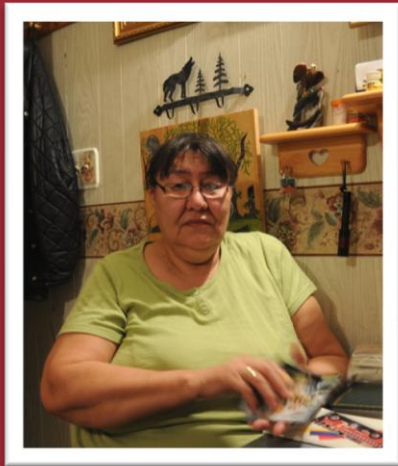


Lena Adam

“Dene Crafts”



Traditional Art & Craft

Box 102

Fond du Lac, SK

SOJ 0W0

(306) 686 – 2073

www.Trapperdesign.synthasite.com

Dene & English

Artwork for Sale

Workshops Available

Will Travel

Artist Biography/Statement

I was born March 11th, 1953 at the old Fond du Lac site. There were a lot of people there at that time. In 1959 I watched my mom work on tanning hides and beading. I asked if I could bead, but my mom didn't have enough beads, so I cried. My mom then took old crafts apart to give me beads. I was very happy then. Today, I always make sure I have lots of beads. My mom taught me how to bead. Today I am selling my work all around Canada. I teach my grandchildren to sew, bead and tan hides and how to make dry meats. I also learned how to make snowshoes, not many left, that know how to do that art. My husband Lawrence and I always lived on and loved the land of our Dene territory. It is important to keep our traditional language and ways, because it makes us who we are.



I can teach any culture thing: hide tanning, net setting and making, trapping, beadwork, dry meat/fish, snowshoes.... Lawrence and I have done many workshops in Fond du Lac and Fort Smith.

Lena's work is part of the Robertson's Trading permanent collection and has been exhibited through the Saskatchewan Craft Council.



Leonard Adam

“Leonard Adam & Sons”



Music (Country, Rock, Pop,
Original)

Leonard Adam

Box 41

Fond du Lac, SK

SOJ 0W0

(306) 686 - 4888

Will Perform

Workshops Available

Will Travel

Artist Biography/Statement

I started playing music at the age of 13 as a back-up fiddle and guitar player with my uncle. I started singing at the age of 17. I've been playing on graduations and at festivals in the northern area. In the 90ies an elder said to me: "You do good music, why don't you do your own?" So I went down to my roots: I was raised by my grandparents. They are 90 years old and they lived in three different worlds. It wasn't easy back then. Everything was on foot, how tough they walked on the land of ours. As I was growing, I always asked questions, about their lives, what they had seen. I brought all this together in my music. My first song was "Relatives" in 1997, it's in Dene. It took me two years to realize it. There's a funny story behind that song. My wife said: "Don't send it to MBC! Nobody sings in Dene. So I send it without even telling her. Couple days later in the morning in June, the sun was up already, I hear on MBC: "Okay, folks, we have something new, really new, he sings in his own language." And they played it. Half an hour later they played it again. They were getting phone calls, people were so choked, they couldn't speak. They said it was a beautiful song. That first day they played it ten times. It got to me, so I had to make an album. After another three years, I realized my first CD, "Spirit Flies" (1999) with six songs in Dene and four in English. I sang about my traditions, but also about Global Warming. I was nominated for the Prairie Music Award. I think I am the first Dene to make a CD in my own language. It's on I-tunes and you can buy it in stores. I travelled a lot over Canada, playing music. In 2005 my youngest boy was about 4 years old, talking about drums. One day at a wedding there was no drummer. He said: "Dad, I'll play it." He just started playing, never missed a beat. Everyone was surprised. And I thought: "My baby is playing music." He asked me to be part of my new CD. He is eleven now. His name is Dene. He plays with me. My oldest son Len is 18. One year at the winter festival, the bass player couldn't come. I phoned around, but couldn't find anybody. My oldest said: "How many songs do you need to play for this gig?" He came from the bedroom to the stage. So there are three of us now. In March we'll go to the studio for my new CD with my sons.

Workshops

We show other communities what we do. Show what kids can do, what is good and what is not. I like to share my culture. Talk to the kids. I like to give back what I learned. We perform at festivals, community events, anything, backyard parties, graduations, fund raisers.



Madeline Adam



Traditional Art & Craft

Storytelling

Box 31

Fond du Lac, SK

SOJ OWO

(306) 686 – 2345

Dene (her son Raymond Adam could translate)

Artwork for Sale

Will Perform

Workshops Available

Will Travel (with escort)

Artist Biography/Statement

My mother is 82 years old. She makes her own hides, sews and does bead work and embroidery. That's a traditional way of living, so it was carried on from her grandmother to her mother and on to the children. Madeline started sewing at a very young age. She made clothing for her dolls. Later, she made fur parkas and pants. In the early 80ies she lived with her family in the Barren Lands, near Damant Lake, that is the last time she made fur clothing for her husband. When she was living on the trap line, the women would tan hides with fur for clothing and without fur for bead work. They sewed at night by candle light. Even Madeline was sewing by candle light. A family had from seven to ten dogs. The ladies would use the dogs the men left behind when they were gone. They always followed the caribou. There used to be lots of animals in the bush. But the people who hunted them are all gone and so are the animals. The young people today would not survive if they lived out there now. In the past, they never used to get welfare or old age pension, so they had to survive by hunting and trapping. Madeline was an only child. Her dad was aging when they moved to Fond du Lac. She still misses everything from her previous life style. She remembers the life she lived as a child. When she got married, they already travelled by plane, but she remembers. She remembers her grandparent's stories. She would listen for hours. That was her entertainment.



Kevin Fern



Visual Art

(Acrylic Painting)

Box 126

Fond du Lac, SK

S0J 0W0

(306) 686 – 4901

English & Dene

Artwork for Sale

Workshops Available

Artist Biography/Statement

I was born in Uranium City. I've been up north all my life. I live in Fond du Lac now. I used to do art for a hobby, when I used to work at the mine site. I also do my art for gifts and sometimes I sell them. I've been painting for more than 20 years. I like to paint wolves, eagles, caribou, moose and bears. I paint in my own style. I haven't painted for a while, I just like doing it for fun. It is my gift. One day I decided to hold a paint brush and started doing it.



Workshops

I like to give out ideas on how to do my artwork, I would bring some picture in and then I would teach them to grab a paint brush and learn.

Elizabeth Marten



Traditional Art & Craft

Box 69

Fond du Lac, SK

S0J 0W0

(306) 686 4871

Dene & English

Artwork for Sale

Workshops Available

Will Travel

Artist Biography/Statement

I like doing beadwork. So I do beadwork all the time. I make my own hide and tan furs. I was born in Fond du Lac. I have never lived in the bush. There weren't many people at Fond du Lac first, but there are quite a few now. I have been married 51



years. My husband brings me hides from the bush. He's 76 years old. We both scrape the hide and smoke them next to my house. My grandmother taught me how to bead when I was about 20 years old. I just watched her and did it. I make my own designs and bead straight onto the leather. Right now I am making four pairs of mukluks for the Canadian Rangers when they come by on their patrol in March.

Workshops

I sometimes teach in school, just little small things, just one day. The children are not too interested. If it was for a week, they would learn something. They can't make a pair of mitts in a day! Kids nowadays don't even know how to use a thimble, so you would need to start there. If I can teach a longer class - like a week long - I could teach making mitts, gloves, embroidery. I would need moose hide and if they want I can teach anything.



Eveline Mercredi



Traditional Art & Craft

Box 266

Fond du Lac, SK

S0J 0W0

(306) 686 -2028

Dene & English

Artwork for Sale

Workshops Available

Will Travel

Artist Biography/Statement

I was born in March 1940. I am the youngest in the family. My mom never taught me. “Baby should not work”, she said. That was back then. But I watched her. She used to sew a lot. She made jackets out of caribou hide, beautiful white ones. In 1959 I made my first moccasin for my husband and it turned out good. From that time on I have been sewing. Nobody taught me, I learned by looking at people and mom working. I made my own hide. When I bead I make my own designs. I use a stick, dipped in Bingo marker to draw out the design, before I start beading. I do a lot for my family. Now I am overworked!

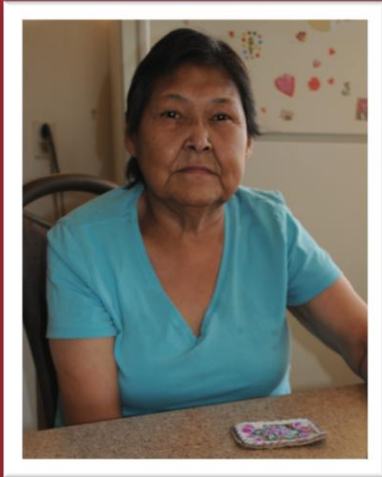


Workshops

Sometimes the school asks me to teach, but I don't really do it anymore, because the kids don't really care about it. I don't know any young people who do beadwork or could make a moose hide. They don't try. I would teach though, if they would be happy to learn.



Eleanore Pichet



Traditional Art & Craft

Box 186

Fond du Lac, SK

S0J 0W0

(306) 686 – 4914

Dene & English

Artwork for Sale
(sometimes)

Workshops Available (if
health allows)

Artist Biography/Statement

I was born in Fond du Lac in 1947. I grew up here and went to school here. There is not much to tell. It's a quiet town. I had seven children, four of them died. Now I have only three, they are all grown up. The youngest is 47 years old. I had 18 grand children, one lives with us all the time. I don't know when I started doing beadwork, I did it on my own after I got married in 1964. My late sister in law did



it, so I started doing it with her. I usually do a lot at home, but I am out of material. I don't know if they have some material at the store. I would be nice to have a group, where we meet - let's say twice a week - and do beadwork just for fun.

