

Chief sets sights on new term

Christian Island Band Chief Bernard McCue says he needs a second two-year term to see that projects he started will continue.

Election of a chief and seven councillors will take place on June 22.

McCue, 49, said the production and packaging of charcoal for barbecues is one such current project. Charcoal would be manufactured on the island and packaged at Cedar Point, and discussion is underway with six Northern Ontario Indian Bands to supply the Christian Island Band with charcoal.

The local Band has a new kiln and a prototype package. Negotiation is underway with Canadian Tire and another company, he said. Thirteen or 14 jobs for Band members could result, the chief said.

Meanwhile, the Beckwith Island Development Corporation study of how to make the Band-owned island a source of tourism-related income continues. In the short term, the Band again this year is maintaining the island's two beaches and charging boaters to dock there and picnic.

The Sainte-Marie II archeological research project is into the second of its three years. After that study is completed, preparation of the site as a historic site will begin.

And discussion is underway with a major manufacturer of prefabricated buildings. Cedar Point - the mainland section of the reserve across from the island - could be site of a factory. That idea is not a new idea, Chief McCue said. Twenty-five jobs could be created.



Chief McCue

Broken bones result of a weekend party

The OPP is investigating the circumstances of a fight at a party near Penetanguishene on the weekend.

Huron District Hospital staff called the OPP early Sunday morning after two young men were admitted. One of the young men was diagnosed as having a suspected fractured skull. The other young man had a fractured nose.

Both were under age 18 and from the Toronto area.

In other news from the OPP, a 23-year-old Toronto woman was charged with failing to wear a seatbelt when she fell from a Jeep at 5 p.m. on Saturday.

Tina Britton was a passenger in a Jeep that turned left from Highway

93 into the entrance to the Midland Golf and Country Club. Her injuries were minimal, the OPP said.

Arbitrator requested for cops

Penetanguishene police and councillors, like firefighters and councillors and police and councillors in Midland, can't agree.

A conciliator has been requested to help the two parties come together on details of a new contract for the police officers.

Salary is one of the points of contention, Councillor Don McNee said. He listed a number of other items.

Chinese mail will make its way to MSS penpals

Midland Post office employees can expect a surge of mail to and from the People's Republic of China.

Dozens of 15- and 16-year-old students at YanDao Jie (Street) School in Chengdu, China, want to be penpals with similar age students at Midland Secondary School.

Marg Payne brought with her from China 180 letters addressed to Midland Secondary School students. The YanDao Jie School students were given the names only three days before Marg Payne and her

husband Harvey left to return to Canada.

Harvey Payne is an engineer and Georgian College teacher. He was in China for three months, February through April, teaching management techniques at the China Management Training Centre in Chengdu, through the auspices of the Canadian International Development Agency.

The students were "up and coming" young industrialists and businesspeople selected for special learning.

Since the Communist

"liberation" in 1949, the Communist state has controlled industry. Chinese now need to learn how to recognize markets and do market research, among other things.

Marg Payne is a registered nurse and nursing teacher. She assisted Chinese learning English while she was in China.

Chinese who send a letter to Canadian counterparts are serious about corresponding. In a country where a bicycle is a status symbol for a teenager, postage for a letter to Canada is the equivalent of one-third to one-quarter of a day's salary there. Average monthly income in Chengdu is the equivalent of \$33 Canadian.

The Paynes had been to China once before, three years ago. That letter writing between young Chinese and foreigners is permitted now is an example of the change they saw in Chinese society during their second visit, Payne said.

Questions the YanDao Jie School teenagers are asking MSS students include: Do you watch a lot of television? Do you have problems with your parents? Is there a lot of anti-Japanese feeling in Canada? Do you like Japan?

The Japanese questions were taken by Payne as a reflection of the lingering bitterness in China about the invasion of China by the Japanese during the Second World War.

Because Chinese are

homogenous in appearance, foreigners in China in public still can attract attention, she said. Chinese think of Canadians as being tall, blonde, and blue-eyed. One amusing idea the Chinese have is that break dancing is a widespread activity here. The young Chinese wanted to know the lyrics to modern Western songs, but Marg Payne wasn't of any help.

Chinese are eager to correspond with Canadians for two reasons. They want to learn how Canadians live, and to learn English. "I don't think that I was aware how lucky I am to be an English speaker," Payne said. English is becoming a world language. English is the language people working with computers must have, she said, which is one reason the Chinese want to learn English.

Conversely, English speakers who want to learn another language could do worse than learning Mandarin, the official Chinese language, Payne said. One in four of the Earth's inhabitants are Chinese. More people speak Mandarin than English, she said. Educated Chinese speak Mandarin as well as their regional or local dialect.

Canada must expand its trading position in the

Pacific Rim countries if it is to prosper as an international trader, Payne said.

Although China with 1 to 1.2 billion people is the third largest country in the world, only 11 per cent of it is arable. Chengdu is a city of four million in an area the size of Welland, Ont., in the Red Basin, in south central China. Greater Chengdu has 12 million people.

The Red Basin is one of China's most fertile parts. "Everything imaginable grows there." She compared the Red Basin to a huge market garden, with rice too.



Souvenir of Chengdu

Marg Payne bought this vest for the equivalent of \$4 in Chengdu, China. It's a vest only tourists buy, she said. The symbols of five poisonous creatures are supposed to ward off poisoning.

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