

# Iskigamizigan

SUGAR BUSH PRESENTATION

# Boozhoo! Today's Agenda

- Welcome - Treaty Rights Celebration Week Overview
- Participant Roll Call
- Video titled: Sisibakwat, The Ojibway Maple Harvest
- Sugar Bush Teaching by Cultural Resource team, Todd Moilanen and Max Blake
- Remember your Traditional Values – Share your knowledge
- Q and A: Discussion



# Treaty Rights Virtual Celebration March 15-March 19, 2021

- Lots of fun stuff going on this week in honor and celebration of our 22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the 1999 Supreme Court Case victory!
- **Zoom Participation Raffle:** Join our Harvester Zoom meetings to be entered. Up to 3 entries per person!
  - Next meetings: Wednesday, March 17 and Thursday, March 18 from 11:30-12:30
  - Roll Call: Participants please provide your name and contact information in the chat to enter the raffle drawing for today. If you prefer to message Alyssa privately, please do so.
- **Youth and General Raffle:** Entry deadline is Thursday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm. Please contact Rosa Sam at 320-532-7439 or [Rosa.Sam2@millelacsband.com](mailto:Rosa.Sam2@millelacsband.com) to sign up.
- **Photo Raffle:** Entry deadline is Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm. Send photos of you or your family harvesting from this past year to be entered. Unlimited entries. Please contact Alyssa Welsh at 320-362-1514 or [Alyssa.Welsh@millelacsband.com](mailto:Alyssa.Welsh@millelacsband.com).
- **Virtual Treaty Rights Celebration:** Join us Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup> via Zoom to celebrate! We will draw all of our raffle contests beginning at 11:00am following a short presentation. Some prizes include: Traeger Grill set, Yeti cooler (2), Spearing/Netting packages, Fish cleaning package, Fish cooking package, Food preserving package, fishing trips on Mille Lacs (for youth) and more!

# Sisibakwat: The Ojibway Maple Harvest

- Documentary created in 1961 by the Film Research Company.
- Filmed at Fort Mille Lacs Indian Village.
- This documentary was part of a collection the Band acquired in recent years, and was shared by our Archive department.
- Band members appearing in the film: John and Lucy (Kegg) Clark, George Pendegayosh and young Steve Premo.
- You may notice some variances of wording/spelling than present day.
- <https://youtu.be/oW6P6MTKHII>

# Sisibakwat: The Ojibway Maple Harvest

Steve Premo sharing memories of the making of Sisibakwat



# Sugar Bush Teaching



Cultural Resource team, Max Blake and Todd Moilanen

# First things, first.

- Zhakamodaw – If you have lost a loved one in the past year or it is your first time at sugar bush, it is recommended that you are spoon fed prior to going out. If you need to be spoon fed, please contact our Cultural Resource team at 320-532-7439.
- Biindaakoozh – make a tobacco offering.



# Tree Identification



Aninaatig (Maple) tree can be identified by:

- Bark appears like cooked bacon (mature maple).
- Y shaped or opposite branching.
- Five pointed leaves found at the base of the tree.
- Noticeable pointed dark bud prior to leaf out.
- 10" or larger diameter recommended tapping size.
- Bark is generally gray in color, and you may see sap running down the tree.
- If you need additional assistance in tree recognition, please contact DNR: 320-532-7439.



# Tapping Methods



Negwaakwaan (Spile/Tap) are made from Baakwanaatig (Sumac).

# COOKING AND FINISHING METHODS

On average, 40 gallons of Ziinzibaakwadwaboo (sap) will cook down to 1 gallon of Zhiywaagamizigan (syrup).

Zhiywaagamizigan can then be cooked down to Zinziibaakwad (sugar).

Cooking methods can be done  
over an open fire with a Jiibaakwaanakik/kettle  
or enclosed with an evaporator pan. (see photos below)



Photo provided by Donna Sutton

# Q and A: Discussion

- Please ask questions if you have them.
- Be a Mentor. Let's keep our traditional harvesting practices alive. Help teach others.
- If you have additional questions about the presentation today or the activities this week, please contact our DNR office at 320-532-7439.
- **Miigwech for joining us today!**



# Remember to Practice our Traditional Teachings:

**Gwayakwaadiziwin (Honesty):** To achieve honesty within yourself is to recognize who and what you are. Do this and you can be honest with all others.

**Dabaadendiziwin (Humility):** Humble yourself and recognize that no matter how much you think you know, you know very little.

**Debwewiwin (Truth):** To learn Truth, to live Truth, to walk Truth, and to speak Truth.

**Nibwaakaawin (Wisdom):** To have Wisdom is to know the difference between good and bad and to know the result of your actions.

**Zaagi'idiwin (Love/Compassion):** Unconditional love and compassion is to know that when people are weak, they need your love and compassion the most.

**Manaadendamowin (Respect):** Respect others, their beliefs. Respect yourself. When you practice respect, respect will be given back to you.

**Aakode'ewin (Bravery/Courage):** Have bravery and courage in doing things right even though it may hurt you physically and mentally.