

**Hunt, Deanne**

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**From:** MacDonald, Sheree P.  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 02, 2012 8:01 PM  
**To:** Hunt, Deanne  
**Subject:** FW: Gas sniffing in Natuashish  
Put in file on Natuashish

Thanks  
sheree

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**From:** Andrew, Lyla  
**Sent:** October 2, 2012 1:41 PM  
**To:** Whelan, Jackie; Shallow, Michelle; Lundrigan, Wanda; MacDonald, Sheree P.  
**Subject:** FW: Gas sniffing in Natuashish

Please see below, especially in the context of the round table Thursday. Lyla

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**From:** Andrew, Lyla  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 02, 2012 1:10 PM  
**To:** 'Simeon Tshakapesh'  
**Cc:** kathleen Benuen  
**Subject:** RE: Gas sniffing in Natuashish

Simeon, I think Kathleen and I would both agree with your statements that parents have to be responsible for their own children. It is certainly very clear that you are not personally responsible for other parents' children. Kathleen and I were both at a parents' meeting two weeks back in the church hall, and it was clear the 8 or so parents who attended are trying to act responsibly. They acknowledged they need help and that not just one approach is going to be the answer. There was frustration that not more parents were attending, but we are making plans to try and reach out to more parents, to try and "push" them to be involved in this parent support work. This is hard, very emotional work that needs to be done step by step.

I really believe that Innu have to reinvent and practice Innu parenting ways that will keep children safe and help them develop healthy in the world that you face today. There are huge challenges to this, especially because as you mention your population is increasing so quickly, but I genuinely believe when Innu do come together to decide what a safe and caring Innu community would look like, that you will be able to realize this community step by step. You have listed many steps that have already been taken to show support for families. Now we really have to help parents see that their first and most important job is to parent, to be with their child, to be involved in every part of their child's life, from their earliest age. The parent might be a grandparent or another relative, but every child needs and deserves a caring adult to be their forever parent. To get to the place where every child has an involved parent is a huge challenge to all of us, but I believe it is possible when we all decide this is the shared goal. Lyla

**From:** Simeon Tshakapesh [<mailto:stshakapesh@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 02, 2012 12:27 PM  
**To:** Andrew, Lyla  
**Cc:** kathleen Benuen  
**Subject:** Gas sniffing in Natuashish

Dear lyla,

10/3/2012

It's been nights and days that we been watching young people as 7 sevens years old we're out at nights sniffing gas .. I really think parents got to be out at nights and get their young ones and bring them home. People are telling me that I am responsible bringing their kids home at night.. I got two of my own children too look after too I cannot be parent to all children in Natuashish. There's no way I am going to succeed trying to bring all the kids to their parents..I don;t think I am going to be successful..

Parents got to be involved with their and their safety, But Community can assist them in some way and provide support , but they got to be involved with their children...

Here are some stuff that we did in March 05, 2010 to April !3, 2012

- We build recreation gym for youth.
- We finished five cabins that as started previous council 2008 2010
- We add on treatment centre in border beacon for solvent abuse or any other treatment program
- we have exhausted our core funds trying to tackle the solvent abuse for last two years.
- We also purchased new hockey gear for all children in Natuashish
- we hire new coach from the island and teach kids more ice hockey skills
- we have been running treatment programs for kids
- we have brought wwf wrestlers to keep kids busy at nights with wwf wrestlers and try to keep them sniffing.
- we have trained Innu securities to put them on patrol and look out for solvent abuse at nights.
- Border beacon was later condemn and health commission doesn't want to use it.
- We have tried to fix homes as well and try to deal with mould problem and over crowding families in their homes.
- we have trained Innu in carpentry and heavy equipment operators try to assist them to feel better themselves as parents.
- we have open day care centre as well and try to assist parents while they working MIFN departments.
- Population has triple within last 10 years.. last time I was told our population was well over 900.00 innu people in Natuashish
- we have build church garage into meeting place also the plan was to teach Innu kids in Innu language and we name our centre Nukum-Mani- Shan learning centre.
- We are in process building ten new homes and try to over come shortage of home sin Natuashish
- We are now trying to turn our carpentry shop into youth hall for dances I know it;s not going to solved solvent abuse, but maybe it will prevent one child not getting involved in solvent abuse.
- we will installed arcade games into new rec centre..along with next generations guardians workers again it's not going to solved gas sniffing problem.

Chief Simeon Tshakapesh