Dance*

DAY 3 SATURDAY, MAY 26, 2018

TIME	ARTIST NAME	ART
10:00am-11:00am	Isabelle Shecapio Neeposh	*Sewing*
11:00am-12:00pm	Gordon Shecapio Blacksmith	*Crafts*
12:00pm-1:00pm	**LUNCH - Traditonal Food served at Community Teepee**	
1:00pm-2:00pm	Sophie T. Bosum	*Sewing*
2:00pm-3:00pm	Mary & Margaret Weistche	*Child Care Trad. Items*

Note: These workshops will take place at the GATHERING PLACE Booth #18 located at 29 Smokey Hill St.

See page 11 for Floor Plan

ART SYMPOSIUM/TRADESHOW
Location: GATHERING PLACE GYMNASIUM
29 SMOKEY HILL

ARTIST/ARTISAN BOOTH SEATING

BOOTH #1
Agnes Stephen
Elder Artisan, Waskaganish, Qc

BOOTH #2
Cynthia Blackned
Artisan, Nemaska, Qc

BOOTH #3
Cecilia B. Mianscum
Artisan, Ouje-bougoumou, Qc

BOOTH #4
Mary & Maragret Weistche
Artisans, Waskaganish, Qc

BOOTH #5
Sophie T. Bosum
Artisan, Ouje-bougoumou, Qc

BOOTH #6
Clymie Weistche
Elder Artisan, Waskaganish, Qc

BOOTH #7
Isabelle Shecpaio Neeposh
Artisan, Ouje-bougoumou, Qc

BOOTH #8
Brian Webb
Ouwah Store, Chisasibi, Qc

BOOTH #9
Marlene Namagoose
Artisan, Waskaganish, Qc

BOOTH #10
Vera & Jimmy George
Artisans, Whapmaagoostui, Qc

BOOTH #11
Geraldine Weapenicappo
Artisan, Eastmain, Qc

BOOTH #12
Edwin Jolly
Elder Artisan, Waskaganish, Qc

BOOTH #13
Gordon Shecapio Blacksmith
Artisan, Ouje-bougoumou, Qc

BOOTH #14
Peter Weistche
Hunter, Waskaganish, Qc

BOOTH #15
Nancy Snowboy
Artisan, Chisasibi, Qc

BOOTH #16
Bessie Blackned
Artisan, Nemaska, Qc

BOOTH #17
Philip Deering
Shenandoah Beads , Kahnawake, Qc

BOOTH #18
DISPLAY & WORKSHOP STAGE

TRADITIONAL ACTIVITIES & GAMES SCHEDULE
Location: CULTURAL SITE

DAY 1 THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2018

TIME	EVENT
10:00am	Sigabon Preparation
	Bannock on a Stick Making
12:00pm	Bon Fire
	Kids Weiner and Marshmallow Roast
1:00pm	Wood Chopping & Stacking Wood (Half Cord) - 18+ Female/Male
2:00pm	Teepee Erecting 18+ Female/Male (Partners)
3:00pm	Checker Tournament

DAY 2 FRIDAY, MAY 25, 2018

TIME	EVENT
10:00am	Tea Boiling & Bannock on a stick - 18+ partners Female/Male
11:00am	Goose Calling - Open to everyone
12:00pm	Bon Fire
	Kids Weiner and Marshmallow Roast
1:00pm	Setting up blind with wooden decoys
6:00pm	**COMMUNITY FEAST at GATHERING PLACE GYMNASIUM Located at 29 SMokey Hill ST.**

DAY 3 SATURDAY, MAY 26, 2018

TIME	EVENT
10:00am	Slingshot Target Shooting
11:00am	Archery Contest
12:00pm	Bon Fire
	Kids Weiner and Marshmallow Roast
1:00pm	Skeet Shooting - 16+ Female & Male
	(Location: *Water Intake - See page 9)

MUSIC & DANCE
Location: RUPERT RIVER SPORTS COMPLEX
Located at 17 Smokey Hill st.

FRIDAY, MAY 25, 2018

TIME	
6:30pm	DOORS OPEN
7:00pm-7:45pm	Local Artist Performances
7:45pm-8:45pm	Saagkeeng's Finest (Group Performance)
8:45pm-9:30pm	Local Artist Performances
9:30pm-10:00pm	Comedy Act - Jems & Emiliesh
10:00pm	Vern Cheechoo & Lawrence Martin

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 2018

TIME	
6:30pm	Doors Open
7:00pm-8:00pm	Local Artist Performances
8:00pm-9:00pm	Fiddle Music and Dance
9:00pm	John Cafferty and the Beaver Brown Band

Thank you for being a part of the 350th Spring Anniversary Celebration!

Looking forward to seeing you in Waskaganish for the Main Celebration to be held on July 16-22, 2018!

Wachiya!

The Spring 350th Anniversary Celebration is made possible by funding from Cree Nation of Waskaganish,
Waskaganish Albert Diamond Golf Classic,
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