

THE BRIDGE CAMPAIGN

MAMAWI ATOSKETAN NATIVE SCHOOL

TAKING FIRST NATIONS TEENS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

CAMPAIGN UPDATE | No. 2 JAN 2016

End of 2015 total: **\$3.48 million** Goal: **\$4.9 million**

A BETTER WORLD GRANT EXPANDS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

A recent \$10,000 contribution by A Better World to the After School Program component of The Bridge Campaign created the opportunity for a Burman University student to gain leadership experience in MANS' After School Program – Sports Section. The grant also allowed MANS to extend its Grade 10 Environmental Education class into after school hours, and to make parts of the class content available to any student.

The goal of the after school program is to keep children in a safe environment during a critical time of day when they're more likely to be exposed to gangs.

STUDENTS PERFORM IN WASHINGTON, DC

Six members of MANS' musical sign language group, Total Praise, represented the school as guests of the North American Division at the division's year end meetings. View their October 30 performance online at www.mans1.ca in the video section.



CANADIAN WELDING ASSOC. FOUNDATION MAKES MAJOR GIFT TO CAMPAIGN



The Canadian Welding Association Foundation (CWF) has committed \$350,000 to the Bridge Campaign. The gift will establish a welding program at Mamawi Atosketan Native School (MANS). The foundation's gift and commitment to an on-going relationship makes welding the flagship program of the Industrial Arts Centre of the new high school.

CWF Executive Director Deborah Mates recommended the gift and partnership to the CWF board after visiting MANS at the end of June. "What I saw [at MANS] was a different group of kids," says Mates, who visited First Nations schools across Canada, "very different from what I've seen in any other aboriginal community. They're focused, they're engaged, and I know it's because of the teachers."

MANS Vice Principal Mike Willing and five MANS students were sponsored by the CWF at its week-long "Mind Over Metal" welding summer camp in August.

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SUPER MANS IN ACTION!

MANS students welcome SUPER MANS during his pre-Christmas visit to the school, & Super Nakita joins SUPER MANS (you can too!)

More on reverse side

MANS STUDENTS GET ACTIVE IN FUNDRAISING!

On December 4, Pastor Lyle Notice, Assistant Director of the Alberta Conference Youth Department, donned his super hero cloak and brushed up his acting skills to launch SUPER MANS (Small Useful People Expanding Resources for MANS) at Mamawi Atosketan Native School.

The students enjoyed the antics of SUPER MANS and his sidekick Luke Bannis, who played a student facing the challenges many MANS students face. Students responded enthusiastically to the invitation to participate in fundraising for their new school.

SUPER MANS, an entrepreneur-style initiative of the Alberta Conference, encourages kids to use their power to do good by helping to build MANS' new high school. The purpose of the new school is to allow First Nations kids who attend the over-crowded school to stay in the unique environment that increases their chances of completing high school.

"SUPER MANS is also a superhero that helps kids realize they're not alone and that they can make a difference," said Pastor Lyle. "They have the power to do good. If SUPER MANS helps them to realize that, I'll play SUPER MANS all day long!" he smiles. The event was covered by *The Lacombe Express* (Dec. 17 issue).

MANS students and their families are already getting involved. The first SUPER MANS fundraiser will be held January 28—a hot lunch put on by the Grade 4 class that's open to the entire school community. Their teacher, Russ Nielsen, began brainstorming fundraising ideas with the class immediately after SUPER MANS' appearance, and is organizing the class to help with food preparation, lunch delivery, and cleanup.

MANS kids learn early about working together to give back to the communities outside their reserve. Check out these videos at www.mans1.ca:

MANS and SUPER MANS - Catch a glimpse of the super hero during his appearance at the school that started it all, and what MANS students think about raising funds for their new school.

Typhoon Haiyan and the Return of the Cupcakes - See MANS students in action, baking and celebrating their contribution to a humanitarian effort in the Philippines.

Total Praise Performs at GC-NAD Meetings - Cell phone video taken in Washington, DC features a song later performed by MANS students together with Burman University students in the Nov. 6 concert that raised over \$2,000 for the Maskwacis Adventist church on the Samson band reserve.

Super Nakita Flies Again - 11-year old Nakita Greaves talks about her SUPER MANS project.

TAKE A SELFIE WITH SUPER MANS! Then send it to Inotice@albertaadventist.ca to post on the SUPER MANS section of www.mans1.ca

SUPER MANS will be appearing at:

Pathfinder Winter Retreat, Foothills Camp (January 29, 2016)

Teen Youth Rally, Foothills Camp (February 26, 2016)

Adventurer Family Camp, Foothills Camp (May 6, 2016)

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