

Besøk til Turtle Mountain, North Dakota 5. oktober 2011:

Turtle Mountain Times - October 10, 2011— 6A

Advertising



Sissel Sollied, Les Thomas, Kurt Magne Stormo, Gunnt Munde, Miriam Sem and Willie Davis

**Visitors from Norway meet with
Turtle Mountain community members
to discuss disability advocacy**

Visitors from Norway meet with Turtle Mountain community members to discuss disability advocacy

By: Willie Davis,
TM Times

BELCOURT - Four visitors from the country of Norway came to the Turtle Mountain area last Wednesday as a planned meeting set up in conjunction between the North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities at Minot State University and the Turtle Mountain Tribal Tourism Department. The visitors arrived at the SkyDancer Hotel & Casino and were escorted by Leah McCloud to the Turtle Mountain Tribal Headquarters to meet with the Chairman & Council for an informational meeting & were presented with gifts.

Those visiting included Miriam Sem, a Norwegian student who is attending UND in Grand Forks and will graduate in 2012 with a degree in social work. She was invited by Gunnt Tove Mundt to attend the trip to Turtle Mountain College. Her visit was to learn more about the Native American culture in order for her to get a better understanding of the Native people.

Sissel Sollid is an Associate Professor from the University of Tromso, which is located in the city of Tromso, Norway and is the largest research and educational institution in northern Norway that provides program studies on the Saami culture.

Sollid commented, "It was a wonderful trip to Turtle Mountain, thank you for all the hospitality we were given." Her significant reason for coming to North Dakota was to first lecture about disability at a conference in Minot. She wanted to visit Turtle Mountain to get another perspective on the situation for people with disability. She stated, "I wondered what the UN (United Nations) convention had done for you? Her research is in the field of disability, human beings with severe disability and communication problems.

A major question she asked was "if the situation for the indigenous people with handicap is different from the rest of USA (other tribes) and why?" She also wondered, "Why we (Indians and/or members of each tribes) were not present at the conference and why you decided not to go or were not invited?" She continued on, "I want to know what kind of services do tribal members with severe disability get? And finally I was interested in learning more about your lifestyle..."

Kurt Magne Stormo, a civil engineer in the Road Department in Norway makes movies and recently finished a

documentary about the Coastal Sami people. He is very interested in coming back to the Turtle Mountains and document the cultures and people and/or to make movie

Gunnt Tove Mundt is an Associate professor at Harstad University College in the field of sociology. Together with Kurt she is working with cultural and Sami topics of Special Social and Health Issues and is also a member of a Kystsamene - Coastal Sami. She also serves as an advocate for people with disabilities, mainly because of an aunt who was a Sami woman that suffered from a disability.

Mundt commented about her experience as, "The visit to Turtle Mountain reservation helps me to get another picture of the Indian culture, "killing" all the prejudice the USA majority spread in the media."

The Norwegian visitors represent the perspective fields of research, filmmaking and disability advocacy. They were interested in knowing more about the local cultural traditions of the Turtle Mountain and other North Dakota tribes, especially on how services to people with disabilities are offered. Much of the roundtable discussion focused on the similarities of the Turtle Mountain origins in relation to the Saami and/or Sami (the indigenous peoples of Norway), who have lived in Norway much longer than the Norwegians. They had hoped to gain an overall perspective of the process of service delivery and availability of services for those tribal members who have a disability. They also want to find local contacts and/or establish networks so that they can develop similar assistance to those living with a disability in the country of Norway, especially the indigenous people.

Turtle Mountain members that accompanied the visitors were: Leah McCloud, Turtle Mountain Tribal Tourism Director, Les Thomas, Vice Chairman of Turtle Mountain Tourism and Willie Davis, Disability Advocate.

Rolette Community Care Center

Patient Census Ending 10/06/2011

Josephine Poitra
Duane Kavlie
Ronnie Phillipp
Gary Mattson
Leona Davis
Mary 'Stella' LaFountain
Rita LaFloe
Georgeline Longie
Joe Barnard
Martha Belgarde
Rita McCormack
Zelda Lilley
Vivian Poitra
Agnes Pepoon
Emma Gunville
Joseph D. Allard
Fred 'Andy' Page
Velma Millang
Rachel Parisien
Albert Lagasse

Above list includes those residents who allow their names to be published.

Presentation Medical Center

Patient Census ending 10/06/2011

Admissions:

Lillian Hoeger, Belcourt
Lorraine Desjarlais
Shirley Welander, Rolla
Ethel Neameyer
Raymond Hudson
Eugene E. Kresbach, St. John
Vita Azure, Dunseith

Discharges:

Eugene E. Kresbach, St. John
Raymond Hudson, Rolla
Vita Azure, Dunseith

