The following are the announcements, events, and activities for the week of November 26, 2012, at Turtle Mountain Community College:

1. I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving weekend – enjoyed with family and friends. My mother, age 88, is still with us and I have every reason to be thankful and grateful for that. As is our tradition, most all of the family (brothers, sisters, children, nephews, nieces, grandchildren) members gather at her house for a big Thanksgiving dinner. It was a wonderful day!

2. A Board of Directors meeting will be held Thursday, Nov. 29th starting at 5:00 pm in the Board Room.

3. On-line registration for Winter Term for currently enrolled students is November 26-30, 2012.

4. Finals for Fall Term is December 3-7, 2012. Good luck students with your final grades.

5. Dr. Lolita Manchano-Smoak and Dr. Perkins with Master Key Consulting will be here Monday through Thursday of this week to work with us in our “Organizing for Success” initiative in the following four areas: (a) Validate results of SWOT and assess potential strategic implications and leadership philosophy; (b) brain storm themes emerging from SWOT analysis, and identify relevant strategies responsive to each of the themes over a specified time horizon; (c) identify TMCC’s top 3-4 strategic goals and identify key metrics and milestones to measure progress towards goal attainment and organizational effectiveness; and (d) identify organizational structure that will enable strategic deployment and organizational effectiveness.

6. Earlier last week I attended a meeting of the Midwest Higher Education Compact (MHEC) which includes a 12-state region of higher education institutions. Among other things, MHEC is an organization that negotiates cost savings with various companies/vendors. Two of these that TMCC can participate in are cost savings in (a) Information Technology, and (b) personal property insurance. TMCC will participate in both of these cost savings initiatives in the future.

7. TMCC is in the process of submitting for a small grant in the amount of $50,000 for youth leadership training. This will be for ages 18-24. If successful in receiving this grant we will collaborate with Pathways to Prosperity (P2P) and design, develop, and implement these activities sometime in 2013. More information will be forthcoming.

8. A personal reflection on Native youth leadership training: In the mid ‘80s I directed a summer youth leadership institute for three years in Bismarck and I will forever remember a comment made by one of our speakers, Tribal Chairman James Allen from a northwest tribe. He said something to this effect: Every night, as the Chairman of our Tribe, when I get ready for my night’s rest, I think of who out there is planning to steal or take our tribal lands and resources. Chairman Allen goes on to say; this is unlike any State Governor who can go to sleep every night believing there is no threat or reason to believe that land from that State will be taken or stolen.

9. We are in the process of advertising for seven positions for our Department (DoL) of Labor grant called TRED. This DoL grant is for four years and addresses workforce training for “oil patch” employment. For TMCC, the workforce training is in CDL (truck driving), concrete finishing, Process Plant Technology, and Welding. This grant is a collaboration of five community colleges in ND including Bismarck State College, Williston State College, Sitting Bull College, Fort Berthold Community College, and Turtle Mountain Community College.

Miigwech, and have a great week!!

Aseenewub – Red Lake Ojibwe: Also known as Little Rock. He was part of the 1863 treaty negotiations where the U.S. government surrounded the Ojibwe negotiators with cannon and threatened them with hanging if they did not sign over their land.
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