

## PRESS RELEASE – Canada's First Reading Camp

On Tuesday, June 20th, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. the Welcome to Nairn Centre wooden signs will be decorated with a banner commemorating the efforts of Alfred Fitzpatrick of Frontier College. He introduced Canada's First Reading Camp to the lumber camp workers in 1899.

This information was uncovered last summer by Evelyn Diebel who is a community member, Professor of Adult Literacy at Cambrian College Espanola Campus, as well as a Masters of Adult Education student at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia specializing in Community Development. She initially brought this information forward to the Nairn-Hyman Town Council and with their approval and funding proceeded to put the community of Nairn Centre on the map in order to celebrate Canada 150.

She would like to thank the Mary Micheal Library at St Francis Xavier University, Frontier College, OK signs, Deputy Mayor Brigitta Gingras, as well as all of the township staff and community members that expressed an interest in this historical discovery.

The fact sheet has more information.

If you are interested in learning more, please feel free to contact Evelyn Diebel 705-869-5149 or 705-988-4339(cell).