
The Toronto Star

First Nations Community Invites Canadians to Experience Life on a Reserve

Investment manager John Andras is one of several members of Toronto's Rotary Club who made the trip last year, and says it was "life changing." "We ate together, visitors and community members alike, feasting on moose tongue, caribou, wild goose and lake trout. We laughed, played, sang and rejoiced in our shared humanity," he wrote in a piece reflecting on the experience. [MORE >>](#)

CBC

Remote First Nation Offers One-of-a-kind Vacation for Canadians

They toured homes to get a sense of the housing conditions, and learned about substance abuse and unemployment issues. During an open forum with the chief and council, they learned about the frustrations of trying to work with what one visitor called a "paternalistic" federal government. But they also experienced the Ojicree people's traditional activities such as fishing, canoeing and medicine picking. They ate traditional meals of geese, moose, fish and caribou prepared by local elders. And they learned how tight-knit and resilient a community of 1,300 can be. [MORE >>](#)

CBC

First Nation Invites Strangers to live on Ontario Reserve

"Being native, we face so many stereotypes, so much racism. Hopefully when [the visitors] leave they get to tell their friends, 'They're people, they laugh. Sure they have struggles, but they're there, they're people up there and all they want to do is build bridges and make friends.' Maybe [in the] next generation, things will change." [MORE >>](#)

The Huffington Post

An Invitation to Understand this Remote First Nations Community [on the Royal Visit, a project launched as a result of the Reconciliation trips]

The group that went on the most recent, and little-known, visit in KI included Her Royal Highness The Countess of Wessex (wife of Queen's Elizabeth's youngest son Prince Edward), Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne, incoming Lieutenant-Governor Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Vicki Heyman, the wife of the U.S. Ambassador to Canada, and Sybil Veenman, former senior vice-president of Canadian mining giant Barrick Gold. They spend a few days in the community--and what they saw changed them. What they saw and learned in northern Ontario has turned these women into activists. They are sharing their experiences, and they continue to meet regularly to discuss what else they can do. [MORE >>](#)

The Toronto Sun

Sophie, Countess of Wessex pledges to help bring attention to aboriginal issues in Northern Ontario [on the Royal Visit, a project launched as a result of the Reconciliation trips]

[Ontario Premier] Wynne said she came back from KI with a to-do list of how to help the reserve. Part of her “mandate” statement for her educational and aboriginal affairs ministers is to improve schooling for First Nation kids. The school in KI only goes to Grade 10. After that, students go to communities like Geraldton, Thunder Bay or Dryden for Grades 11 and 12. And that’s wrenching for them. “It’s not technically our jurisdiction to work with kids on reserves because it’s a federal jurisdiction,” Wynne said. “For me the issue is there are kids in Ontario who can’t access Grade 12, and that’s not good enough.” [MORE >>](#)

[The Globe and Mail](#)

How we build a New Relationship with Ontario First Nations

A word that came up many times, before, during and after our stay in KI, was Reconciliation. In the context of our visit, rather than a transaction or a process, reconciliation meant dissolving a relationship that no longer works and building a new one, by watching, listening and bearing witness. [MORE >>](#)

[The National Post](#)

Royal Visit to Remote Ontario Reserve was ‘Moving, Enlightening and Uplifting,’ Countess says

“The people of KI took myself and our delegation into their community and their hearts and shared with us not only their wonderful hospitality and friendship but their stories, their knowledge of the beautiful lake on which they live and also the community issues.” [MORE >>](#)

[The National Post](#)

Hard Luck Aboriginal Community to get Unusual Royal Visit, the First since its Treaty was Signed in 1929

“We are just going to show them the everyday life we live in a remote community,” said Chief Morris. “Let them see it all for themselves — everything from our water-treatment plant, our housing shortages, the prescription drug abuse, our infrastructure, education.” [MORE >>](#)

[The Toronto Star](#)

Film shines light on Canada’s ‘Third World’ by filmmaker Andrée Cazabon
Documentary film, shines light on Third World conditions children endure in northern Ontario First Nations communities.

[TorontoStar](#): Video Preview and review: 3rd World Canada

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<https://www.facebook.com/3rdWorldCanada>