



FIRST NATIONS CONNECT CONFERENCE REPORT

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Keewaytinook Okimakanak through the Kuh-ke-nah Network (K-Net) of the Smart First Nations Demonstration Project, in partnership with Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) hosted the *First Nations Connect Conference* on February 11, 12, 13 14, 2002 at the Valhalla Inn in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

The conference was organized to bring stakeholders from throughout the NAN territory together to focus on the ways in which Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) can enhance the programs and services as well as capture economic opportunities in the NAN communities. One of the primary goals of the conference was to begin the process of developing a NAN-wide strategy to link all of the Nishnawbe Aski Nation communities to the Information Highway.

This report contains the results of the conference and the preliminary work undertaken preceding the conference. This report also includes copies of the print materials developed to facilitate this project such as the registration forms, announcements, media releases, posters and media articles and copies of the materials disseminated throughout the conference.

1.1 CONFERENCE COORDINATION

Keewaytinook Okimakanak began the preliminary coordination for the First Nations Connect Conference by choosing the venue and reserving the Ballroom and guest rooms at the Valhalla Inn. A Request for Proposal (RFP) to hire a Conference Coordinator was developed and distributed by Penny Carpenter of Keewaytinook Okimakanak. DKA Marketing of Thunder Bay and Toronto responded to the RFP and was the successful candidate, commencing duties in January, 2002.

An advisory committee, comprised of representatives from Keewaytinook Okimakanak, K-Net and NAN was formed to advise and assist the Conference Coordinator. The committee members were: David Neegan, Brian Beaton, Albalina Metatawabin, Les Meekis, Gordon Kakegamic, Moses Kakekaspan and DKA Marketing (Deborah Krupa and Tammy Stewart). The committee met via telephone conferencing once a week to maintain constant communication and provide progress reports, ensuring open two-way dialogue. The advisory committee became a working committee and the members were instrumental in the overall success of the conference.

DKA Marketing was responsible for all details concerning the planning and facilitation for the event. Tasks included the coordination of the trade show, the sessions, promotion, media releases, travel and hotel arrangements, development of registration forms, the agenda, sponsorship packages, trade show packages, the preparation and delivery of all reports and managing the budgets.

2.0 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Conference Goal:

A major goal of the conference was to identify strategies to bring all the Nishnawbe Aski Nation communities together onto a virtual highway (BROADBAND NETWORK).

The conference was the first step to begin working on a plan for a network that could be modelled by other communities and regions across Canada and around the world.

The conference demonstrated how the proposed network would support new economic opportunities in each First Nation and support new initiatives such as health services using Telehealth technologies and educational services using the Internet. The conference showcased how the network would bring high speed Internet access to Nishnawbe Aski Nation communities, videoconferencing capabilities and other online services thereby improving access in all sectors. For economic development advancements, for example, the network would enable the business sector to access markets around the world, maintain purchases, and inventories in a timely manner and reduce travel expenditures by providing alternative avenues for meetings.

Conference Objectives:

The conference committee developed a number of objectives which are listed below.

1. To inform Nishnawbe Aski Nation Communities about the developments in the Broadband network
2. To facilitate discussion and interest
3. To demonstrate the advantages of the technology
4. To bring together people involved in the technology, those being the providers, funders, and users
5. To encourage the integration of information and communication technologies as a tool to develop a knowledge based economy
6. To communicate the benefits of “Smart” Aboriginal communities
7. To create awareness and to capitalize on the benefits of Information Technologies (IT)
8. To create awareness of government initiatives and strategies for the development of connected communities
9. To share the lessons learned in the development and uses of Information Technology
10. To educate and inform decision makers of the importance of IT and how the technology could be used to preserve history, culture and language
11. To showcase new and innovative products

3.0 PRELIMINARY ACTIVITIES

Keewaytinook Okimakanak began preliminary conference planning activities in December 2001. The venue for the conference was tentatively booked and potential conference sessions were assessed.

DKA Marketing was contracted by Keewaytinook Okimakanak on January 8, 2002 as Conference Coordinator. The advisory committee was established and each of the members were assigned specific areas of focus. The committee met as a group once a week via teleconferencing, but on-going dialogue with individual members and the committee as a whole was carried on throughout the planning stage through telephone and email. The committee as well as the staff of Keewaytinook Okimakanak were actively involved in the planning activities thereby ensuring every opportunity for a successful event.

Agenda & Speakers

One of the first issues in planning was to decide on the appropriate speakers for the conference and to prepare an agenda. DKA Marketing prepared a draft agenda by January 11, 2002. The advisory committee quickly decided on appropriate speakers for the event and they were quickly contacted and confirmed. The agenda was posted on the K-Net website by K-Net Services and was continuously updated to reflect the on-going changes.

It was decided that it would be beneficial for the speakers to be supported by panel members. In order to adhere to the tight schedule of sessions, it was determined that the number of panellists should be kept to a maximum of three (3) members per session.

Sponsored Community Representatives

In order to support the wish to have every NAN community represented at the conference, Keewaytinook Okimakanak advised the communities that they would sponsor one (1) community Representative from each of the 49 Nishnawbe Aski First Nations. Each First Nation was encouraged to send either a First Nations Leader, Administrator or Planner, Project Manager, IT and Telecommunication Resource Person, Local Champion, Public Works Manager, Business and Economic Development Leader, Health Care and Education Managers or Developers.

Although only one representative could be sponsored, the communities were vigorously encouraged to send more than one delegate.

In addition to these delegates, it was also announced that NAN would sponsor tribal council representatives to attend the conference. Nishnawbe Aski Nation sponsored four (4) delegates from each of the tribal council areas as well as one (1) delegate from the Independent First Nations. NAN's intent was to have the sponsored delegation from each tribal council comprised of an elder, a youth representative, a women's representative and a local champion in the IT industry.

Generating Interest

To publicize the event, each of the Nishnawbe Aski First Nation communities were contacted via the telephone at each band office to inform them of the up-coming conference and to supply registration forms for community representatives to complete. A background memo was also included in the fax-out.

The memo informed the Band Offices that the Kuh-ke-nah Network (K-Net) Smart First Nations Demonstration project would host the Nishnawbe-Aski Nation Information Technology Conference February 11 to 14, 2002 in Thunder Bay. The memo also explained that the conference would be the venue where Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) resource people could share and discuss strategies and leading edge technology solutions with the leaders and decision makers of the communities.

In addition, the memo also advertised the conference website address.

Follow up phone calls were conducted by the staff at K-Net Services to those communities that did not respond to further encourage their participation. Confirmation phone calls were placed to the majority of registered delegates by DKA Marketing.

Travel Arrangements

DKA Marketing contacted Bearskin Airlines to arrange a conference rate for delegates travelling by air. A conference code was provided to the delegates on the registration forms. Delegates were responsible for their own travel arrangements, however, some delegates did contact DKA Marketing to make alternative travel arrangements with other air carriers. The community representatives that were travelling by car to the conference were reimbursed for their mileage. One community representative travelled to the conference via the Greyhound Bus.

Hotel Arrangements

One of the first priorities for DKA Marketing was to finalize the hotel arrangements with the Valhalla Inn. Upon the initial contact with the hotel, it was discovered that the

venue was no longer secured and DKA Marketing and the Keewaytinook Okimakanak office moved quickly to confirm the necessary conference rooms and guest rooms.

DKA Marketing also secured the Odin room for the conference office and the cloak room for the Internet Café which was provided by the hotel at no additional charge.

DKA Marketing also secured the block of hotel rooms (70). All of the blocked rooms were utilized and the Valhalla Inn was unable to accommodate extra delegates who registered for the conference after the “cut-off” date. Alternative arrangements were made at the Airline Travelodge Hotel for the overflow of delegates. Both the Valhalla Inn and the Airline Travelodge Hotel were informed that the Keewaytinook Okimakanak delegates were to charge meals to their room. The community representatives at the Valhalla Inn were given an information slip when they checked into their rooms. The information slip provided the details of what charges were being paid for by conference organizers, which included evening meals and hotel room rate. Telephone calls, alcoholic beverages and other additional expenses would be the delegates responsibility.

Coffee breaks, breakfasts and lunches were also ordered for the conference upon approval from the advisory committee.

Sponsors & Trade Show

A sponsorship package was prepared by the Conference Coordinator but due to the short time frame (less than one month) before the conference, there was not enough time to undertake an aggressive sponsorship campaign. However, Brian Beaton of K-Net and DKA Marketing contacted a number of potential sponsors. Brian was able to secure two (2) sponsors and DKA Marketing secured two. The sponsors for the conference were: Bell Canada, Hydro One Remote Communities, Telesat Canada and Plato Learning Inc.

Trade show packages were also prepared. The trade show participants were: Nishnawbe Aski Nation, Keewaytinook Okimakanak, Aboriginal Business Service Network, Nishnawbe Aski Development Fund (NADF), Bill Guiboche (Native artist), Oshki-Pimache-O-Win Education and Training Institute, Education Network of Ontario and Plato.

***See appendix 2 for sponsorship/trade show packages*

AV and Technical Equipment

Numerous AV and technical equipment items were ordered for the conference. These included: 2 flip charts, microphones, extensions, screens, projector, mixer, and house system. Thunder Bay Telephone supplied 3 ISDN lines with NT1 termination & Internet Access. K-Net Services supplied: video conference unit, projector,

microphones and extensions, VCR, computers, RCA cords, digital video camera, mini DV tapes, tripods, hubs, ethernet cables and connector ends, multimedia computer, flashcard reader, firewire connector, laptop, printer, powerbars and extension cords.

Media Relations

The media relations campaign started with the first media release developed by DKA Marketing. DKA Marketing supplied the staff at K-Net Services with a media fax-out list. The release was reviewed and approved by the advisory committee and was faxed out on January 24 to over 30 media groups across the country. K-Net Services posted the media release on the website.

As a result of the release, the Thunder Bay Chronicle Journal ran an article about the conference on Sunday, February 10, 2002. In addition, the radio station in Kenora interviewed the conference chair (David Neegan) and Wawatay ran a major feature.

An invitation to a press conference scheduled for 10:30 am, Thursday, February 14 was faxed out to over 30 media groups on February 8, 2002. The invitation contained a line which stated that “two major announcements focussing on Information and Communication Technology advances in the Nishnawbe Aski territory would be made”.

DKA Marketing placed follow-up phone calls to the local Thunder Bay media on February 12, 2002. Thunder Bay Television News and the Chronicle Journal Times News confirmed their attendance at this time.

A Media Kit was prepared by DKA Marketing for the news conference. The kit contained two media releases. One was prepared by DKA Marketing and the other was prepared by Brian Beaton of K-Net.

The news conference was held with all the conference delegates in attendance. Presenters included NAN Grand Chief Stan Beardy, Geordi Kakepetum of Keewaytinook Okimakanak, Brian Beaton of K-Net and Paul Bush from Telesat Canada. Media in attendance included the Chronicle Journal newspaper, CBQ Radio, Wawatay, Northern Ontario Business, CKPR Radio and Thunder Bay Television.

Following the conference, DKA Marketing prepared a media release that was faxed to the media groups that were unable to attend the news conference.

In addition, Contact North also prepared and distributed a news release dated February 11, 2002.

***Note: see appendix 1 for all media releases.*

4.0 CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

All the conference documentation, presentation and video clips can be found on-line at <http://smart.knet.ca/conference>. Of course, having access to broadband services makes it much easier to view all these large files and video sessions.

4.1 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2002

Activities on the first day of the conference commenced in the evening with early registration conducted in the Ballroom at 7:30pm and the “Meet & Greet” reception which started at 8:00pm. Approximately 40 delegates attended.

The conference committee and Conference Coordinator team spent the majority of the day leading up to the opening events setting up the trade show area, testing the technical equipment, completing the binders and handouts for the delegates and handling last minute details.

4.2 TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2002

The Day's Conference Theme: Building Smart Applications

The morning started with a breakfast buffet in the Valhalla Ballroom at 8:00am. Registration was taken as the delegates and participants entered. A sign-in sheet was at the front table just outside of the ballroom and delegates were instructed to sign in each day before entering the conference.

4.2.1 SESSION 1: SMART COMMUNITIES

- 9:00 Les Meekis was the Master of Ceremonies for the first full day of the conference. Opening prayers were given by Fred Kakegamic, an elder for Keewaytinook Okimakanak. Geordi Kakepetum, executive director of Keewaytinook Okimakanak provided the introductory remarks.
- 9:15 Ken Thomas, special advisor to Matthew Coon Come, AFN was the Keynote Speaker. Mr. Thomas stated that K-Net was the pioneer in the true broadband communications. Other highlights from Mr. Thomas speech were:
- to expand K-Net to all of NAN and onward to Alberta, Quebec and the rest of Canada to form a **National First Nation Network** that will use

the broadband technology

- the *National broadband Task Force* pulled together 37 of the top telecommunication executives to make Canada the most connected Country in the world by 2004
- K-Net Representative, Brian Beaton as well as Mr. Thomas, were part of the *Task Force* and together made First Nations Connectivity the number one priority for the *Task Force*
- Mr. Thomas initiated and negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding between Telesat Canada and AFN, whereby Telesat would design a hybrid National Broadband solution for First Nation Communities all across Canada. Telesat is a leader in satellite communications specifically broadband technologies
- only one third of First Nations are in a location to access fibre optics, hence two thirds will require a satellite solution
- Telesat Canada has developed 2 separate channels, one for high speed Internet access and the other for videoconferencing
- Matthew Coon Come is a strong supporter for the National First Nations Network
- with the recent threat of recession looming, connectivity has had to take a back seat, however, with an incremental approach, it is possible to build the National Network by working with existing agencies

10:30 **Overview of Smart Initiatives**

Brian Beaton with K-Net Services, along with George Kakekaspan of Fort Severn gave a brief overview of the smart initiatives. Highlights of Mr. Beaton's speech are:

- the vision and leadership of the KO Chiefs has made K-Net a success
- Broadband means jobs therefore it is vital that First Nations take advantage of the opportunities
- Brian outlined the 9 steps of growth for K-Net services, those being
 1. Capacity building - acquiring the human resources and training required
 2. Local area networks - having the infrastructure and cables to

3. make it happen
 3. Email and personal accounts - was the starting point for K-Net services and having a presence on the web
 4. Community access - working with Industry Canada using the community access program to have public access points in each of the communities
 5. Website utilization - First Nations web sites are leading the way in the area of site design
 6. Help desk services - acquired the help desk program since 1996 for education for online First Nations educational programs
 7. Network Design
 8. Affordable Network Access - keeping the costs down
 9. Growth in Digital Services - there will never be enough band width therefore growth in this sector is continuous
- Smart Project - Kuh-ke-nah means “everyone” in Oji-Cree. It is important to share the initiatives in all communities in order to make it sustainable. These initiatives are: e-Centres in each First Nation; very high speed connectivity; skills development in ICT’s; Keewaytinook Internet school (KiHS); develop & support Telehealth services; data warehouse, become self sustaining

After the first session was completed, there was a scheduled half hour coffee break that was sponsored by Hydro One Remote Communities.

4.2.2 Session 2: *ICT in Everyday Life*

11:00 The primary speaker for session 2 was Marlene McKay, KiHS online language teacher. The panel members were Raymond Meekis and George Kakekaspan (via videoconferencing) from Fort Severn.

Marlene began by providing a brief overview of the success of the students who attend the online school. Marlene also stated that technology is becoming a reality in First Nations and there is a need for training in this area. Youth as well as adults can complete their education online. Highlights of Marlene’s presentation are:

- computer technology is a useful tool in teaching the youth their Native language and culture
- technology enables teaching of survival teachings: for example, building canoes, snowshoes, survival in the bush, smoke signals, etc.
- viewed classrooms that currently participate in online teachings
- the Internet has enabled students to stay in the communities
- children are using the Internet as a learning tool

Luncheon Speaker

After the morning session was completed, there was a served lunch for the delegates and a Guest Speaker, Rahil Khan who is the Project Officer for the Smart Communities with Industry Canada.

Highlights of Mr. Khan's speech are:

- the smart communities program is an innovative program that demonstrates the use of ICT for community economic, social and cultural development
- exposure to international competition as information and communication technologies are used to create a truly global marketplace
- ICT can be used to strengthen economic and social foundations and to market local goods and services nationally and internationally
- "Smart Communities" is at the top of connectivity and the foundation of a Knowledge Based Economy
- the 12 Smart Demonstration Projects represent 100 communities, 1.9 million citizens, 92 new online services and 240 partners
- success involves a coalition between private and public sectors
- business leaders play a leading role as catalysts and brokers for the vision and strategic direction
- use existing technologies if possible
- plan for sustainability

4.2.3 SESSION 3: ICT & HEALTH

1:00 The primary speaker for the third session was Orpah MacKenzie, the KO Health Director. The panel members for the Telehealth demonstration were John Rowlandson, Dr. Claudette Chase and Laurie Sherrington. Rosalie Davis from Shibogama Health and Julie Meekis, North Spirit Lake Telehealth Coordinator also joined the panel.

Orpah started her presentation by thanking all those involved with the development of the Telehealth project in the Keewatinook Okimakanak region. Orpah stressed the point that with *enough broadband, anything is possible*.

She then went over the major issues that were raised by community members during the inception of Telehealth. The biggest concerns were location and disruption of existing services - where were they going to put the telemedicine suite and were they going to lose existing onsite medical personnel. Other

concerns were: privacy, security, sustainability, local coordination and staffing and the effect on local health transportation services. Orpah then talked about the Telepsychiatry Pilot Project. The project goals were:

- maximize access to professional services for isolated communities through the use of videoconferencing
- minimize the disruption to clients
- utilize and enhance the capabilities and skills of community support persons in terms of overall care of clients
- determine whether this method of mental health intervention is less expensive than the traditional face-to-face process

The evaluation for this project is expected to be completed in March.

The next topic was project planning. Orpah stated that there were four (4) requirements to make Telehealth successful:

1. Planning
2. Communication
3. Team work - people committed to make it happen
4. Money - Health Canada

John Rowlandson, the Project Manager for KO Telehealth, also spoke about the progress in Telehealth services and the project that he manages. The goal of this project is:

1. To improve health services in each community
2. Reduce isolation for health staff
3. Improve access to specialists
4. To demonstrate how Telehealth can be delivered through the Kuh-Ke-Nah Network

Telehealth will enable the scheduling of appointments, ordering technology, training staff and renovation of Telehealth rooms. Telehealth session will be scheduled and supported by local Telehealth coordinators and will be a private connection between a health care provider and the patient. Most sessions will be conducted through videoconferences and will be delivered on the Kuh-Ke-Nah Network.

The Demonstration

Delegates found the Telehealth demonstration very exciting. Dr. Claudette Chase was at the conference and was viewing a patient's ear via videoconferencing. The delegates were able to see inside the ear thanks an otoscope and the broadband capabilities. Dr. Chase examined a patient's ear located in Balmertown with the assistance of Rita Wassaykeesic (Poplar Hill's

Telehealth Coordinator). Dr. Chase was also able to examine an x-ray in order to determine if there was a fracture in a hand and make the appropriate diagnosis.

4.2.4 SESSION 4: ICT & EDUCATION

The guest speaker for the fourth session was Lynda Kakepetum the KiHS Counsellor. The Panel members for this group were Marlene McKay and Madeleine Stoney. A video conference link with the KiHS classroom in Keewaywin had the teacher (Darrin Potter), students and community members in attendance as well.

- 2:00 Lynda informed the delegates that the KiHS is the only private high school approved by the Ministry of Education as an Internet high school in Ontario. Highlights of the presentation include:
- there are two (2) KiHS offices, main office in Balmertown and a secondary office in Sioux Lookout
 - the principal's office is in Sandy Lake
 - presently there are six (6) classrooms
 - a) Frenchman's head - Native Language teacher - Marlene McKay
 - b) Kejick Bay - teacher - Carla Bowls
 - c) Keewaywin - Science teacher - Dan Potter
 - d) Slate Falls - Math teacher - Julie Roll
 - e) Cat Lake - Geography teacher - Jeremy Schneider
 - f) Fort Severn
 - the students are not on the computer all day, they participate in group activities as well as individual work
 - art work is submitted by digital camera and sent to the teacher via email

Marlene McKay presented an example of a book that a student designed. The book was written and illustrated in Native Language class. The student designed a PowerPoint presentation of the book using the illustrations that had been scanned and she narrated the story herself.

4.2.5 SESSION 5: ICT & NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE

The guest speaker for this session was Dan Pellerin, the Network Manager for KO. The panel members were Peter Campbell and Angus Miles. The video conference link with the Poplar Hill e-Centre had several community members watching the discussions at the conference.

3:30 Dan's presentation focussed on the Smart Initiative of Broadband Network Infrastructure. Highlights of the presentation include:

- describing how a network is developed
- the steps involved in building a community network and then creating a wide area network (WAN)
- benefits of a network
- various costs of hardware in maintaining a network
- best practices
 1. Training local people
 2. Partnerships
 3. Choosing the right company for community planning
 4. Communication with community leaders and champions
 5. Start with small endeavours
 6. Plan for time delays
 7. Share resources and knowledge with other groups
 8. Get to know your funders and backers
 9. Build long term relationships
 10. Let the communities take ownership - have community consultations, have them decide how they want to use the technology
- The most important portion of any network is the people

Dan then described how the KO network has evolved over the past several years as it relates to the NAN region. Dan talked about the various communities that are now part of the KO network, including Slate Falls, Shibogama, Windigo, Fort Hope, Sandy Lake, Toronto, Ottawa, etc. The partners that were involved in the Community Development project were:

- FedNor
- Northern Ontario Heritage Fund
- Industry Canada, IHAD programs (Smart Communities, CAP, Schoolnet)
- Telecommons Development Group
- Education Network of Ontario
- many other private sector groups (Bell, Telesat, GE Capital, Adcom, etc)

At the end of the presentation, Les Meekis concluded the day and Fred Kakegamic spoke about the importance of these communication tools and then he performed the closing prayer.

4.3 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2002

Conference Theme for the Day: Building Smart First Nations

The morning started with a breakfast buffet in the Valhalla Ballroom at 7:15am. Registration was taken as the delegates and participants entered. A sign-in sheet was at the front table just outside of the ballroom and delegates were instructed to sign in each day before entering the conference.

Peter Campbell was the MC for the Wednesday, February 13 sessions. Fred Kakegamic opened the conference with the morning prayer and Geordi Kakepetum provided the introductory remarks, emphasizing the need to share experiences and information so all the First Nations can benefit from these communication tools.

The Keynote speaker was Grand Chief Stan Beardy of Nishnawbe Aski Nation. Highlights of Mr. Beardy's keynote address included:

- it is important for Nishnawbe Aski Nation to improve communications and build connections and networks inside and outside NAN territory
- everyone has been affected by ICT
- this technology has been able to break down barriers and allows information to travel quickly and lets people meet face-to-face over thousands of miles
- we must embrace this technology to secure our place in the development of Canada and the world
- we missed out on the industrial revolution and but will participate in the communications revolution
- we must use the technology to craft sustainable development and economic growth
- recognize and support initiatives and share knowledge
- Nishnawbe Aski Nation Executive has a mandate from the NAN Chiefs to pursue Internet Communications Technology and assist in ensuring high speed broadband connectivity for all NAN First Nations

4.3.1 SESSION 6: ICT & FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITIES

9:20 Les Meekis, the Community Manager for KO was the guest speaker for session six (6). The panel members included Raymond Mason, Darlene Rae, Madeleine Stoney and Helen Aitken. Les provided the delegates with an overview of the workshops that the KO Smart Team in partnership with TeleCommons Development Group (Helen Aitken) has provided its members. The workshops identified how each First Nations could measure and verify changes that have occurred as a result of the introduction of ICT in the community; provide the e-Centre staff with the planning tools to assess training needs and track how the knowledge and skills improved using the technology. Other highlights of the presentation were:

- other First Nations are now starting to share stories, pictures and other information about their people, businesses, land etc. as a result of the

- technology
- the technology is creating opportunities
- ICT is changing the way First Nations can receive and deliver services
- they are currently in the preparation stages of developing business plans and marketing strategies to sustain the benefits gained from ICT for the future of the people

Darlene Rae presented a “Sharing Lessons Learned” segment with a videoconferencing session from the North Spirit Lake E-Centre with Chief Issac Linklater. The presentation highlighted the first family and elder videoconferencing sessions that took place as well as the first home to have Internet access. She also talked about the North Spirit Lake e-Centre logo and demographic profiles of First Nations.

After the completion of session 6, there was a networking coffee break for 30 minutes.

4.3.2 SESSION 7: *ICT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT*

11:00 Harvey Yesno, the President and CEO of Nishnawbe Aski Development Fund was the guest speaker for session seven (7). Harvey emphasized that because most of the NAN communities are remote, the connectivity will more beneficial in terms of communications and services than that in urban areas. There are four (4) required partners for economic development success:

1. Government
2. First Nations communities
3. Businesses
4. Aboriginal organizations

There are challenges that northern and remote communities face, these being:

- distance from markets
- access to business support
- infrastructure
- unemployment levels
- access to training opportunities and
- lack of financial services

Connectivity can overcome these challenges by the development of online applications. Some of these applications are:

- networking tools like bulletin boards and chat areas
- interactive planners and sample business plans
- community success stories and studies
- virtual network computing (VNC)

- online training
- online databases
- secondary research
- real time inventory management
- education
- virtual chamber of commerce
- aboriginal buying circle
- credit unions

Videoconferencing can be a very powerful tool. Some uses include:

- training
- presentation of business ideas
- business counselling
- reduces travel costs

Harvey also spoke about the Economic Development Officer Network. The goals and objectives for the EDO Network are:

- Information sharing among EDOs
- Accessibility to online applications and tools
- Compatible software among EDOs
- Increased familiarity with advanced technology and future applications

There are opportunities, these being:

1. Buy into the K-Net Network
2. Access current government funding programs
3. Acquire the required local infrastructure

4.3.3 SESSION 8: ICT & COMMUNITY PLANNING

David Neegan, Business Development and Marketing for KO was the guest speaker for the eighth session. Mike Belliveau and Mitchell Diabo from FedNor, along with Wally Bannon from NADF were panel members.

11:30 David's presentation explained the operational responsibilities of the e-Centres in the communities. In each e-Centre there is a manager who is responsible for the management and operation of the centre, a computer technician who maintains and repairs equipment, and a multi-media technician who generates all web products. Other highlights of the presentation were:

- the e-Centre is the focal point of ICT in communities and is community driven

- two potential revenue generating avenues to cover operational expenditures were presented:
 1. Monies generated from the community service providers (existing and new ones)
 - a) Health
 - b) Education
 - c) Band office
 - d) ISP services
 - e) Cable service
 - f) SME's
 2. Dollars generated from outside the community delivering services such as:
 - a) Consulting
 - b) Graphic Design
 - c) SME's

A Business Case

There have been opportunities resulting from broadband access:

- Jobs - network maintenance, web design, content management, ISP, sales and service
- Education - capacity building, online training
- Information/services - research, sharing
- Business growth and development

When considering a broadband business there are many things to consider:

- Who is the customer - health, education, band, NAPS, residences, small business?
- Where will operating funding come from - Health, education, band, sale of product and services, ISP, consulting/contract - web content?
- How to make it happen - through community champions & partners, capacity building
- Strategic considerations - profit centre approach, partners outside the community, qualifications
- Other resources - computers for schools & student connections, ABSN for research, appropriate websites

There are also challenges to consider such as:

- Building capacity ASAP
- Leveraging the modest market base
- Raising awareness in SME's of the importance of ICT to their

- success
- Planning for change
- Sustainability in all communities

Luncheon Speakers

After the completion of session 8, the group broke for lunch. The lunch was sponsored by Bell Canada. There were also two guest speakers for the lunch session. Gordon Kakegamic, NAN Telecom Technician and Jacques Drouin, the Manager of Connectivity for Industry Canada.

Mr. Drouin was the first speaker and presented a PowerPoint presentation about Broadband connectivity. The most important message was:

- The Nation's vision is "make the information and knowledge infrastructure accessible to all Canadians, thereby making Canada the most connected nation in the world"

Gordon Kakegamic presented information about NAN's Telecommunication strategy/proposal and introduced NAN's poster encouraging First Nations to develop plans to access broadband telecom infrastructure for their community.

4.3.4 SESSION 9: ICT & WOMEN AND YOUTH

Madeleine Stoney, Fort Severn First Nation's e-Centre manager was the guest speaker for session 9. Panel members were Darlene Rae and Jesse Fiddler.

2:00 Madeleine gave a presentation on how ICT is being used to improve the livelihood of local women and youth. ICT has had positive influence on the children. It has developed computer skills, developed search engine skills, word processing applications, hardware & software skills, online research and web navigation. It is also a source of entertainment. The children enjoy visiting disney.com to discover the latest video releases. They download music and have learned how to operate a cd burner. It has also improved their English grammar as well as supporting the children to keep in touch with family members and friends. Other technological equipment and skills the children have learned to operate include: webcams, html software for web design, programs, troubleshooting, scanners, email and digital cameras.

Women have furthered their education online, taking university courses, using the Internet for crafts and home design, research, shopping, entertainment and women's issues, etc.

K-Net offers email, homepages and chat rooms. There have been 3525 active

email accounts since September 2001, 629 active homepages, 450,000 hits per month on the MYKNET.ORG homepages and an average of 15 new homepages per day. The K-Net portal is presently experiencing over a million and half hits per month. The chat rooms average 50 users on-line at any one time during the day. The chats are primarily used for socializing, peer counselling, sharing community news and messages and KiHS school. K-Net is currently working on Instant Messaging System, better services for homepages (photo galleries & guest books) and other services that would benefit the end users.

Discussions are taking place where K-Net can partner with NAN to develop a Youth Development Website. The website would deliver:

- NAN youth news
- NAN youth chat and forums
- Online Leadership training
- Youth council board training
- Youth council support materials

After session nine (9) was completed, there was a networking coffee break that was sponsored by Telesat Canada.

4.3.5 SESSION 10: ICT & GOVERNMENT FUNDING PROGRAMS & GOVERNMENT ONLINE

Rob Stinchcombe, the area manager of FedNor, was the guest speaker for session ten (10). The panel members were Carl Seibel of FedNor and Wally Bannon of Aboriginal Business Canada.

Rob spoke about the investment and priority that FedNor is making in developing the required telecom infrastructure to deliver broadband connectivity in Northern Ontario. There were some risks involved in moving in this direction but the economic and social spin-offs are proving to be a major benefit for developing new economic initiatives across the region. Carl provided an interesting (and innovative) way to explain broadband and the relationships involved in building and developing these services across the region. Wally spoke about the type of investments that Aboriginal Business Canada is making in these types of ICT-based operations.

- 3:00 Mathew Chan from INAC's Government On-line initiative provided an update on the work being done to make government services available on-line. The government online initiative's goal is to have a centrally coordinated online government which is collaborative across departments and agencies and

across jurisdictions, involving private and not-for-profit sectors. Government services online are meant to be convenient, accessible, consistent, responsive private and secure. The Canada site which has coexisting gateways and clusters are to have a common look and feel, secure channel and Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) and language choices.

The First Nations and Inuit Transfer Payment Project online is meant to assist in developing business and services standards and stream line the back end business processes. Services will include:

- applications for and approval of funding
- scheduling and adjustment of cash requirements
- transfer of funds
- reporting - financial and non-financial

This online service is to provide a single-window venue for payments and reporting for the transfer of government funds to eligible recipients.

Online resources create opportunities, such as:

- potential for sharing and exchanging ideas
- creating networks
- used as a tool to maintain connections between communities
- cost-effective delivery to certain services to remote communities
- method of preserving culture and making culture accessible to those who have moved off reserve
- potential for economic development
- improvement of government business processes and services delivery to citizens

Fred Kakegamic performed the closing prayer for the day.

Evening Session

An informal and optional evening session (re-scheduled from the previous day) was presented to interested persons in the Odin Room by Helen Aitkin of Telecommons Development Group. Ms. Aitkins presented slide show entitled "ICTs in other developing countries" which highlighted the work of Telecommons to bring ICT access and education to people in places such as Pakistan, Bolivia, etc.

4.4 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2002

Conference Theme of the Day: Planning Our Future

The morning started with a breakfast buffet in the Valhalla Ballroom at 7:30am. Registration was taken as the delegates and participants entered. A sign-in sheet was at the front table just outside of the ballroom and delegates were instructed to sign in each day before entering the conference.

Geordi Kakepetum was the MC for the final day sessions. Fred Kakegamic opened the conference with the morning prayer and Geordi Kakepetum provided the introductory remarks. Geordi discussed the work that went into developing and supporting all the partners involved in building the Kuh-ke-nah Network.

Geordi invited elder Jeremiah McKay (former chief of Kasabonika and a former board member of Keewaytinook Okimakanak) to address the audience. Peter Campbell translated for Jeremiah. Jeremiah spoke about the importance of working together and using these communication tools carefully.

Keynote Address

The Keynote speaker was Paul Bush, Vice President, Corporate Relations, Telesat Canada.

Telesat has over 30 years in the Satellite Industry, employs 530 people, has seven (7) generations of satellites and offers a broad range of services throughout North and South America. The head office and satellite control are located in Ottawa.

Smart Communities and Telesat have created a partnership because satellite services are cost efficient, reliable, versatile and universal. One satellite dish offers a host of services, including: Internet connection, music, training, inventory control, etc.

Numerous multimedia applications are currently being provided via satellite:

- SchoolNet
 1. Connect all Canadian schools to the Internet
 2. Enhance Internet access through caching technology
 3. High speed interactivity to/from schools
- Distance Learning
- Telemedicine
 1. Specialist diagnosing problems
 2. Avoiding long distance travel for standard consultations
- Online Government services
- Smart Communities

1. Business applications
 2. Government services
 3. Telemedicine
 4. Telelearning
 5. Regional focus
 6. High speed Internet access to remote communities
 7. Videoconferencing
- SOHO (small office, home office)
 1. High speed Internet access
 2. Videoconferencing
 3. IP telephony
 4. Streaming video

Telesat's Research and Development partners include:

- Communications Research Centre
- Industry Canada
- Canadian Space Agency
- CANARIE
- European Space Agency
- Telemedicine Tetra
- Futureworks

The National Broadband Task Force had three recommendations, that Paul highlighted: 1. All Canadian communities should have broadband by 2004; 2. First Nations, rural and remote communities should have priority and 3. Linking 2-3 institutions in a community to aggregate demand and share in the ongoing operational costs.

4.4.1 SESSION 11 *TAKING THE INFORMATION HOME*

David Paul Achneepineskum, Executive Director of NAN, was the speaker for the final session. Stan Beardy, Geordi Kakepetum and Harvey Yesno were panel members for the first part of the session. Mr. Achneepineskum gave a synopsis of the conference sessions providing some of the highlights he learned from each session. Some of these highlights included:

- True broadband - the ability to export as much information as you import
- Leadership and strong support has made it all possible
- This technology preserves culture and language
- Keeps the children at home
- Health & education

- Opportunities for employment
- NAN supports this technology and will provide support
- Broadband deadline has been moved to 2005, in light of Sept. 11
- The government is willing to take the risk required together and they are looking for results and partnerships
- The government is moving to have all programs and services online

News Conference

Two (2) major announcements were held in the final session during the news conference. The first announcement was that K-Net has developed a new partnership with Industry Canada and Telesat. The result of this is that Telesat has made two channels on it's new Anik F3 available for the federal government to use to serve public institutions in remote areas of Canada. In advance of this launch, Telesat has made one C-band channel available on the existing Anik E2 satellite. This means that remote communities have the opportunity for better services and applications that will put them at par with their urban counterparts. They will have equitable and affordable access to the bandwidth needed to receive high speed data services such as Telehealth, SchoolNet, Internet access and business applications.

The second announcement was that Nishnawbe Aski Nation has become a leader in connecting rural and remote communities with broadband. Because of the advances that have been made in connectivity and the broadband network, NAN will be a model to be followed by other communities and regions across Canada and around the world.

A coffee break was scheduled at 10:15 as the local media arrived for the news conference. Thunder Bay Television News, the Chronicle Journal Times News, CKPR radio, CBC and Northern Ontario Business were in attendance.

4.4.1 SESSION 11 *TAKING THE INFORMATION HOME* (final portion)

David Paul Achneepineskum, Executive Director of NAN, was the facilitator for the final portion of this session. He invited a community leader (Moses Kakekaspan), a woman's rep (Margaret Lawson), a youth rep (Madeleine Stoney) and an elder (Hatie Luke) to join Stan Beardy and Geordi Kakepetum on the panel. Each member of the panel then spoke about their experience with ICTs in their own environment and about the information they will be taking home to their communities from the conference.

After each panel member shared their stories, Geordi invited the members of

the audience to share their experiences about the conference. Several people addressed the group, sharing their appreciation for the opportunity to come together and learn about these new communication tools.

The conference ended with elder, Fred Kakegamic's closing prayer.

5.0 SURVEYS

There were two(2) surveys for the delegates to complete. The first was a conference evaluation and the second a brief questionnaire regarding bandwidth. **See appendix 4 for samples of the surveys as well as detailed results and tabulations.

Evaluation Survey

The evaluation form was prepared to determine the satisfaction level of the delegates who attended the conference session. Overall, the delegates were generally satisfied with all aspects of the conference. The “ICT & Health session” was the best rated session. All of the delegates were impressed with the guest speakers and keynote speakers. The majority of the delegates felt that the organization of the conference was done well and the conference binders were also well received. The majority of the delegates were very pleased with the hotel service that they received. Not all of the delegates rated the evening session because it was optional and not all delegates attended; however those who did were satisfied with the session. Most of the delegates were satisfied with their travel arrangements and with the reimbursement process. Finally, 98% of the delegates thought that the information provided at the conference would be useful.

Limitations

There were limitations with regards to the results of the survey. Not all the delegates who were in attendance completed an evaluation form. Not all of the questions on the evaluation form were answered. There was one survey that could not be included in tabulations. Some of the delegates did not attend all the sessions.

The Community IT Capacity Survey - (delivered by K-Net)

Brian Beaton, K-Net Services developed an information gathering survey to determine the ICT needs and knowledge level of the delegates and community members attending the conference. The survey was distributed during the final day of the conference and delegates were encouraged to complete the survey. Thirty-two partially or fully completed surveys were collected from the delegates which the findings are based upon.

The majority of delegates have telephone, fax, computer radio and television capabilities within their communities, however, not all do. Only 19% indicated that they have videoconferencing available within their community. The majority (66%) of

delegates indicated that there is no dedicated technician in the community for servicing computer and other technological needs. Half of the delegates indicated that there are homes that are connected to the Internet, with the average number of homes around 16.

The delegates were also asked an open-ended question in regards to the services that they would like to see within their own community. Of those who responded to this question, the majority indicated that they would like to see videoconferencing. Other responses included: digital cable, Internet, television, radio, broadband connection, health, IP & mobile phones, K-Net, anything and everything, education, hologram and marketing web sites.

Limitations

Not all of the delegates who attended the conference completed a survey. Some of the information that was provided by the delegates who did complete the survey was not able to be included in the tabulations. Not all of the questions on the survey were completed by the respondents. Since the survey was not completed by a representative in each community, the results may not be reflective of NAN as a whole.

6.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The success of the conference was in part due to the hard work of the conference advisory committee and the Keewaytinook Okimakanak staff. Without their long hours and continuous support, the conference would not have materialized.

The financial backers of the conference; FedNor, INAC, Nishnawbe Aski Nation and Smart Communities made it possible for the community representatives, guest speakers and keynote speakers to participate in the conference.

The conference committee was also able to secure additional sponsorships from Bell Canada, Hydro One Remote Communities , Plato Learning Canada and Telesat Canada.

Wawatay News dedicated an issue of their newspaper prior to the conference to promote the success of the Smart Initiatives and the upcoming conference.

7.0 CONFERENCE SUMMARY

The First Nations Connect Conference was four (4) day event and was attended by approximately 85 - 100 participants. It was held at the Valhalla Inn in Thunder Bay, February 11 - 14, 2002. Fred Kakegamic opened and closed each day with a prayer and Geordi Kakepetum lead with introductory remarks each day. There was a question and answer period after each session.

Day One

The first day was considered a "travel" day for the delegates. There was a Meet & Greet during the evening of the first day which approximately 40 delegates attended.

Day Two

The second day of the conference was the first full day of sessions. Les Meekis was the MC. Ken Thomas made the Keynote address. There were five (5) sessions which included 1. an Overview of the Smart Communities, 2. how ICT is encountered in Everyday Life, 3. the uses of ICT & Health, 4. the interaction of ICT and Education and finally 5. ICT & Network Infrastructure.

The morning coffee break was sponsored by Hydro One Remote Communities and the afternoon coffee break was sponsored by Plato Learning Canada. The guest speaker during lunch was Rahil Khan.

Day Three

The third day of the conference was also a full day of sessions. Peter Campbell was the MC for the day. Grand Chief Stan Beardy made the Keynote address. The sessions were; 1. how ICT has helped the Smart First Nations, 2. how you capitalize on ICT and Economic Development, 3. how to use ICT in Community Planning, 4. the benefits of ICT with the women and youth sectors, and finally, 5. how the Government Funding Programs view ICT.

The afternoon coffee break was sponsored by Telesat Canada and lunch was sponsored by Bell Canada. The guest speakers during lunch were Jacques Drouin and Gordon Kakegamic.

Day Four

The final day of the conference was a half day that focussed on how the information gathered at the conference could be used in the delegates own communities. Paul

Bush was the Keynote speaker and gave the Keynote address.

There was also a scheduled news conference was well attended during the coffee break. Stan Beardy, David Paul Achneepineskum, Carl Seibel, Geordi Kakepetum and Brian Beaton were interviewed. Thunder Bay Television News broadcasted the interview during the 6:00 and late addition news.

7.0 BUDGET

The allocated budget for the First Nations Connect Conference as provided by Keewaytinook Okimakanak was \$142,410.00.

The breakdown of expenses were:

■ KO staff	\$ 8,395.10	} includes travel/hotel/meals
■ Speakers & Panellists	\$ 15,421.87	
■ Community Representatives	\$ 41,170.91	
■ Catering/Ballroom rental	\$ 16,478.95	
■ Promotional Materials (logistics)	\$ 4,154.77	
■ Honorariums for speakers	\$ 1,797.00	
■ Conference Coordinator	\$ 15,000.00	

Total Expenses **\$102,418.60**

****Note:** these totals for expenses are firm as of March 26, 2002, however, some fluctuation may occur due to the Bearskin Airlines account. Any discrepancy, should it arise, is not known at this time.

The conference also generated a revenue through sponsorships, tradeshow participants and non-sponsored delegates which totalled \$ 7,200.00.

The conference budget had a surplus of \$47,191.40.

There were nine (9) community representatives that did not attend the conference and as a result, Keewaytinook Okimakanak incurred additional expenses which totalled \$2,340.04 (transportation and hotel room).

There were additional meal charges during the first full day (February 12, 2002) of the conference as a result of delegates not attending the breakfast, lunch or coffee breaks. The breakfast (\$8.95 per plate), lunch (\$14.95 per plate) and coffee breaks (5.66 per person) were scheduled for 138 registered delegates (includes NAN registered delegates/speakers etc.). Only 84 attended the lunch and Keewaytinook Okimakanak was billed for the extra 54 persons who did not attend. Of those 58 persons, NAN delegates accounted for 32 persons for a total of \$1,182.40.

The second full day of the (February 13, 2002) DKA Marketing reduced the number of plates with the catering department at the Valhalla Inn for breakfast (80) and lunch to 110 persons. The last day the breakfast count was 50 persons. There was no served lunch on the last day of the conference.

The budget tabulations are in appendix 8 of this report.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1	Media Relations Material
Appendix 2	Sponsorship & Tradeshow Packages
Appendix 3	Memo's & Correspondence Information
Appendix 4	Promotional Materials
Appendix 5	Survey Examples and Tabulations
Appendix 6	Acknowledgements
Appendix 7	Registration Packages
Appendix 8	Budget Tabulations

Appendix 1

Media Relations Materials

MEDIA RELEASE

Attention All Media

“FIRST NATIONS CONNECT” CONFERENCE

Valhalla Inn, Thunder Bay, Ontario

February 11-14, 2002

January 24, 2002Keewaytinook Okimakanak through the Kuh-ke-nah Network (K-Net) of Smart First Nations Demonstration project, in partnership with Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN), is hosting the “First Nations Connect” Conference at the Valhalla Inn in Thunder Bay, February 11 - 14th, 2002.

The conference will be of interest to First Nations leaders as well as agencies, businesses, governments and organizations that work with First Nations. Administrators and planners, business and economic development leaders, IT and telecommunications managers, public works managers, health care and education managers and developers, local champions and project managers from across the north will join with representatives from all of the Nishnawbe Aski Nation communities at this conference.

Selected by Industry Canada as the successful applicant from proposals received from across Canada, Keewaytinook Okimakanak is delivering the Aboriginal component of Industry Canada's Smart Communities Demonstration Project nationally. The purpose of the project is to demonstrate how Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) can enhance programs and services as well as capture economic opportunities in Aboriginal communities. The conference will showcase the work developed thus far and demonstrate to other First Nations from across Canada how technology in the digital age can open new doors of opportunity in virtually all sectors including economic development, health care and education no matter how removed the community is from major markets.

The conference will give delegates a chance to see working examples of on-line applications and services of ICTs so they can understand the possibilities and begin to incorporate them into all aspects of their community and organizational strategic planning. A goal of the conference is to develop a NAN-wide strategy to link all the Nishnawbe Aski Nation communities to the Information Highway. A minimum of one delegate from each NAN community and four delegates from each tribal council will be attending.

Guest speakers from the industry, an IT trade show, IT demonstrations and an Internet café will also be features of the conference.

The agenda and conference information is posted on the K-Net website at:
<http://smart.knet.ca/conference>.

You can contact the Conference Coordinator, DKA Marketing at (807) 473-4448 or dka@baynet.net, attention Tammy to arrange to speak with the conference spokesperson.

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INVITATION TO A NEWS CONFERENCE

“FIRST NATIONS CONNECT” CONFERENCE

“FIRST NATIONS CONNECT “ Conference Host Keewaytinook Okimakanak through the Kuh-ke-nah Network (K-Net) of Smart First Nations Demonstration project, in partnership with Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) and with the participation of Telesat Canada invite the members of the media to attend a

NEWS CONFERENCE
Thursday, February 14, 2002
10:30 a.m.
Valhalla Inn Ballroom
Thunder Bay, Ontario

Two major announcements focussing on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) advances in the Nishnawbe Aski territory will be made at this time.

The “FIRST NATIONS CONNECT” conference will take place at the Valhalla Inn from February 11 to 14. The conference will showcase IT developments in the NAN region. It will demonstrate to other First Nations from across Canada how technology in the digital age can open new doors of opportunity in virtually all sectors no matter how removed the community is from major markets and services. Delegates will see working examples of on-line applications and services of ICTs. A goal of the conference is to develop a NAN-wide strategy to link all the Nishnawbe Aski Nation communities to the Information Highway. Speakers from the industry, an IT trade show, IT demonstrations and an Internet café will also be features of the conference. The agenda and conference information is posted on the K-Net website at: <http://smart.knet.ca/conference>.

To confirm your attendance at the news conference and for further information, please contact the conference coordinator, DKA Marketing, at 807.473.4448

MEDIA RELEASE

NISHNAWBE-ASKI NATION BECOMES A LEADER IN CONNECTING RURAL AND REMOTE COMMUNITIES TO BROADBAND

Thunder Bay, Ontario, February 14, 2002..... A large gathering of delegates from 41 of the 49 Nishnawbe-Aski Nation (NAN) communities as well as representatives from the NAN Tribal Councils and various First Nations agencies met in Thunder Bay this week to participate in the First Nations Connect Conference. Associates of the IT industry and the federal government were also in attendance and several NAN communities participated via two-way videoconferencing. The conference showcased the IT advances already made in many of the remote communities and previewed the online opportunities soon to become reality.

NAN Grand Chief Stan Beardy stated today that as a result of the pioneering efforts of Keewaytinook Okimakanak's K-Net Services through the Smart Communities Program of Industry Canada, the unlimited potential of online access can now be tapped by every community of Nishnawbe-Aski Nation.

Stated Grand Chief Beardy, "It does not seem so long ago that some of our remote communities could not even obtain telephone or radio access and today they are connecting with the world. Over 68% of NAN's population is under the age of 29; online access will give our youth the opportunities that were never available in the past.

One of the goals of this conference is to develop a NAN-wide strategy for online access onto the virtual highway, or as some people call it, the Broadband Network. The conference has brought us together to develop this network that we will be a model to be followed by other communities and regions across Canada and around the world. This was enforced by the announcement today that Keewaytinook Okimakanak's K-Net will deliver expanded satellite services to the remote NAN communities through an innovative partnership with Telesat Canada and Industry Canada." This means that remote communities across Canada can look forward to affordable access to multimedia services - such as high speed Internet access, tele-health, e-commerce, and tele-education thanks to the partnership.

As part of its commitment to enhance communications services to rural and remote communities, Telesat made two channels on its new Anik F3 satellite available for the federal government to use to serve public institutions in remote areas of Canada. The two channels, or transponders, are able to provide enhanced multimedia connections for remote communities. In advance of the launch of Anik F3, Telesat has made one C-band channel available today on the existing Anik E2 satellite.

Paul Bush, Telesat's Vice President of Corporate Development, helped set the wheels in motion last fall. He met with K-Net Services and Industry Canada staff to develop a strategy to use the available satellite bandwidth for some of the remote First Nations that now obtain data services using C-band equipment.

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For more information, contact Brian Beaton, K-Net Services Coordinator at (807) 737-1135 or David Paul Achneepineskum, Executive Director, NAN at (807) 623-8228

Keewaytinook Okimakanak's K-Net to deliver expanded satellite services to remote communities

K-Net strikes new partnership with Industry Canada, Telesat Canada

THUNDER BAY, ON, February 14th, 2002 — Remote communities across Canada can look forward to affordable access to multimedia services — such as high-speed Internet access, tele-health, e-commerce and tele-education — thanks to an innovative partnership announced today between Keewaytinook Okimakanak, Industry Canada and Telesat Canada.

"K-Net Services will work with communities served by satellite to develop their business cases for accessing high speed data connectivity using bandwidth made available to Industry Canada by Telesat," said Geordi Kakepetum, executive director of Keewaytinook Okimakanak.

As part of its commitment to enhance communications services to rural and remote communities, Telesat made two channels on its new Anik F3 satellite available for the federal government to use to serve public institutions in remote areas of Canada. The two channels, or transponders, are able to provide enhanced multimedia connections for remote communities. In advance of the launch of Anik F3, Telesat has made one C-band channel available today on the existing Anik E2 satellite.

"This satellite capacity gives remote communities an opportunity for better services and applications that will put them on a par with their southern neighbours," said Michael Binder, Assistant Deputy Minister for Spectrum, Information Technology and Telecommunications at Industry Canada. "These are small but significant steps in the drive to bring broadband connectivity to all Canadians."

Paul Bush, Telesat's vice president of corporate development, helped set the wheels in motion last fall. He met with K-Net Services and Industry Canada staff to develop a strategy to use the available satellite bandwidth for some of the remote First Nations that now obtain data services using C-band equipment.

"In making this satellite space available, Telesat is committed to helping connect Canadians to broadband communications — no matter where they live," Bush said. "These initial services on Telesat's Anik E2 satellite are just the beginning. We'll do even more with Anik F3."

K-Net worked with Telesat and staff from Industry Canada's FedNor and SchoolNet programs to prepare a proposal so that the Fort Severn and Slate Falls First Nation could begin using this available satellite data channel as soon as possible. As more communities were identified as potential partners in the use of this service, Keewaytinook Okimakanak proposed to work with the various partners to share in this resource. "K-Net Services will now be working with Industry Canada, as their agent and with Telesat Canada to deploy a portion of this benefit", said Carl Seibel, a telecommunications officer at FedNor.

What does all this mean for the people of Fort Severn First Nation, located on the northern shores of the Hudson Bay?

"It means we'll have equitable and affordable access to the bandwidth we need to receive high speed data services such as tele-health, secondary and post-secondary education, and Internet access," said Chief George Kakekaspan, who attended the news conference using a videoconference link from his community. "We'll now be able to develop our local businesses and services to provide the same level of support available in other parts of this country."

About K-Net

K-Net (www.knet.ca) is a regional broadband network linking First Nations and their service organizations using video conferencing, IP telephony, on-line forums, e-mail, and other web-based communication tools. K-Net became Industry Canada's Aboriginal Smart Demonstration project in May 2000.

Keewaytinook Okimakanak, the Oji-Cree term for "Northern Chiefs," is a non-political Chiefs Council that advises and assists member First Nations at Deer Lake, Fort Severn, Keewaywin, McDowell Lake, North Spirit Lake, and Poplar Hill.

About Telesat

Telesat (www.telesat.ca) is a world leader in satellite operations and systems management. The company made history in 1972 with the launch of the first domestic commercial communications satellite in geostationary orbit. Today, Telesat competes with other top international satellite fleets in providing telecommunications and broadcasting services throughout the Americas. Telesat is a wholly-owned subsidiary of BCE Inc., one of the world's premier communications companies.

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For more information:

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dan.pellerin@knet.ca

Dan Tisch or Josh Cobden

Environics Communications (for Telesat)

(416) 920-9000 ext. 260 / 275

dtisch@pr.environics.ca

[jacobden@pr.environics.ca](mailto:jcobden@pr.environics.ca)

Carl Seibel or Jacques Drouin

FedNor - Carl and SchoolNet - Jacques (for Industry Canada)

(807) 766-1812 – Carl or (613) 946-3365 - Jacques

seibel.carl@ic.gc.ca

drouin.jacques@ic.gc.ca

Appendix 2

Sponsorship and Tradeshow Packages

Gold Sponsor

\$2000.00 (Pays for 1 luncheon)

Benefits include:

- The option of having a presentation during the luncheon
 - Booth at the trade show
 - Banner display
 - Recognition for the sponsorship, announcement, table tents
 - Inclusion for five (5) representative in all sessions
 - Conference material
 - Invitation to the meet and greet
 - 3 breakfast buffets, two served lunches
-

Silver Sponsor

\$1000.00 (Pays for 1 breakfast)

Benefits include:

- Booth at the trade show
 - Banner display
 - Recognition for the sponsorship during the breakfast buffet (signage, etc)
 - Inclusion for three (3) representative in all sessions
 - Conference material
 - Invitation to the meet and greet
 - 3 breakfast buffets, two served lunches
-

Bronze Sponsor

\$500.00 (Pays for 1 coffee break or 1 meet and greet)

Benefits include:

- Booth at the trade show
 - Banner display
 - Recognition for the sponsorship during the coffee break (or meet and greet)
 - Inclusion for two (2) representatives in all sessions
 - Conference material
 - Invitation to the meet and greet
 - 3 breakfast buffets, two served lunches
-

Trade show Exhibitors

\$150.00

Benefits Include:

- Booth at the trade show
 - 3 breakfast buffets, two served lunches for one person
-

****Note:** Trade show booths will be located in the breakfast buffet and coffee break area ensuring high exposure of your trade show. Sponsorships and Exhibitor fees include full admission to the conference. Once your registration form is received, you will be faxed (email) an information form to determine your specific participation requirements.



Registration Form

Sponsors & Trade Show Exhibitors

First Nations Connect Conference

February 11-14, 2002
at the Valhalla Inn in Thunder Bay

Thank you for sponsoring our event!

Please provide the following information before January 30, 2002:

Firm: _____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ email: _____

Sponsorship Level:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Gold Sponsor	\$2,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Silver Sponsor	\$1,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bronze Sponsor	\$ 500.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Trade show Exhibitors	\$ 150.00

Please make cheques payable to "Keewatinook Okimakanak" and mail to:
 Keewatinook Okimakanak, P.O. Box 340, 127 Mine Road Balmertown, Ontario POV 1C0

Delegates are responsible for making their travel and hotel arrangements.

We have negotiated conference rates with Bearskin Airlines for this conference for advanced bookings. If you will be flying to Thunder Bay for the event with Bearskin Airlines please quote **FNCONV - 0202U** to receive a discounted flight rate. If you are booking rooms at the Valhalla Inn, (807-577-1121) quote the Conference Name to receive the special conference rate of \$109.00 per night.

If you have any questions, please contact the conference coordinator -
 DKA Marketing, Tammy Stewart by email at dka@baynet.net T: (807) 473-4448

Please fax the completed registration form to: 807- 737-1720 Attention Leona



Appendix 3

Memo's and Correspondence

First Nations Connect Conference

The Kuh-ke-nah Network (K-Net) Smart First Nations Demonstration project will host the Nishnawbe-Aski Nation Information Technology Conference February 11 to 14, 2002 in Thunder Bay.

Entitled *First Nations Connect*, the conference will be the venue where Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) resource people share strategies and leading edge technology solutions with community leaders and decision makers. The unlimited opportunities provided through community owned networks which connect citizens, communities and businesses to information and world markets will be highlighted.

Technology has led many communities into the digital age and opened new doors of opportunity in virtually all sectors including economic development, education and health care. *First Nation Connect* will establish a NAN-wide strategy for linking all the NAN communities to the Information Highway.

Speakers from across NAN representing both public and private industry will present some of the latest advancements that have been made by communities, advancements that have benefitted both citizens and business.

We are still inviting individuals and companies to share their IT experiences relating to past builds, existing builds, case histories, success stories, and future development plans in First Nation communities.

Who should attend?

First Nations Leaders
Administrators and Planners
Project Managers
IT and Telecommunication Resource people and local champions
Public Works Manager
Business and Economic Development Leaders
Health Care and Education Managers and Developers

Listen. Learn. Connect.

Register now by calling:

1-800-387-3740 and confirm your attendance with Cheryl Bechard
or send an e-mail to the Conference Coordinator (DKA Marketing, attention Tammy Stewart at dka@baynet.net)

Visit the conference web site at <http://smart.knet.ca/conference> for the latest conference information.

DRAFT - Letter to NAN Band Offices

MEMO TO: Chiefs, Councils, Band Administrations
NAN First Nations

MEMO FROM: Conference Planning Committee

RE: ONE DELEGATE FROM YOUR COMMUNITY TO BE SPONSORED TO ATTEND THE "FIRST NATIONS CONNECT" CONFERENCE IN THUNDER BAY, FEBRUARY 11-14, 2002.

Keewatinook Okimakanak through the Smart First Nations Demonstration project is hosting the "First Nations Connect" Conference at the Valhalla Inn in Thunder Bay, February 11 - 14th, 2002. Funding is available to sponsor the full cost to have one person from your community attend. For your information, NAN is sponsoring four representatives from each Tribal Council.

The purpose of the conference is to give delegates a chance to see working examples of on-line applications and services of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) so they can understand the possibilities of ICTs and begin to incorporate them into all aspects of their community and organizational strategic planning. Technology has led many communities into the digital age and opened new doors of opportunity in virtually all sectors including economic development, health care and education. A goal of the conference is to develop a NAN-wide strategy to link all the NAN communities to the Information Highway.

How to book your community delegate's attendance at the conference:

- Review the attached information outlining details of the conference (also available on the conference website: <http://smart.knet.ca/conference>).
- Select your representative,
- Complete the registration form (attached or online) and send it to the Conference Coordinator, DKA Marketing, attention Tammy Stewart Email: dka@baynet.net, or fax attention Leona: 807-737-1720
- Have your delegate reserve their air travel with Bearskin Airlines quoting the conference reservation number: FNCONV-0202,
- Once the registration is received, a room will be booked for the delegate for the duration of the conference and the Bearskin Airline reservation will be confirmed and paid for. Please note: The arrival time should be booked for the afternoon of February 11th and departure time for the afternoon or evening of February 14th. Breakfasts and lunches will be provided during the conference; delegates will charge their dinners to their room. Final agenda binders will be distributed to delegates at registration at either the Meet & Greet, February 11th or the morning of February 12th.

Other participants from your community are more than welcome to attend, however due to funding restraints, only one delegate will be funded. A general registration form for those delegates who are not sponsored is also enclosed. We look forward to having members of your community attend the conference!

DRAFT FAX OUT TO POTENTIAL NON SPONSORED DELEGATES**“FIRST NATIONS CONNECT” CONFERENCE
Valhalla Inn, Thunder Bay, Ontario
February 11-14, 2002**

Keewaytinook Okimakanak through the Smart First Nations Demonstration project is hosting the “First Nations Connect” Conference at the Valhalla Inn in Thunder Bay, February 11 - 14th, 2002.

The conference should be of interest to First Nations leaders as well as agencies, businesses, governments and organizations that work with First Nations communities such as city and town administrators and planners, business and economic development leaders, IT and telecommunications managers, public works managers, health care and education managers and developers, local champions and project managers.

Technology has led many communities into the digital age and opened new doors of opportunity in virtually all sectors including economic development, health care and education. The unlimited opportunities provided through community owned networks which connect citizens, communities and businesses to information and world markets will be highlighted.

The purpose of the conference is to give delegates a chance to see working examples of on-line applications and services of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) so they can understand the possibilities of ICTs and begin to incorporate them into all aspects of their community and organizational strategic planning. A goal of the conference is to develop a NAN-wide strategy to link all the NAN communities to the Information Highway.

A minimum of one delegate from each NAN community and four delegates from each tribal council will be attending.

To register

A conference agenda and registration form is available online at <http://smart.knet.ca/conference> or by contacting the Conference Coordinator, DKA Marketing at (807) 473-4448 or dka@baynet.net, attention Tammy. Registration forms and payment can be mailed to DKA Marketing c/o 113 W. Redwood Avenue W., Thunder Bay, Ontario P7C 1Z3.

The registration fee is \$100 which includes three buffet breakfasts, two lunches, attendance at all conference sessions and conference materials. Please make hotel and travel arrangements directly. A limited number of guest rooms are available at the Valhalla Inn at the conference rate of \$109 single or double occupancy. Discount travel rates have been negotiated with Bearskin Airlines - please quote the conference number FNCONV-O2O2.

Trade show booth space and sponsorships are available. Please contact the Conference Coordinator for more information.

January 15, 2002

Conference Call
ICT Conference Advisory Committee

In attendance:

Deborah Krupa, Tammy Stewart, Les Meekis, Albalina Metatawabin, Brian Beaton

Absent:

David Neegan, Gordon Kakegamic, Moses Kakekaspan

Topic	Decision Made
Dinners	there will be no dinners provided, dinner charges will be charged to delegates rooms
Registration Area	Use the "coat room" for registration purposes, bulletin board, and tables in back for Internet Café (if possible)
Travel	For Travel Discount Quotes - Bearskin FNCONV-0202 Valid from Feb 9 - 15, 2002
Hotel	Ballroom has been reserved Odin room to be used for conference coordination as well as meet and greet and evening events (networking room) 70 guest rooms have been blocked - cut off date for the guest rooms is January 28, 2002
Trade Show	Fee will be required, either as a sponsor or cash Booths will be separated from main event via divider
Translators	will be available for elders and be provided by KO
Evening Sessions	Informal networking sessions will be offered
Hard Cost Purchases	To go through Cheryl - binders, printing, etc.
Breakfasts/Lunches	Breakfast Buffets and sit down lunches will be provided
Non subsidized delegates	Fee will be charged to cover meals and hard costs
Internet Café	May be provided (Knet - Jesse Fiddler and Brian Beaton)
Agenda	On-going updates
Panel	Maximum of 2 resource/community persons to assist the presenter

Outstanding Tasks/ Actions

Topic	Decision/Action	Person Responsible
Registration Forms	to create 2 registration forms, one for KO sponsored delegates, another for NON sponsored participants	DKA Marketing
Audio/Video recording	The event will be video taped as well as tape recorded	KO - Jesse Fiddler and Brian Beaton
Translating for report	If the report needs to be translated, it will be KO's responsibility	Brian Beaton
Lunches	choose a sit down (served) lunch	DKA Marketing
Breakfast	choose a large adequate breakfast	DKA Marketing
Binders	Contact Cheryl to provide PO for delegate binders	DKA Marketing
East Coordinating	Coordinate the East and possibly locate an additional member to sit on advisory committee	Albalina Metatawabin and Brian Beaton
Sponsors and Trade show	<p>Liaise with possible sponsors and trade show participants including:</p> <p>Bell Canada(Brian Beaton)</p> <p>Hydro One - remote communities</p> <p>National Research Council (NRC)</p> <p>Contact North (to be contact by Brian Beaton)</p> <p>FedNor</p> <p>NADF</p> <p>Bearskin</p> <p>Telesat (Brian Beaton)</p> <p>Set a 3 tier sponsorship package, or sponsors lunches/coffee breaks</p>	DKA Marketing
Internet Café	Check the "conductivity" level	DKA Marketing
Lunch - Keynote address	Include a keynote speaker during the lunch breaks for at least one session	Brian Beaton
KO booth	Display packages and booth for KO	David Neegan

Panel members	Determine/book panel members	David Neegan Brian Beaton Les Meekis
Briefing notes for sessions	Acquiring briefing notes from speakers	David Neegan Brian Beaton Les Meekis
Promotion	Develop and implement campaigns required for: Sponsored representatives Non-sponsored delegates Sponsors Trade show	DKA Marketing
Agenda	Complete, delete "round table discussions" from draft	Brian Beaton
Committee Approvals	Prepare and distribute print materials for approval	DKA Marketing
Website	Post approved materials on website	Leona Brian Beaton
Brief for Chiefs meeting	Prepare a conference synopsis for chiefs meeting in Winnipeg the following week	DKA Marketing
Translators	People to work with Elders and provide translators for sessions	Les Meekis

FIRST NATIONS CONNECT CONFERENCE**RECOMMENDED REVENUE GRID**

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	PRICE
Non sponsored delegates	Includes Meet & Greet, 3 breakfast buffets, full conference sessions and conference materials	\$100
Trade show booths	Includes above for one person plus space to display booth	\$150
GOLD Sponsor Pays for 1 luncheon	Includes all above for 5 persons including booth, recognition, banner display	\$2,000
SILVER Sponsor Pays for 1 breakfast buffet	Includes all above 3 persons including booth, recognition, banner display	\$1,000
BRONZE Sponsor Pays for 1 coffee break or the Meet & Greet (not the bar which will be a cash bar)	Includes all above for one person including booth, recognition, banner display	\$500

The above grid, once approved, should accompany or be reworded in the sponsorship letter already drafted and distributed to potential sponsors by Brian.

DRAFT - TRADE SHOW LETTER

OPPORTUNITY TO SET UP YOUR DISPLAY BOOTH AT THE

FIRST NATIONS CONNECT CONFERENCE

Valhalla Inn, Thunder Bay, Ontario

February 11 - 14, 2002

Keewaytinook Okimakanak through the Smart First Nations Demonstration project is hosting the "First Nations Connect" Conference at the Valhalla Inn in Thunder Bay, February 11 - 14th, 2002.

The conference should be of interest to First Nations leaders as well as agencies, businesses, governments and organizations that work with First Nations communities such as city and town administrators and planners, business and economic development leaders, IT and telecommunications managers, public works managers, health care and education managers and developers, local champions and project managers.

The purpose of the conference is to give delegates a chance to see working examples of on-line applications and services of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) so they can understand the possibilities of ICTs and begin to incorporate them into all aspects of their community and organizational strategic planning. A goal of the conference is to develop a NAN-wide strategy to link all the NAN communities to the Information Highway.

A minimum of one delegate from each NAN community and four delegates from each tribal council will be attending.

This is an excellent opportunity to showcase your related products and services. A limited number of organizations are being invited to assemble their display booth at this conference. All sessions will be held in a group forum layout, display booths will be prominently located at one side of the ballroom during the course of the conference and delegates will be able to visit the booths during coffee and lunch breaks.

The charge to non-sponsors and non-participants is \$150 which includes admittance to the conference, three buffet breakfasts, two lunches and conference materials.

To book conference space.

Space is limited and must be booked as soon as possible with the Conference Coordinator, DKA Marketing at telephone: 807-473-4448 or email: dka@baynet.net, attention: Tammy.

Conference Call - January 22, 2002 1:00 Eastern Time

Agenda

1. The agenda
2. Confirmed Speakers
3. Logistics of registration
4. Confirmation forms for registrations
5. Evening sessions
6. What to offer speakers
7. What to charge 2nd or 3rd persons at trade show booths
8. Sponsors & Sponsorship packages
9. Displays
10. Media Coverage
11. Presentations - what will the hotel have to supply, (video, tv's, flip charts, PowerPoint, etc)
12. Information binders for delegates - what will be included, etc.
13. Printing logistics

Conference Call - January 30, 2002
2:00 Eastern Time
1:00 Central Time

Agenda

1. Registrations
2. NAN sponsorships of 4 delegates from each tribal region
3. Preparation of delegate's information binders (speakers presentations)
4. Conformation of speakers, panel members, sponsors

Appendix 4

Promotional Materials



Keewaytinook Okimakanak ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ
KUH-KE-NAH
Nishnawbe Aski Nation

Resource people sharing Smart community development strategies and demonstrating information and communication technology (ICT) solutions and applications with First Nations across the region.



<http://smart.knet.ca/conference>

First Nations Connect Conference

Kuh-ke-nah Network (K-Net) of Smart First Nations

February 11 to 14, 2002

Valhalla Inn

Thunder Bay, ON



Keewaytinook Okimakanak P. 7N. 5. 7FLb. 5
KUULKE NAU
OKIMAKANAK
FIRST NATIONS CONNECT CONFERENCE
<http://smart.knet.ca/conference>

will be the venue where Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) resource people share strategies and leading edge technology solutions with community leaders and decision makers.

Who should attend?

- First Nations Leaders
- Administrators and Planners
- Project Managers
- IT and Telecommunication Resource people
- Public Works Manager
- Business and Economic Development Leaders
- Health Care and Education Managers and Developers

Register now by calling:
1-800-387-3740
 and confirm your attendance with
 Cheryl Bechard or send an e-mail to
 the Conference Coordinator
 (DKA Marketing-Tammy
 Stewart at dka@baynet.net)

Listen. Learn. Connect.
February 11 to 14, 2002 in Thunder Bay

FedNor  Industry Canada  Ontario
 Smart Communities  Collectivités indiennes  Northern Ontario
 Indian and Northern Affairs Canada  Affaires indiennes et du Nord Canada  Northern Ontario
 Heritage Fund

Keewaytinook Okimakanak P. 7N. 5. 7FLb. 5
KUULKE NAU
OKIMAKANAK
FIRST NATIONS CONNECT CONFERENCE
<http://smart.knet.ca/conference>

Who should attend?

- First Nations Leaders
- Administrators and Planners
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- Public Works Manager
- Business and Economic Development Leaders
- Health Care and Education Managers and Developers

Register now by calling: 1-800-387-3740
 and confirm your attendance with Cheryl
 Bechard or send an e-mail to the
 Conference Coordinator
 (DKA Marketing-Tammy
 Stewart at dka@baynet.net)

Listen. Learn. Connect
FEBRUARY 11 TO 14, 2002 IN THUNDER BAY

FedNor  Industry Canada  Ontario
 Smart Communities  Collectivités indiennes  Northern Ontario
 Indian and Northern Affairs Canada  Affaires indiennes et du Nord Canada  Northern Ontario
 Heritage Fund

Keewaytinook Okimakanak P. 7N. 5. 7FLb. 5
KUULKE NAU
OKIMAKANAK
NETWORK OF SMART FIRST NATIONS

Hello, My Name is



Appendix 5

Survey Examples & Tabulations



First Nations Connect Conference

QUESTIONNAIRE

Name: _____

Title: _____

E-Mail: _____

Community/Firm: _____

Phone: _____ FAX: _____

The **First Nations Connect Conference** is an opportunity to work towards establishing a NAN-wide strategy for linking all the NAN communities to the same type of communication services that some NAN First Nations are presently enjoying. To help in this work we are asking all the sponsored participants in this conference to come prepared to answer questions about how your community is presently using these communication tools and your connection methods. The answers to some of these questions are required to understand and find the possible solutions to connecting the NAN First Nations to a common communication network where information and communication opportunities are easily shared among the communities and their organizations using these new tools.

Please find the answers to these questions before coming to the conference so you are prepared to assist in the work that we need to do with Nishnawbe Aski Nation. Thanks for your assistance in this matter. We look forward to meeting everyone at the conference.

1. What types of communication technologies are currently being used in your community?

Telephone / Fax / Video Conferencing / Computer / Radio / Television / Other

2. How many computers are there in the different locations in your community? (Estimate)

School ____ Band Office ____ Nursing Station ____ NAPS ____ Other Locations ____

3. What type of connection is presently used to get onto to the Internet? Which group provides this connection?

Satellite / Telephone Dial up / Dedicated (at what speed) ____ Name of provider _____

4. How many homes in the community have a computer and are connected to the Internet?

5. Is there a computer technician in your community/office? If so who?

6. What other communication technologies would you like to see used in your community?

Appendix 6

Acknowledgements

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The success of the conference was in part due to the hard work of the conference advisory committee and the Keewaytinook Okimakanak staff. Without their long hours and continuous support, the conference would not have materialized.

The financial backers of the conference; FedNor, INAC, Nishnawbe Aski Nation and Smart Communities made it possible for the community representatives, guest speakers and keynote speakers to participate in the conference.

The conference committee was also able to secure additional sponsorships from Bell Canada, Hydro One Remote Communities , Plato Learning Canada and Telesat Canada.

Wawatay News dedicated an issue of their newspaper prior to the conference to promote the success of the Smart Initiatives and the upcoming conference.

Appendix 7

Registration Packages



Community Representative Registration Form

First Nations Connect Conference

February 11-14, 2002

at the Valhalla Inn in Thunder Bay

Please provide the following information before January 28, 2002:

The Community which you are representing: _____

Your name: _____

Your address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ email: _____

Community Leader's Authorization: _____

Travelling by: ☐ Auto mileage(round trip) to Thunder Bay _____ km

☐ Air

Air Travel Bearskin Airline travellers must make their reservations directly with the airline quoting the conference travel # **FNCONV - 0202P (reserve only, do not pay for your ticket)**

Departing flight to Thunder Bay

Departure Date: _____ Time: _____

Flight Number: _____ Confirmation #: _____

Returning flight from Thunder Bay

Departure Date: _____ Time: _____

Flight Number: _____ Confirmation #: _____

Hotel Check in Date: _____ Check in Time: _____ Smoking []
Check out Date: _____ Check out Time: _____ Non Smoking []

Only one representative from each NAN community will be sponsored for travel, hotel and meals to attend this conference. Please fax the completed registration form to: 807- 737-1720 Attention Leona

Your travel and hotel reservations will only be confirmed and paid for when we receive this completed registration form.

If you have any questions, please contact the conference coordinator - DKA Marketing, Tammy Stewart by email at dka@baynet.net





Registration Form

General

First Nations Connect Conference

February 11-14, 2002
at the Valhalla Inn in Thunder Bay

Please provide the following information before January 28, 2002:

Firm: _____
 Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ email: _____

The Registration Fee for the 3 day conference is \$100.00 which includes participation in all sessions and conference materials, 3 breakfast buffets and 2 served luncheons and coffee breaks.

The Day Registration rate is \$60.00 which includes participation in the day's session and printed materials, one breakfast buffet and a served lunch coffee breaks.

Payment Options:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cash | <input type="checkbox"/> Cheques (make cheques payable to "Keewaytinook Okimakanak") |
| <input type="checkbox"/> By Mail | <input type="checkbox"/> Upon Registration Amount: _____ |

Please mail to: Keewaytinook Okimakanak, P.O. Box 340,
127 Mine Road Balmertown, Ontario POV 1C0

Please fax the completed registration form to: 807- 737-1720 Attention Leona

Delegates are responsible for making their travel and hotel arrangements.

We have negotiated conference rates with Bearskin Airlines for this conference for advanced bookings. If you will be flying to Thunder Bay for the event with Bearskin Airlines please quote **FNCONV - 0202U** to receive a discounted flight rate. If you are booking rooms at the Valhalla Inn, quote the Conference Name to receive the special conference rate of \$109.00 per night.

If you have any questions, please contact the conference coordinator -
DKA Marketing, Tammy Stewart by email at dka@baynet.net T: (807) 473-4448





Staff Registration

First Nations Connect Conference

February 11-14, 2002
at the Valhalla Inn in Thunder Bay



Please fax the completed registration form to: 807-737-1720 Attention Leona

We need to confirm your information with the hotel.

Please provide the following information before January 28, 2002:

Your name: _____

Your address: _____

Telephone: _____ email: _____

Travelling by: ☐ Auto mileage(round trip) to Thunder Bay _____ km

☐ Air

Air Travel Bearskin Airline travellers must make their reservations directly with the airline quoting the conference travel # **FNCONV - 0202P**
(reserve only, do not pay for your ticket)

Hotel Check in Date: _____ Check in Time: _____

Check out Date: _____ Check out Time: _____

☐ Smoking

☐ Non smoking



Registration Form for Speakers and Panel Members



First Nations Connect Conference February 11-14, 2002 at the Valhalla Inn in Thunder Bay

Please provide the following information before January 28, 2002:

Your name: _____
 Your address: _____
 Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ email: _____

Topic: _____

Travelling by: ☐ Auto mileage(round trip) to Thunder Bay _____ km
☐ Air

Air Travel Bearskin Airline travellers must make their reservations directly with the airline quoting the conference travel # **FNCONV - 0202P (reserve only, do not pay for your ticket)**

Departing flight to Thunder Bay

Departure Date: _____ Time: _____
 Flight Number: _____ Confirmation #: _____

Returning flight from Thunder Bay

Departure Date: _____ Time: _____
 Flight Number: _____ Confirmation #: _____

Hotel Check in Date: _____ Check in Time: _____
 Check out Date: _____ Check out Time: _____

Please fax the completed registration form to: 807- 737-1720 Attention Leona

Your travel and hotel reservations will only be confirmed and paid for when we receive this completed registration form.

If you have any questions, please contact the conference coordinator -
 DKA Marketing, Tammy Stewart by email at dka@baynet.net (807) 473-4448

Appendix 8

Budget Tabulations