

Community Messages

To Our Nak'azdli Whutenne

As you all know I work for SD which is a great place to work. We have a good team working for the people.

I would like to thank the community for supporting my family, especially Marcel Prince, as that is what the fundraising was for, so family can go and spent time with him during the difficult time that he had just gone through. My grandson had leukemia a few years back, if he had made it past 3 years he would've been fine, but before school started there was signs that he was getting ill, the first sign was, his leg was very sore, his mom had phoned me and told me, I thought nothing of it, she had given him something for that and he slept most of the day. The second sign was his two dogs whom had passed away not long ago, they had come to him during the night and licked his face, I thought 'now why are they visiting him?' they had done that a couple times within a few months as they had unconditional love for him, as he for everyone else. The third sign was that we were not getting any luck with the hunting, my husband and his close friends kept going out but no luck; and hunting season started.

The one evening as I was brushing his teeth he showed me all the spots on his body, my spirit became alarmed, I figured I need to bring him to the hospital asap in the morning, I did, that evening at 9 pm the phone rang, I looked at the number, it said Davis on there, I knew then that it was not good news. I answered and the usual "how are you doing?" he told me that his counts were at 6 and that we need to get him to childrens' hospital asap, like tomorrow. Phoned miss Jackie explained to her and she cried, all the arrangements were made to bring him down that day, grateful to her for the support she had given the family.



After he had arrived he had to be tended to right away. Because his counts were so low he developed a bowel infection, with this he suffered a lot couldn't eat for 10 days, he was in so much pain, his parents stayed during that time; the toughest part of it all. With the money that the Beaver clan had given us, and the fundraising that my family had done, we sent five of my relatives down, they stayed for a few days, rooms and food paid for, which I am so grateful from the community for supporting this. We had to get family down there as he was in so much pain, as we phoned down daily to check on everything. It was a difficult time for all, thank you to everyone for praying for him because of your prayers and caring for him, he started to get better from the E.coli, it was such a relief when Bernice phoned and told me, I cried because it is so difficult because what he was going through, I'm sure other families know how it is when your grandchild is suffering with this sickness.

Before I had gone down I made arrangements for Lavern to go down, but he changed his mind, Marcel told him to keep working. So here I was with two rooms booked, I phoned Jenny and asked her if she was going down, she said that she was just

going to start phoning to book rooms, I told her that I have some rooms booked, she was hesitant about taking the rooms, I told her its fine, but she kept insisting she can't take it, I told her it is the long weekend and Vancouver is very busy, in the end she took the rooms, we both paid as "team marcel" was going to stay, 6 players went down. I did not know when they were going to arrive on Sat. I was just sitting in the room, and Marcel was texting someone, he sat up real fast and told the nurse that his players were in town, he "I'm the captain" she was surprised, You have team?, she asked, he said that they were outside the door, I jumped up and said "why didn't you tell me. I went to the door and there they were, waiting with a trophy, in my heart I was crying, it just look so beautiful with all of them standing there.

Thanks to Jenny and Kenny Martin they took the time to go and visit him, tube mussi cho, forever grateful to them all "Young Chiefs, as you are all chiefs because of spending time with Marcel. When they walked in, Marcel was so happy, I was happy. I left the room and took a break but checked on him, because, as I always worry about him even though the team was caring for him during their visit. They stayed for about 5 hours they all had a great time, the energy was so amazing, because of the team and the coaches he recovered quicker. Before they had arrived he developed shingles which clears up in ten days with medication. They visited the next day and left for a bit to have a bite to eat, when they came back Mar was sound asleep, just like a baby. The team wanted to see him one more time before they left. After they started going home Jenny texted me and said that they cried for Marcel, that's how much they love him, mussi young CHIEFS of our community tube. Thank You Jenny and Kenny Martin.

Warren and Margaret went down to visit him, and I helped Warren with that, which is fine as they have always been there, since the first time he

had become ill, thank you sis Margaret.

I thank Michelle and Roger for being there through the most difficult time for Marcel, tube mussi, as you are his parents and had always been there for him, getting many of his needs met. Ex; getting his electronics going as Roger is very good about that, he always takes care of those things, and shopping for his art stuff and a beautiful foam rug for his feet when he stands up, the nurse really liked that, me too. That's the best thing that these two do for Marcel is give him unconditional love, especially Roger, he never yells at his children, just talks to them calmly, and does many things for them, tube mussi yudusni.

As for my husband Lavern he is down there with him now, he never takes time off work but for Marcel he has, very amazing that he did. Gary Holdis drove him down after a few hrs of driving a deer hit my van, so gotta put it in a shop, at least they are ok.

My husband is new to all this the hospital, where to do laundry, this and that, but he is doing it because he has too. Laver got Marcel up moving around and drinking the healthy drinks as he has lost weight, but Mar will listen as he knows his grampa, and me we get some of his needs met not all as his parents do the rest. We have always been strict with him, that way he can learn respect for us and others around him, that is why he cannot step over the line, because we will let him know.

As of right now he is doing well hopefully will recover faster because of all that the people have done for us, tube mussi ths'iyā. Because of all the donations and fundraising we were able to send family down and help Roger and Michelle to return home, and send Michelle back down to help me, now we are going to send Isabelle down to help until they move to Ronald McDonald. Isabelle had asked "where am I going to stay?" I said Ronald

McDonald, and you have to dress like him in order for you to stay there, we just laughed about that, got to joke around once in awhile.

I would like to thank every person who has helped financially and mentally, because of all, we manage to go and visit and stay with him. This community is strong and caring when it comes to families in a crisis, or when a child becomes ill. Thank you to all who have supported us during this difficult time, we are grateful and enjoy living on Nakazdli Reserve.

Edna Cameron and Family.