

WELCOME TO

Deer Lake First Nation



**TEACH
FOR
CANADA**

A serene landscape photograph of a sunset over a body of water. The sun is partially obscured by dark, silhouetted trees on the left, creating a lens flare effect. The sky is filled with soft, golden clouds. The water is calm, reflecting the warm colors of the sunset. In the distance, a small, dark island with a single tree is visible. The word 'wacheyah' is written in a large, white, sans-serif font across the middle of the image. The overall mood is peaceful and natural.

wacheyah

Deer Lake First Nation

Welcome new teachers!

The management team welcomes you all to Deer Lake First Nation School's team. We hope that Teach For Canada's enrichment sessions will be very beneficial in preparing you for your imminent arrival in Deer Lake.

Whether this will be your first year as a teacher or not, you will have new challenges! Just like in other schools, you will have to adapt your teaching to enable young people to achieve success. Of course, we have to respect the standards of the Ontario Ministry of Education but beyond these standards, always remember that you and your work are connected to another people's worldview, values and beliefs. The human aspect must be at the heart of your teaching to create connections with your students and develop collaboration with parents.

We hope you will engage with our community and above all, come to consult us if you have any questions or needs. We are here to support you as you go through this new experience, even if you are the teachers!

Welcome to Deer Lake!



Stephan Doyon, Principal

Gorby Meekis, Director of Education

Deer Lake First Nation School and Deer Lake Education Authority

Community



Traditionally, people from the Deer Lake area were semi-nomadic and organized by doodem (clan). Small groups established seasonal camps based on family and clan, moving wherever hunting and fishing was best.

A Brief History

- 19th century** Overtrapping and fur trade economics depleted fur-bearing animals, thereby negatively affecting the communities. Starvation and disease become common.
- End of the 19th century** Hudson's Bay Company assigns family names to each clan.
- 1900** People of the area were among the last Indigenous peoples in Northern America living with virtually no colonial influences.
- 1906** North-West Mounted Police arrives.
- 1929-1930** Adhesion to Treaty No. 9 was approved, and confirmed the establishment of a reserve around Sandy Lake Narrows for the Deer Lake Band, whose numbers had increased in 1910 after a migration of members from Manitoba into the community.
- 1965** Deer Lake School founded.
- 1985** Deer Lake splits into two separate Bands, Deer Lake and Sandy Lake.
- 1985** Deer Lake achieves full Band status.
- 1998** A small 490 kilowatt run-of-the-river hydro generating station was constructed on the Severn River, approximately 6 kilometres from the community. There is a joint agreement for ownership between Hydro One and the First Nation, however after ten years of operation the First Nation will have the option to take complete ownership.
- 2005** New school is completed.
- 2006** A new open ice arena is built for the community.
- 2021** Start of the power grid project



The Land

Deer Lake First Nation is located close to the Ontario-Manitoba border.

Moose, bears, wolves, rabbits, red foxes and beavers are native to the area. Trout, Walleyes, White Fish, Suckers, Perch, Mariah and Northern Pike are commonly caught.

Deer Lake Community Map





Deer Lake First Nation School

Welcome!

School Population

270

Principal

Stephan Doyon

Vice Principal

Vicky Meekis

Education Director

Gorby Meekis

Grades

Kindergarten
to Grade 9

Deer Lake First Nation School has classes from Kindergarten to Grade 9.

After grade 9, many options are available for our students to pursue their education from grade 10 to 12. The majority of our students will attend high schools outside of the reserve of Deer Lake, like Sioux-Lookout, Red Lake, Thunder Bay or other public schools. In Deer Lake, it's also possible to access Distant Education Program, like Washa (secondary education), or KiHS (Keewaytinook Internet High School).

Special School Events

- BBQs and social events with students
- Tea Day with grandparents and community to join in for tea, bannock and snacks
- School dances
- Winter carnival
- Graduation - Grade 5 and Grade 8
- Bake sales
- Staff Christmas Party
- Grade 9 Camping Trip in June
- Fundraising
- Grade 8 Trip in June
- Hallmark activities such as Halloween, Valentine's Day
- Fall camping trips for grade 6 and 7 students



A Day in the Life of a Teacher

Staff are required to be at work from around 8:30 am until 4:30 pm.

We have one recess in the morning and another one in afternoon. The staff usually has one hour for lunch and two hours of preparation time for their classroom. Teachers often go to school on weekends to support clubs and extracurriculars. Teachers also have recess duty, which is on rotation.

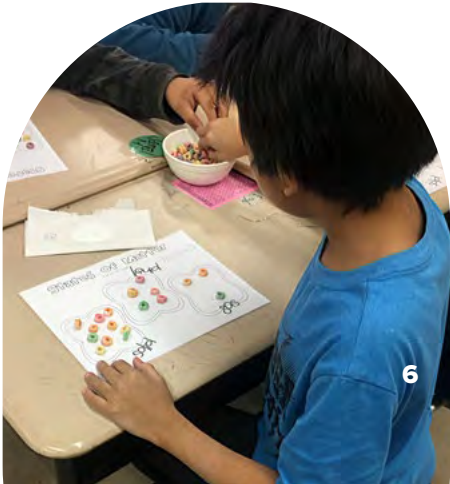
What is the school most proud of...

- All classrooms are equipped with SMART Boards, Elmo-Projectors, and Chromebooks. Students also have access to iPads and tablets.

High School exams are in January and June. Courses are 70-80 minutes long on average. Teachers are expected to arrive by 8:30 a.m. and the school day runs until 4:15 p.m. The school has an earlier summer dismissal in mid-June.

Sample Elementary Timetable

| Time/Day | Day 1 | Day 2 | Day 3 | Day 4 | Day 5 | Day 6 |
|-------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 8:45-9:05 | ENTRY | ENTRY | ENTRY | ENTRY | ENTRY | ENTRY |
| 9:05-9:50 | Science | Social Studies | Science | Social Studies | Science | Social Studies |
| 9:50-10:30 | NATIVE LANGUAGE | NATIVE LANGUAGE | NATIVE LANGUAGE | NATIVE LANGUAGE | NATIVE LANGUAGE | NATIVE LANGUAGE |
| 10:30-10:45 | RECESS | RECESS | RECESS | RECESS | RECESS | RECESS |
| 10:45-12:00 | Math | Math | Math | Math | Math | Math |
| 12:00-1:05 | LUNCH | LUNCH | LUNCH | LUNCH | LUNCH | LUNCH |
| 1:10-2:00 | Arts | Arts | Arts | Arts | Arts | Arts |
| 2:00-2:30 | Silent Reading | Silent Reading | Silent Reading | Silent Reading | Silent Reading | Silent Reading |
| 2:30-2:45 | RECESS | RECESS | RECESS | RECESS | RECESS | RECESS |
| 2:45-3:45 | Language | Language | Language | Language | Language | Language |
| 3:45-4:15 | GYM | GYM | GYM | GYM | GYM | GYM |





Facilities and Services



- Two Native language teachers: one for grades JK-4 and another for grades 5-9.
- Cultural and traditional events and outings offered to students.
- Daily breakfast program offered to students.
- Infrastructure includes a school gymnasium, a well-stocked library, a computer room with new flat-screen computers, a home economics room, a science lab, and an outdoor and indoor skating rink.
- Computers and smart boards in all classrooms.
- School buses provide all students on-reserve transportation to and from school.

Extracurriculars

- Art Club
- Computer club
- Hockey ice and floor
- Badminton
- Cooking Club
- Volleyball
- Music and singing
- Traditional dancing
- Wise Man Math contest
- Dance club
- Hair club



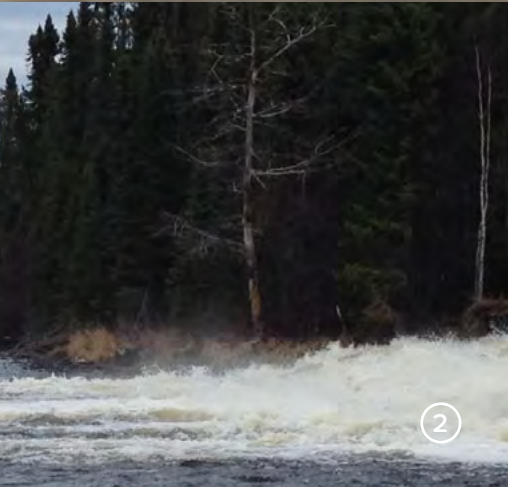
Teacherages

We offer several one-bedroom units along with two three-bedroom trailers.

We have a no pet policy. If a teacher would like to bring a pet, they must make an official request to the board of education prior to coming on reserve. Teachers placed in the two-bedroom trailer teacherage may have a teacher roommate. As there is no nearby hotel accommodation, the principal may also request that you host occasional guests visiting the school. Teachers share a car and are expected to pay for the cost of gas. The Northern Store is a 45 minute walk or 10 minute drive from the teacherage. The school is a five minute walk.

Tbaytel offers service in Deer Lake.

Around the Community



①

KiHS and Washa (distant education building)

②

490 kilowatt run-of-the-river hydro-generating station

③

KFC in the Northern Store

④

Deer Lake Airport



Life in the Community



Regular Activities in the Community

- Ladies broomball
- Ladies volleyball
- Hockey
- Open skate
- Floor hockey

Community Events

- Memorial Feast
- Treaty Day
- December Parade
- Cultural days in September and May
- Hunting week at the end of September (must have been living in community for at least 6 months to be eligible to participate).

Traditions and Customs

- Cultural days in October and May
- Ice fishing
- Camping
- Hunting
- Sewing and beading

Quick Facts

Community Name
Deer Lake First Nation

Tribal Council
Keewaytinook Okimakanak/Northern Chiefs

Provincial Territorial Organization (PTO)
Nishnawbe-Aski Nation

Population On-Reserve



**Approximately
1200**

Language Spoken



**Oji-Cree
and English**

Treaty



Treaty 9

Average Yearly Temperature



-29°C
January

23°C
July

Access



Year-round



Jan - Mar



Deer Lake Directory

School Office
(807) 775-2055

Stephan Doyon
Principal
(807) 775-2055
stephandoyon@edu.knet.ca

Gorby Meekis
Director of Education
gorbymeekis@edu.knet.ca

Band Office
(807) 775-2132
(807) 775-2141

Nursing station
(807) 775-2054

Health Office
(807) 775-2056

Police (NAPS)
1-888-310-1122

Northern Store
(807) 775-2351

Northway
1-888- 667-8492
www.northwayav.com
St. Andrews - Free transportation and
pick-up between Winnipeg and
St. Andrews

Wasaya
1-877- 492-7292
www.wasaya.com
Thunder Bay

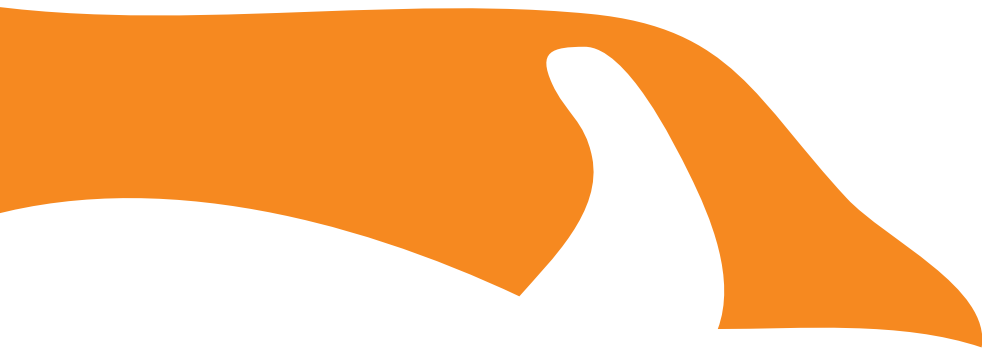
NorthStar Air
1-844-633- 6294
http://www.northstarair.ca

Perimeter
1-800-665-8986
https://www.perimeter.ca/





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