

FIRE GUARDIANS

W W W . P A G C . N E T

F O R E S T R Y & S A R



About Our Fire Guardians

Indigenous fire guardians play a crucial role in land management and environmental stewardship, drawing from centuries-old traditions and knowledge systems. These guardians, from Indigenous communities, practice-controlled burns, also known as cultural burns, to manage landscapes in a way that promotes ecological health and reduces the risk of catastrophic wildfires. By intentionally setting and managing low-intensity fires, they clear out underbrush and promote the growth of native plants, which restores habitats and maintains biodiversity. This approach not only helps in sustaining the balance of ecosystems but also preserves cultural heritage and traditional ecological knowledge. With the increasing challenges of climate change and destructive wildfires, the work of Indigenous fire guardians has gained recognition and appreciation as a sustainable and effective land management practice. Their wisdom offers valuable insights for contemporary approaches to ecological conservation and resilience.



Building futures in indigenouse led fire

[Learn More](#)

- Training certificates
- Indigenous Fire Training
- Land surveying
- Indigenous- led Research
- Land-base cultural practices
- Advocacy & sovereignty
- Emergency Response





Our Mission

Responding to environmental concerns.

Building on experience as a fire guardian involves honing a unique set of skills and knowledge that can significantly contribute to various fields and personal growth. Fire guardians are tasked with the critical responsibility of using fire to help nurture the land by maintaining and sustaining controlled fire. Ensuring the safety and minimizing risk in both natural and urban environments. This experience teaches valuable lessons in fire smart prevention work, crisis management, decision-making, and the importance of teamwork. Moreover, fire guardians develop a deep understanding of their holistic values in indigenous-led fire and environmental impacts, which can be applied to careers in environmental science, emergency services, and safety consultancy. By leveraging these experiences, individuals can cultivate leadership qualities, resilience, and a proactive approach to problem-solving, all of which are invaluable in navigating the complexities of modern professional and personal landscapes.





Meet Our Team

As Fire Guardians, we are committed to our territorial lands. We honor our ancestral wisdom by reinforcing our commitment to protecting what matters most, Indigenous led fire knowledge in brining restoration back to the lands.





Acknowledging from beginning to end

We initiated the pilot project with a group of 20 Fire Guardians. Out of those, we will successfully graduate 13 Fire Guardians, with 5 Guardians dedicated from start to finish.

Our Fire Guardians home communities span from the far north down to southern Saskatchewan

- One Arrow First Nation
- Beardys & Okemasis
- Shoal Lake
- Red Earth Cree Nation
- Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation
- Cumberland House Cree Nation
- Wahpeton Dakota Nation
- Lac La Ronge Indian Band
- James Smith Cree Nation
- Muskeg Lake Cree Nation
- Black Lake Denesuline First Nation
- Kahkewistahaw First Nation
- Okanese First Nation



Team building...

"A team is a group of people with different abilities, talents, experience and backgrounds who have come together for a shared purpose. Despite their own individual differences, that common goal provides the thread that defines them as a team."

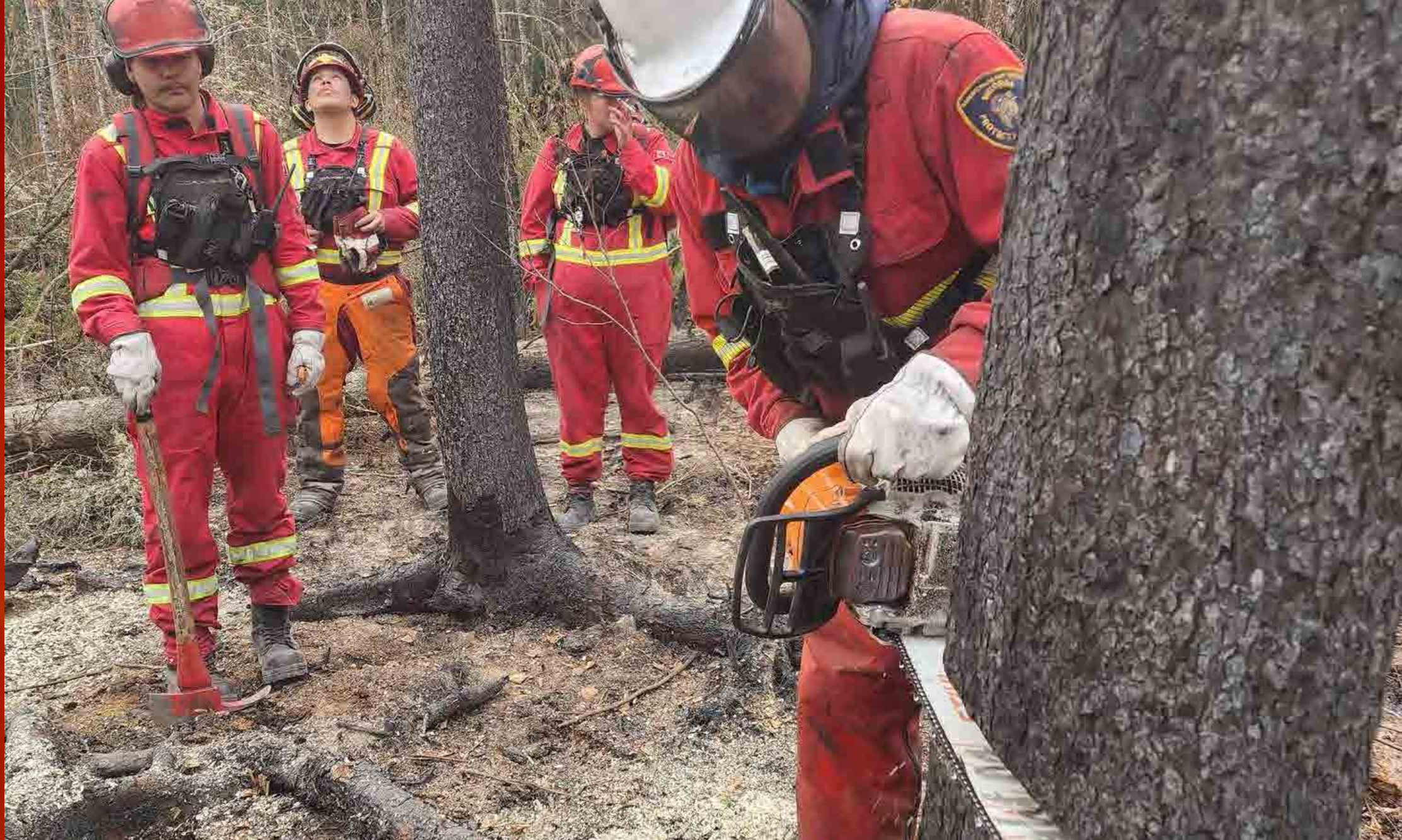
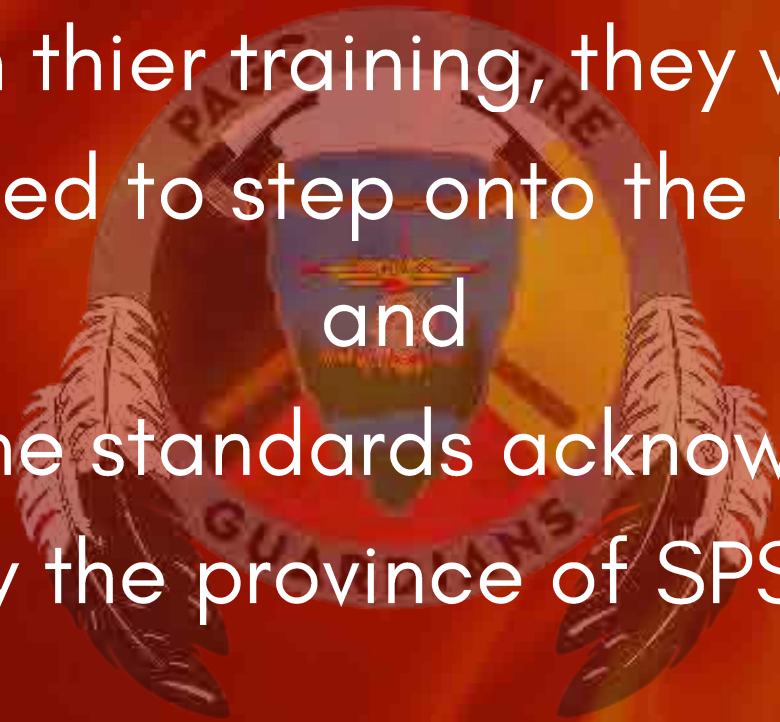




PAGC- Fire Guardians

Meeting the goals with training

With thier training, they were
prepared to step onto the Fireline
and
meet the standards acknowledged
by the province of SPSA



Training Certificate Program...



Our objective is to certify 20 fire guardians through a dedicated fire training and certification program.





ICS-131

INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM

The S-131 course, titled "Firefighter Type 1," is a critical part of this system designed to enhance the skills and knowledge of firefighters who are transitioning from the role of a Firefighter Type 2 to Firefighter Type 1. This training focuses on leadership and situational awareness, providing advanced instruction in fire behavior, tactical decision-making, and crew management. Through this course, participants learn to effectively supervise and direct other firefighters, ensuring safe and efficient operations during complex incidents. The S-131 course is essential for those seeking to take on more responsibility and leadership roles within wildland fire operations.

CHAINSAW TRAINING WITH PAGC INSTRUCTORS





Chainsaw certification

The chainsaw course is built to instill confidence among our team, empowering them as they embark on their future careers...



PAGC- Fire Guardians

Ground ignition OW-305

Crafted to provide individuals with the essential skills needed to safely and effectively initiate controlled burns or manage wildfires.





Cultural Burning in Muskeg Lake Cree Nation



These practices aligned to meet the goals of our program, understanding cultural burning is improving the overall health by....

- **Preserving Indigenous Cultural Values by using fire as a stewardship practice.**
- **Cultural fire can improve wildlife, fostering balance within the food chains and species.**
- **Cultural burning reduces the risks to communities, traplines and cabins.**

Canadian Red Cross



First Responder Training: 40 hours

- Covers the knowledge and skills essential for Professional First Responders, including Basic Life Support (BLS).
- Designed for individuals in emergency medical care or those who may be required to assist someone in an emergency situation.



PROTECTING YOUR COMMUNITIES FROM WILDFIRE



FIRE SUPPRESSION
EQUIPMENT

SAFEGUARDING
VALUES AT RISK

INFRASTRUCTURE

FIRE SMART

Wildfires Prevention and control

Fire guardians managed fuel modifications in and around communities by clearing flammable vegetation, as well recognizing structural and site hazards.



WO-200

TYPE 3

CERTIFICATION

This course typically covers a range of topics, including fire behavior, safety protocols, and the use of fire suppression tools and techniques.



FIRE DEPLOYMENT

2025 Fire Season

PAGC Fire Guardians had the opportunity to set out on seven deployments.

- La Ronge- Pisew
- Choiceland- Shoe fire
- Weyakwin- Ditch Fire
- Denare Beach- Wolf Fire
- Weyakwin- Ditch Fire
- La Ronge- Pisew
- Beauval- Muskeg Fire





Small Non-Pleasure Vessel Basic Safety (SDV-BS)

- Do's and Don't in Small Craft
- Anchoring
- Launching / Recovery
- EMERGENCIES
- Weather
- Fire
- Person in Water
- Medical
- Hypothermia
- Grounding/flooding
- Collision
- Mechanical Failure
- Towing

Small Operator Vessel Proficiency (SVOP)



This training delivers a range of opportunities in the field of emergency response.

Forestry Management
SAR
Police

Fire Management
Medical First Responders



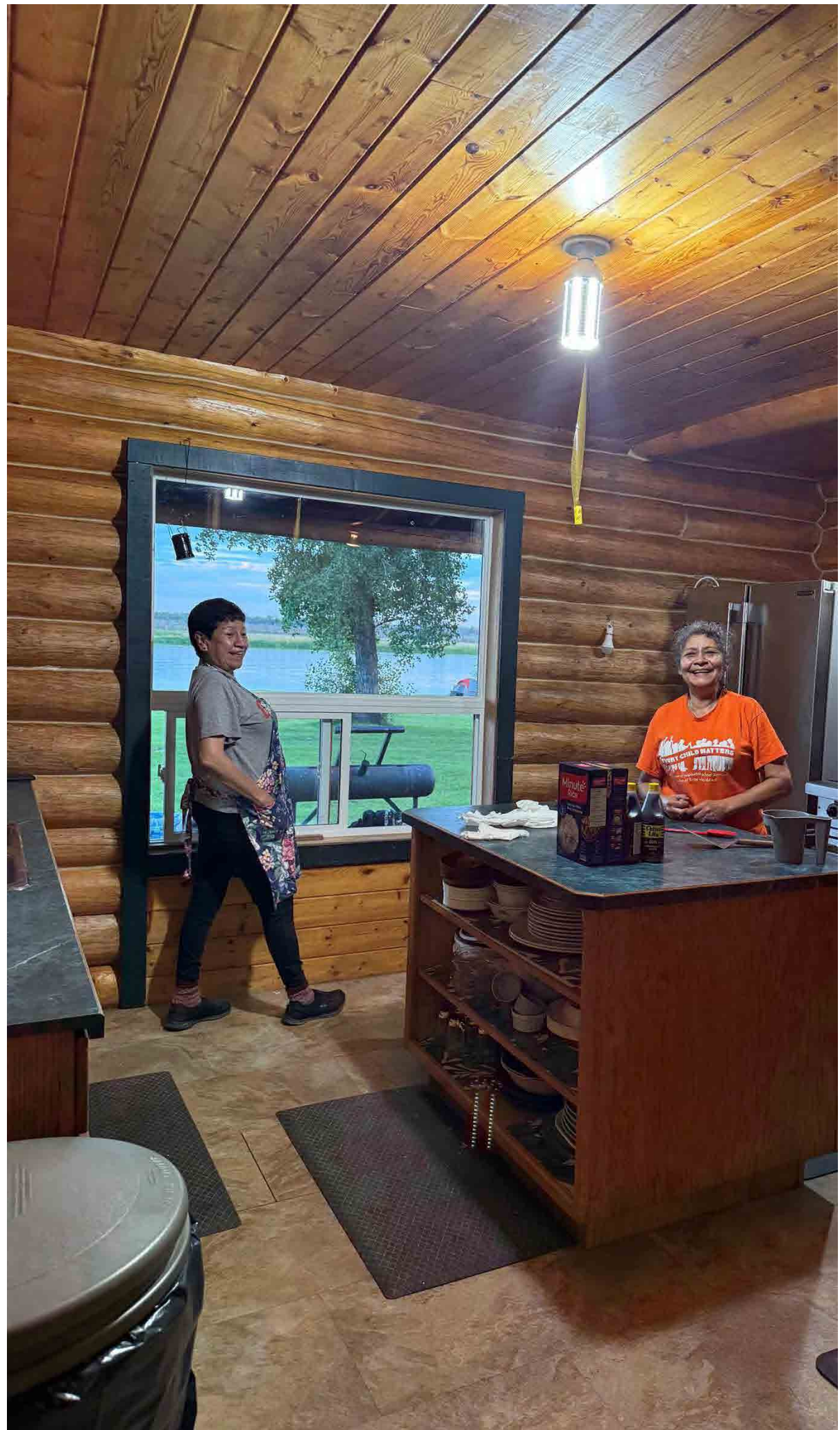


PAGC- Fire Guardians

Mistik Lodge- Harvesting Camp in Cumberland House

- Harvesting involves cultivating a connection with the land
- Relaxation and Prioritizing mental health and cultural well-being.







CREW LEADER

OW- 303

“A crew leader in firefighting is a role that demands exceptional leadership skills”



The guardians got the opportunity to learn how to make critical decisions, manage resources efficiently, and ensure the safety of their crew. This training often includes both classroom instruction and practical field exercises, where trainees can apply their learning in realistic scenarios.

THE GUARDIANS GOT THE FULL EXPERANCE GOING SOLO AS A CREW WITH SPSA!



CanNorth Environmental Services Training

The goal of the training is to equip PAGC's Fire Guardians with an introduction to environmental monitoring, as well as an understanding of the various fields encompassed within environmental science.



Basic Environmental study includes...

Soil surveying and assessment

Habitat classification and assessment

Aquatic Vegetation mapping and water quality monitoring

Environmental effects on burning practices.



ATV/UT





ATV/UTV Rider Course

Students will recognize the risks associated with various maneuvers using the ATV/UTV and learn effective strategies to manage those risks.

These skills have given them the opportunity to educate both themselves and others about their crucial role in safety and the importance of driving carefully while on the job and in community.





VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteering at a firefighting competition is an enriching experience that combines community service with the excitement of witnessing skilled teams in action. As a volunteer, you may be involved in a variety of tasks, such as helping with event setup, managing registration, directing participants, or providing hydration and first aid support. This opportunity allows you to engage with firefighters, learn about their essential skills, and gain insight into the challenges they face. It's also a fantastic way to network with like-minded individuals and contribute to an event that celebrates the dedication and bravery of fire service professionals. Ultimately, your involvement not only supports the smooth running of the competition but also honors the heroic efforts of those committed to protecting their communities.

Empower *your team*

2025 Saskatchewan First Nation
Regional Firefighting competition





We Are Fire

Coming together Camp

The Black Kite Project is an interdisciplinary research project combining drone technology, advanced science, and Indigenous Knowledge of fire to examine smoke released from both wildfires and human managed fires.



- Indigenous Fire knowledge
- Land surveying
- Indigenous- led Research
- Identifying plants and spices.
- Cultural burning
- Sovereignty



INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE





BASIC SEARCH AND RESCUE

CERTIFIED TRAINING

Assisting in locating and helping individuals in distress or missing. Volunteers in these operations often work alongside professionals, utilizing skills such as first aid, navigation, and outdoor survival techniques to ensure successful missions.

This training was provided by PAGC Search and Rescue, ensuring volunteers are well-prepared for the physical and emotional demands of the work.



ACHIEVEMENTS

Everyone faces moments of uncertainty, where they may doubt whether their knowledge and skills are up to the task ahead.

Believing in yourself isn't just certainty that you'll succeed; it's confidence that you can do it, even if you might encounter challenges along the way or fail on the first attempt.

IN THE DOING

They achieved the objectives of the program in numerous significant ways. Most importantly, the guardians are leaving with valuable experiences that they can take with them.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



BLACK KITE

