

**Happy Halloween**

**Category Winners**

FUNNIEST - Holly Danyluk as Cruella Deville  
 ORIGINAL/CREATIVE - Tyler Coonishish as Purell Hand Sanitizer  
 SCARIEST - Carla Kakabat as Jason  
 - each won \$100.00 gift certificate at Community Store -

**Participation Draws**

Deraughn Forrest as Tourist  
 Cheryl Danyluk as Mother of Dragons  
 - \$50.00 gift certificate at Sibi Gas -

*It was great to work under such a dedicated & inspiring person... good luck in your new job, Holly.*

◆◆◆◆◆

*Tanya, we hope to see you back @ Tawich ☺... Your hard work, talents & skills have been very much appreciated; wishing you the best in your studies!*

Holly Danyluk, Chief Executive Officer-TDC  
[moving on to a new challenge/job]

Tanya Hughboy, Accounts Payable-TDC  
[taking a temporary leave]



# Tawich Times

Quarterly Newsletter of Tawich Development Corporation

OCTOBER 2020  
VOLUME 4 ISSUE 3

## TAWICH HOLDINGS CORPORATION PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Whatchyak Miswah Wemindji Eeyouch!

Welcome to another issue of our Newsletter.

A big Thank you to all the Tawich staff for their commitment to our organization as we have not altered our work hours as we know that we are providing essential services to the people.

I hope everyone had a great summer and enjoyed the beautiful warm weather. Fall came and now seems winter is amongst us.

I want to mention that our CEO at Tawich Development Corporation, Ms. Holly Danyluk, has decided to move on and accepted a job with Cree Health Board. I want to Thank her for all her hard work in the different roles she engaged at Tawich Development Corporation. I want to wish her all the best in her new endeavour. Good Luck Holly!

I would like to remind everyone to continue working, respecting and following the policies and procedures that are put in place by the public safety department in combatting Covid-19 from infiltrating our beautiful community of Wemindji. Not having any cases in our community to date has shown the vigilant efforts from the citizens of Wemindji and I applaud you, keep in mind that it will be more challenging as we are anticipating the 2<sup>nd</sup> wave. We, at Tawich, will continue enforcing these measures at our local entities to ensure the safety of our clients. All our local businesses will remain in operation to serve the people to warrant that all community members will be able to obtain their everyday needs.

Hope all the kids had a good time Trick or Treating, Happy Halloween to all!

Please continue to take care of each other.

**Brant Blackned  
President  
Tawich Holdings Corporation**

## Public Notice

### CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Our Tawich Administration Office will be closed for the Christmas Holidays from Monday December 21, 2020 to Friday January 1, 2021.

Regular Hours will resume on Monday January 4, 2021.

### REPLACEMENT CALL LIST

The HR department established a replacement call list for individuals who are interested in replacing in Administration, Casual Labour, Janitor and businesses.

If interested, you can submit your name to Shayna by phone:

819-978-3030 or by email: [tdc.hrassistant@tawich.ca](mailto:tdc.hrassistant@tawich.ca)

**Call our receptionist for catalogs (scentsy, etc.)**



## SPECIAL MENTION

Ms. Layla Miniquaken, Receptionist-TDC, stands beside her canvas photograph, which was recently purchased by our Tawich Holdings Corporation's President.

**Awesome talent, Layla!**



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**TAWICH TIMES • OCTOBER 2020 • VOLUME 4 • ISSUE 3**  
**Editor/Graphic Designer:** Judy Coon-Come, Communications and Strategic Manager  
**Associate Editors:** Kerri-Ann Hughboy, Interim Director of Human Resources; Katherine Dehm, Tyler Coonishish, Yanick Hebert, Shalane Tomatuk & Judy Coon-Come  
**Photo Credits:**



# TDC-CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone; I hope you are all enjoying the snow! I would like to address the last few months since COVID hit us back in March. It was a challenging time for us but we pulled through with the support for one another. The businesses that were thrust into a new culture of doing business handled the changes with professionalism the best way they knew how. Our COVID Coordinator was a tremendous help to the Managers where he put in place all protocols to follow. I would like to acknowledge everyone who was part of it all.

We had been quite busy with our operations as well; we kept our doors open to give the support to the essential service businesses as well as keeping our traffic low at the administration building, where we initiated a staggered work schedule for the staff.

Lastly, I would like to inform everyone that I am leaving Tawich to pursue another career opportunity with the CBHSSJB. My time with Tawich Development Corporation and Tawich Construction Inc. the last five years have been rewarding. I learned a lot about the businesses and entities under the Tawich

umbrella and I am grateful for the leadership for trusting me to take on the Chief Executive Officer role.

Our Chairperson, Lee Anne Gilpin, and President, Brant Blackned, are a great support, who have shown great leadership in their positions. I would like also like to acknowledge the board of Directors for their direction and support. The finance and HR staff were a great group to work with and I only want to see success for everyone. I will forever miss everyone and will hope to come to visit the Tawich group often when I come to visit Wemindji. I loved working and living in Wemindji but now, I must pursue a new exciting challenge.

Meegwetch,

**Holly Danyluk**  
TDC-CEO



# Finance Team

Chief Financial Officer  
Controller Accountant  
Accounts Payable Clerk



Payroll Administrator  
Accounting Clerk  
Accounts Receivable Clerk

Marc-André Daoust, Miranda Georgekish, Jacqueline Moses, Hannah Hughboy, Carla Kakabat, Shalane Tomatuk, Paul Dupuis, Lianna Cheezo, Georgette N. Sealhunter, Patricia Georgekish, Devaughan Forrest, Jeannie Visitor & Carrie-Ann Diamond

Our Tawich Finance Team is considered as an 'Essential Service' for the entire Tawich Holdings Corporation, Tawich Development Corporation and its Subsidiaries. This means that they continued working full time during this COVID-19 pandemic.

For that reason...

Chief Financial Officer, Operations Management and Executive Management have decided to recognize their efforts and job well done during these trying times with a Special COVID Premium.

**Congrats TAWICH Finance Team & Keep Up the Good Work!**

# WEMINDJI TOURISM

**Waachiyaakw Misiwaa,**

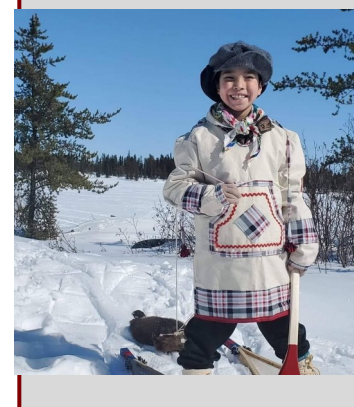
First, I just want to wish everybody good health and I hope most Wemindji families had a successful fall harvest. I just want to give a shout out to all the Cree hunters for providing wild meat to their elders, community members, and families; good job men. I also cannot forget to mention on a greater job to our Cree women for encouraging us to go out on the land/waters and keeping our Eeyou Ituun strong. Many blessing to our Cree Nation, keep the tradition strong and alive!

Secondly, I am here to give Wemindji a short update on Wemindji Tourism...

- ⇒ We will be working on a small project this winter 2020-2021, we are preparing to have a snowshoe trail for community members. I am confident this snowshoe trail project will benefit the community in health wise and keeping active.
- ⇒ Wemindji Tourism will also provide snowshoe rentals for anybody and everybody; stay tuned for low rates on snowshoe rentals.
- ⇒ I encourage community members to provide me with their names and contact information for future training and if anyone is interested in the tourism industry. As for now, due to COVID-19, we will still be vigilant about people coming into Wemindji. Respectfully, we will wait until Cree Nation of Wemindji lets tourists and trainers come into our community.
- ⇒ Until then, I am making sure Wemindji Tourism will be planning for our boat tours, summer & winter packages, and equipment rentals for this coming up New Year. Planning is in progress!
- ⇒ Tourism also have promotional items for sale; hats at \$30.00 each and Thermoses at \$25.00.

Lastly, I want to Thank-You for taking the time to read the Tourism section and I would like to wish everyone a safe and winter season! Please do not hesitate to contact me for any ideas, questions or anything at (819)-978-3030, EXT: 1200, or to make an appointment to meet with me! Agooda.

**Tyler Coonishish**  
Tourism Officer



# WOLFCAMP CORPORATION

We are very happy that Wolfcamp is now testing all workers, as soon as they arrive, at the Newmont Eleonore site.

One hundred percent (100%) of workers, who work at the site, are required to take the test. Thereafter, the workers must retake the COVID-19 test, on their 10<sup>th</sup> day of work, to ensure a safe return to our family, friends, and close relatives.

This very much secures for all of us, as workers, to work in a safe workplace. Furthermore, for people who live in Category 1 region, there is a test just before their departure, which certifies that they are COVID-free so they no longer need to be in self-isolation when they return from work for 14 days; they can directly join their family and close friends, and have a healthier life.

There was a time, at least 3 months or more, it has become difficult for some workers who had to self-isolate and they could no longer get in touch with their family and friends because of their 14-day work schedule and 14-day self-isolation.

Therefore, we thank Newmont for making the Eleonore site a safe place and supporting the workers to make us the quality of work safe and pleasant to work there. We also thank our workers for the really good services that they provide on-site, Eleonore, and also the Camp Cheechoo and Selbaie.

Thank you,

**Yanick Hebert**  
Assistant Director



# HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Wachiya! On November 4, 2020 marked my 1 year since my transfer to the Human Resources Department and it has been quite an overwhelming and eventful journey. I would like to express my appreciation to Teresa and Shayna for being on this journey with me. It has been a challenging time due to making changes to departments and adjusting to the COVID-19 Pandemic but we are confident we will adjust to new transitions.

The COVID-19 Pandemic came in effect on March 2020 and is still on-going as the second wave is anticipated. Here is the statistics with temporary layoffs due to COVID-19 pandemic:

## Tawich Holdings Corporation Employment Employee Statistics

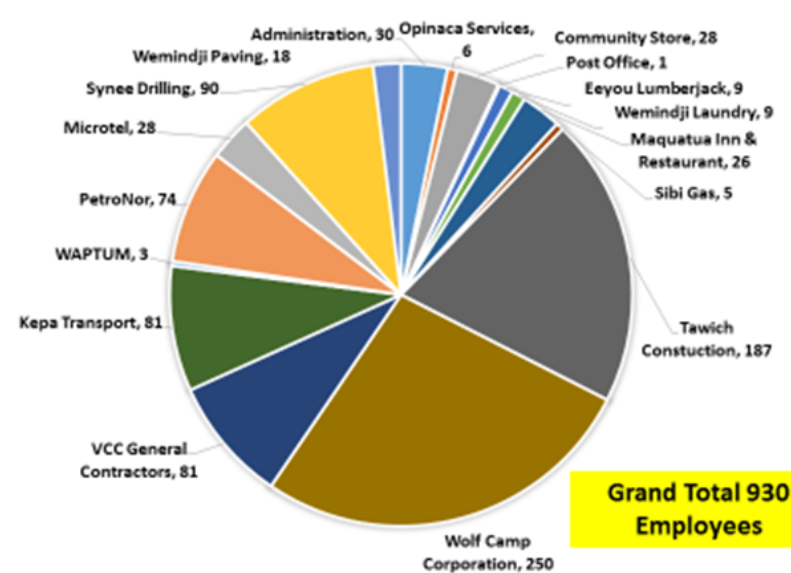
### TEMPORARY LAY OFFS DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

COMPANY	TOTAL LAYOFFS	# OF EMPLOYEES THAT HAVE NOW RETURNED TO WORK
Opinaca Services	6	1
Wemindji Laundry Inc.	8	8
Maquatua Inn	7	3
Wolf Camp Corporation	140	90
Microtel	10	10
Synee Drilling	90	90
Kepa Transport Inc.	2	2
Tawich Construction Inc.	43	17
<b>TOTAL EMPLOYEES</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>221</b>

On behalf of the HR department, I did a presentation with our businesses and subsidiaries at our local CNW General Assembly on September 15, 2020. Here is a copy of the Employee Statistics chart for the year 2019 that I presented:

## Tawich Holdings Corporation Employment Employee Statistics

Department/Company	Total
Administration	30
Opinaca Services	6
Community Store	28
Post Office	1
Eeyou Lumberjack Inc.	9
Wemindji Laundry Inc.	9
Maquatua Inn & Restaurant	30
Sibi Gas	5
Tawich Construction Inc.	187
Wolf Camp Corporation	250
VCC General Contractors	81
Kepa Transport Inc.	81
WAPTUM	3
PetroNor	74
Microtel	28
Synee Drilling	90
Wemindji Paving Inc.	18
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>930</b>



TDC/TBDC hosted its 1<sup>st</sup> Virtual Recognition Awards on October 30, 2020. The Recognition Awards were previously presented at our annual Christmas Banquets and it was decided that we will hold this special event on a separate occasion. Due to COVID-19 Pandemic, our event for this year was virtual and it was on Facebook Live on our Tawich Facebook Page. Here is the list of the employees that were acknowledged for 2020:

### YEARS OF SERVICE

10 years - Brenda Linklater  
 10 years - Rena Natawapineskum  
 20 years - David Bull  
 25 years - Patricia Georgekish  
 30 years - Sharon Atsynia



### EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR 2020

Community Store - Helen Hughboy  
 Maquatua Inn - Benoit Corbeil  
 Wemindji Laundry Inc. - Delores Blackned  
 Sibi Gas - Tyrone Stewart  
 Administration - Kerri-Ann Hughboy  
 Finance - Shalane Tomatuk



Note: Tawich Construction Inc. will have their Recognition Awards within the New Year along with their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Recognition ceremony.

### NEW RECRUITMENT

Mario Theriault, Health & Safety Advisor TDC  
 Cheryl Danyluk – Secretary (temporary) TDC  
 Layla Miniquaken - Receptionist TDC  
 Roselynn Ottereyes-Matches – Server Maquatua Inn  
 Winter Visitor – Administrative Assistant Maquatua Inn  
 Troy Saganash – Stockperson Community Store  
 Benjamin Atsynia, Stockperson (part-time) Community Store  
 Dana Kakabat – Cashier (part-time) Community Store  
 Grant Kakabat – Gas Attendant Sibi Gas  
 Richard Sealhunter – Gas Attendant Sibi Gas  
 Jarrett Mark – Gas Attendant (temporary) Sibi Gas

### PERSONNEL CHANGES

Judy Coon-Come, Communications & Strategic Manager  
 Ann-Marie Mark, Interim-Assistant Manager Community Store  
 Tyrone Stewart, Interim-Manager Sibi Gas  
 Austin Georgekish, Interim-Assistant Manager Sibi Gas

In closing, I would like to acknowledge all of our employees under Tawich Holdings Corporation. Your hard-work and dedication does not go unnoticed. It has been the most challenging and overwhelming year for everyone especially with COVID-19 Pandemic but we'll all get through this together. Stay safe everyone!

**Kerri-Ann Hughboy**  
 Interim-Director of Human Resources

## TAWICH CONTRUCTION INC. / VCC GENERAL CONTRACTOR PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Good Day All,

It is with great pleasure to address all staff, clients and members.

At this time of the year, it is always a challenging time for both our companies, TCI/VCC, with our current situation with COVID-19.

We all had to adjust to make sure we follow the precautionary measures that the Cree Nation of Wemindji has implemented.

I would also like to extend my sincerest appreciation to all our staff for your dedication in make sure the services we provide are delivered.

I believe it is only fitting to thank our Emergency Measures Team for providing and keeping us update on the development of any news concerning COVID-19!

I want to wish everyone a Safe and Enjoyable Holiday Season with family and friends! Let us all make sure we continue to follow all the safety measures that were put in place.

Thank you!!

**Frank Atsynia**  
President  
TCI/VCC



## TAWICH CONSTRUCTION INC. DIRECTOR GENERAL'S MESSAGE

**Waachiyaaahkw Misiwaa,**

On behalf of **Tawich Construction Inc.**, I would like to once again, send greetings to the people of Wemindji and extend greetings to all of Eeyou Istchee.

Firstly, I would like to express my gratitude to all TCI employees for their valuable services over the past years. As you may know, in 2020, Tawich Construction Inc. celebrates its 30th year of operations and would like to attribute the years of success to all current and past employees.

To commemorate our 30<sup>th</sup>, TCI was able to show employee appreciation by hosting two events in the community that complied with the COVID Safety Measures. Although limited to only outdoor activities, we were able to host a community BBQ, where we prepared different types of take away meals and served them by drive thru style, pickups from the TCI offices. Our team worked diligently to make sure the event went off safely and without a hitch. We also hosted a fishing derby to promote family and community involvement that saw our participants win cash prizes. I would like to thank the Administrative staff and hired staff for the hard work and especially to Erica Linklater for leading in the coordination of all the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations.

Also, in this edition of the TAWICH Newsletter, we would like to acknowledge and express our thanks to the summer seasonal team for their services this past year, and at the same time, welcome back our winter maintenance road crews to be rendering essential services for the contracts in our road maintenance department.

Furthermore, in these uncertain times, we, just like everyone else in the industry had to adjust to the COVID Reality. There was a significant drop in volume right across the board, as clients and governments struggled to find safe passage through uncharted waters to keep the economy rolling. The impact was felt province wide and has affected us tremendously; the pandemic forced lower than usual revenue as well as reduction in the employment opportunities that are so important to our local workforce. Nevertheless, TCI remains as one of the top local employers and will stay vigilant to provide these opportunities going forward.

TCI is doing their part to help eradicate the virus by complying and respecting all precautionary measures and protocol concerning COVID-19, we would like to thank our leadership and health professionals for their tireless work for keeping our community safe.

In closing, we would like to express once again our appreciation to all the members, please be safe, wear a mask and have a wonderful winter season.

Meegwetch, Thanks for reading

*Earle Danyluk*

TAWICH CONSTRUCTION INC



## TAWICH CONSTRUCTION INC. 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS!



Once again, it is with great pleasure and pride to announce that the year 2020 marks Tawich Construction's 30<sup>th</sup> year in existence.

### FOUNDER OF TAWICH CONSTRUCTION INCORPORATED

The Late Chief Walter Hughboy and the Council founded Tawich Construction Incorporated in July of 1990. Founding members were the Late Walter Hughboy, the Late Frederick Georgekish, the Late Billy Atsynia, Samuel Gilpin, and the Late Samuel Visitor. To this day, Samuel Gilpin, the only surviving member still sits on the Board of Tawich.

In order to commemorate this milestone, Tawich Construction formed a Planning Committee to implement events and activities throughout the year of 2020 to celebrate our 30 years of service with the community of Wemindji.

Due to the Pandemic COVID-19, our plans were on hold. As some restrictions were slowly lifted, the committee was able to host a community BBQ and a fishing derby; we followed the precautionary measures.

On September 15, we, the committee organized a **Community BBQ** that coincided with the Cree Nation of Wemindji's Annual General Assembly. This being a big event, helpers were hired to assist us in barbecuing and preparation of plates for the drive-thru. I would like to thank the following people: Caroline Matches, Bianca Matches, Danielle Matches, Kyla Visitor, Ashley Matches, Nicholas Visitor, Taylor Mayappo and Floyd Visitor; not to forget the TDC staff that generously helped, as well, Cheryl Danyluk, Wawa Danyluk, Shayna Wesley, and Hilda Asquabaneskum. Also, the TCI employees, Louis Lariviere, David John Matches, Jimmy Kakabat, Nathan Georgekish, and Vincent Morin. A special thanks to Caroline Matches for her ability to coordinate and take charge of the preparation of the plates and to make sure everything was running smoothly, thank you, Caroline.

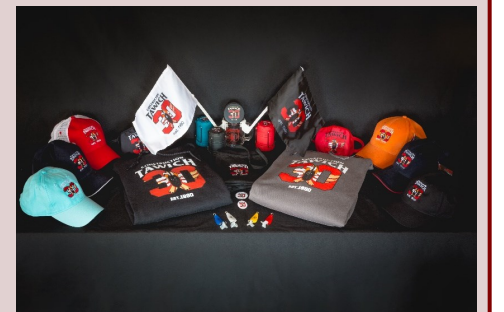


On September 20, we had the **Cod Fishing Derby**. The turnout of fishermen, women, and children was surprisingly amazing considering the weather not looking too promising, it was cold and windy that day. The winners were:

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Youth (12-17) | → 1 <sup>st</sup> place Keaton Atsynia<br>→ Heaviest fish Keaton Atsynia  |
| Women & Men   | → 1 <sup>st</sup> place Richard Hughboy<br>→ 2 <sup>nd</sup> place Caroline Matches<br>→ 3 <sup>rd</sup> place Derek Shanush<br><br>→ Fastest filet Richard Hughboy<br>→ Heaviest fish Caroline Matches |

All the children were given iTunes or PS4 gift cards for their participation.

Souvenirs were handed out during these events. TCI is selling hoodies, at the Administration Building, for \$30 each, there is black and charcoal in different sizes.



### SPECIAL THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT!

Letters were mailed to our vendors, suppliers and clients giving them the opportunity to sponsor/donate to this prestigious event; therefore, we would like to thank the following:

- |                                 |                                 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| HP Hydraulique                  | Sling Choker                    |
| Montreal Tracker                | Robitaille Equipment            |
| Toromont Cat                    | GLS Logistics System Canada Ltd |
| Akran Marketing                 | DRL Beaudoin                    |
| Tawich President Brant Blackned | Wemindji Laundry Inc.           |

### 30th Anniversary Committee:

- |                              |                       |                             |                        |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Jeannie Visitor</i>       | <i>Teresa Danyluk</i> | <i>Aaron Ferris-Osborne</i> | <i>Carla Kakabat</i>   |
| <i>Lianna Cheezo-Visitor</i> | <i>Earle Danyluk</i>  | <i>Wade Atsynia</i>         | <i>Erica Linklater</i> |