



June 2014

Wahta Atenhros:sera Ori:wa

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We're on the Web!

www.wahtamohawks.com

Notice

Our Administration Office has temporarily relocated to 2343 Muskoka Road #38, Bala (The Old Band Hall)

705-762-3343

We are settling into our new location and look forward to continuing to serve the community!



Notice

The Wahta Nursing Station has been temporarily relocated to 2350 Muskoka Road # 38, Bala

705-762-1274

(The Resource Center)





Council Update

It has been some time since the last update early in April. As many of you already know the Wahta Community Centre and Administration grounds are still being occupied by some community members, and the centre is currently not functioning. Most services are operating out of the old administration offices however they are not running to their full potential. Council has determined it is their legal responsibility to staff not to have them work at the Community Centre as long as the gates to the grounds are closed by the protest. While this is far from the ideal situation, staff of Wahta Mohawks must be commended on remaining on duty and trying to perform their jobs under such duress. A good example of this occurred the week of May 19 when staff reported for work and had to put up with the foul smell of rotting fish that were strewn around the building during the previous night, work without internet access and had to revert to cell phone use temporarily due an act of vandalism that resulted in the telephone lines to the building cut from the outside.

With respect to what appears to be the crux of the issue, Council maintains the

Administration Code must be reviewed and revised in order to meet the future needs of good governance. That work is ongoing and should be released to you, the membership of Wahta, in a short period of time. The goal is to begin the process of education and a full consultation that will point out the many items of the Code that many feel need to be addressed.

Another issue raised was that Council moved their office back into the main building and the group states they will not move as long as Council is operating out of that building. In fact, the Council does not have a presence there, an office was set up for the Chief and Council to carry out their duties. This in no way has anything to do with being involved in the day to day operation of the programs and services. The move was made to be located in an accessible building with no stairs to climb, where members could drop by if they had any concerns. For the most part this move was supported and well received. The office now has access to up to date equipment and carries a more professional, modern, open atmosphere.

Messages sent out by the group on the internet state Council must remove itself

from direct control of program administration and accept Community accountability laws. The message goes on to state direct supervision and control over hiring/firing, raises, contracts, membership, land transfers etc. raises the issue of no appearance of fairness or due process. This is a confusing statement as apparently everyone has agreed, and it is stated in the Administration Code with regard to staffing, that Staff, Senior Administrator, Boards, and Committees have been appointed by Council to carry out administration and program and services. This Council wants no direct control over the day to day activities of the organization, however, it is their duty to ensure the organization operates fairly, and within budgets. This is obviously an area that needs improvement and clarity.

The message being sent by the group is that without the Code there could be corruption in the future by Councils. This Council has never said there should not be a Code, but that people need to know what the Code contains which requires more than the mailing of a thirty page document, (additional addendums not included) with little explanation. Allegations of cronyism ("cronyism is partiality to long-standing friends, especially by appointing them to positions of authority, regardless of their qualifications") and non-accountability are cited as examples. It is clear that these are principles to be held and looking at the organization in the past, a case can be made that these items were not followed. Council has no intention of not following such principles of good governance. At the last Council meeting community members called for an investigative audit of the finance records and those in attendance agreed. Council

agreed to this request and began the process, however the building was immediately locked down before that could happen.

As far as communication with the protestors Council did send a three point message to the group regarding starting discussions on the matters at hand. Council maintains that a small group should meet with full Council so that smooth non- disruptive discussion can occur. To date the response has been that only the Chief should meet with the group. Having stated their position Council did not see the value in this approach and waits to hear about a meeting which would speed up the process of talks.

Overall, Council is the legal authority at the end of the day. The members of Wahta Mohawks voted Council into office, and by doing so have expressed their trust and desire to have changes brought forward so all the membership can voice their opinions and participate in voting regarding such fundamental documents as the Codes. The process of voting by a show of hands by those at a public meeting does not meet the needs of the whole membership, a membership that is spread mostly over Ontario, Canada, and the U.S.

If and when a meeting is secured with the protestors at the Administration grounds, Council will be issuing further updates. In the meantime the administration, staff and community at large is having to undergo undue hardship, services are impaired and significant extra costs are being accrued in order to carry on business. Chief and Council wish to thank everyone for their continued support and patience during this challenging time.

Nia:wen kowa

HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAMMING



BABY BAND WORKSHOP

JUNE 12, 10AM-2PM

**TRIPLEX COMMON ROOM
CONTACT COLLEEN TO RESERVE YOUR
SPOT
(705) 762-3343 EXT. 202 OR 203**

KIDS AFTER SCHOOL ART WORKSHOP

JUNE 13, 3:30PM- 6 PM

**TRIPLEX COMMON ROOM
CONTACT COLLEEN TO REGISTER YOUR
CHILD
(705) 762-3343 EXT. 202 OR 203**

HERB PLANTING

JUNE 16, 10 AM

TRIPLEX COMMON ROOM

RSVP TO CHRISTINE AT 705-762-3344 EXT. 202 OR 203

KIDS SUN SAFETY WORKSHOP

JUNE 27, 1PM- 3PM

TRIPLEX COMMON ROOM

**CONTACT COLLEEN TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD
(705) 762-3343 EXT. 202 OR 203**

COMING SOON!

KIDS ANNUAL SWIMMING LESSONS

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD CONTACT COLLEEN AT
(705) 762-3343 EXT. 202 OR 203**

ALL HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAMMING WILL BE DELIVERED AT THE TRIPLEX COMMON ROOM

Alcoholics Anonymous

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

Meetings*

*Registration is not necessary for meetings. They are on a drop-in basis.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10:30 am	8:00 pm	6:00 pm	8:00 pm.	No Meeting	12:00 pm	No Meeting
Open to ALL	Alcoholics ONLY	Alcoholics ONLY	Alcoholics ONLY		Alcoholics ONLY	
Gravenhurst Senior's Centre	Bala United Church	Trinity United Church	Trinity United Church		Trinity United Church	
480 First St. N.	3115 Muskoka Rd	290 Muskoka Rd. N.	290 Muskoka Rd. N.		290 Muskoka Rd. N.	
Gravenhurst	Bala	Gravenhurst	Gravenhurst		Gravenhurst	

To speak directly to Alcoholics Anonymous or Al-Anon, please call their Bracebridge office at 705-646-2491. For more information or help making the first step, call Kirstie at 705-762-3344 Ext. 203.

CHIEF AND COUNCIL

PHILIP FRANKS	CHIEF	705-528-9468
TERESA GREASLEY	COUNCILLOR	705-644-9934
STUART LANE	COUNCILLOR	705-641-1548
MIKE DECAIRE	COUNCILLOR	705-644-3384
KAREN COMMANDANT	COUNCILLOR	705-644-9894

ADMINISTRATION

(TEMPORARY) 705-762-3344

SCOTT AUBICHON	LANDS AND RESOURCES COORDINATOR	EXT. 205
KRISTAL BERWICK	OW/EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING ADMINISTRATOR	EXT. 204
HARRY BYRNE	MAINTENANCE TEAM LEAD	
MISTY BYRNE	MEDICAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	705-762-1274
SHERRY BYRNE	HEALTH SERVICES MANAGER	EXT. 202
CHRISTINE COX	HEALTH SERVICES FAMILY VIOLENCE	EXT. 203
AMY DAVIDSON	HEALTH SERVICES ASSISTANT	EXT. 202
TERRY DECAIRE	MAINTENANCE WORKER	
ALLAN FARRELL	PROPERTIES MANAGER	705-644-4969
KIRSTIE HENDERSON	HEALTH SERVICES ADDICTIONS	EXT. 203
CAROL HOLMES	EDUCATION SERVICES	EXT. 204
MIKE MCPHERSON	FINANCIAL ACCOUNTANT	EXT. 201
COLLEEN MENDES	AHWS/NCWPW	EXT. 202
SANDRA MONETTE	SENIOR ADMINISTRATOR	EXT. 200
KIM NORTH	FINANCE – ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	EXT. 201
KAREN SAHANATIEN	LANDS AND HOUSING CLERK	EXT. 205
MARTIE STANTON	EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	EXT. 200
DANA STRENGTH	NURSE PRACTITIONER	705-762-1274

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

Summer Student Funding

Wahta Mohawks has secured funding for one position this summer through Human Resources and Skills Development Canada. The position is at the Administration Building working as a Health Services and Reception Assistant. The duties for this position consist of but not limited to are: organizing and providing data input of excess supplies, data input of participants attending programs and follow up evaluations, filing, research, record keeping, assist with programs, front desk Reception, archives, shredding, greeting and assisting visitors and answering the phone.

Students who are eligible to participate must:

- Be between 15 and 30 years of age at the start of the employment
- Have been registered as full-time students in the previous academic year and intend to return to school on a full-time basis in the next academic year
- Be Canadian citizens, permanent residents, or have official refugee protection status under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act
- Be legally entitled to work in Canada in accordance with relevant provincial/territorial legislation and regulations.

*foreign students are not eligible

If you are interested in this position, please send your resume stating the position you are applying for to: kristal.berwick@wahtamohawks.ca Fax 705-762-4958.

I have applied to Aboriginal and Northern Development Canada for Summer Work Experience funding. Please watch the newsletter for progress in securing this funding.

Intake applications are ongoing for Kagita Mikam Employment & Training Programs. If you are unemployed, underemployed or out of school and would like to receive training to get back into the workforce then support is available upon meeting the criteria and funding availability.

Programs available through Kagita Mikam are: Purchase of Training, Targeted Wage Subsidy, Mobility Assistance, Youth Work Experience, Employment Assistance Supports and Self Employment Assistance. Funding for training is for 1 year only. Members of Wahta Mohawks without status are eligible for funding. A Letter from Wahta Mohawks stating that you have membership must be provided. Members with status must provide status number and membership letter. For more information on the program please contact Kristal at 705-762-4958 or by email kristal.berwick@wahtamohawks.ca

Social Assistance clients: Please bring your income reports and hydro/propane bills to the Old Band Hall. Please put information in the locked black box provided at the Administration entrance. Income reports due by the 15th of each month. Bills received due asap.

THE WAHTA NURSING STATION

Dana Strength NP – PHC

T: (705) 762-1274

Hours of Operations: By Appointment

Monday: 8:00 – 4:30

Tuesday: 8:00 – 4:30

Wednesday: 12:00 – 8:00

Thursday: 8:00 – 4:30

Friday: 8:00 – 2:00

Closed Weekends and Statutory Holidays.

Important Announcement

Due to a demonstration at the Community Administration Building, the Wahta Nursing Station has been temporarily relocated.

If you wish to book an appointment with the Nurse Practitioner please call the Nursing Station at 705-762-1274 and speak to the receptionist.

We are currently NOT accepting walk-in appointments.

Please note that during this time we have minimal services and hours and are also not wheel chair accessible.

If you are looking for a prescription renewal please have your pharmacist fax an authorization to 705 762-4809.

Please remember our policy is still 5 business days to process all prescription renewals

The Rosseau Nursing Station (705) 732-1095 and Moose Deer Point Nursing Station (705) 375-9900 as well as any walk-in-clinic of your choosing is available to all our patients.

We apologize for this inconvenience and thank you for your understanding.

Dana and Misty

EDUCATION

POST SECONDARY EDUCATION

Congratulations on the success of all our students who have been working hard to meet their educational goals. Another year typically has ended and students are able to take a break over the summer months. We do however have some students in post-secondary whose programs continue over the summer months and the break is not available to them. Keep up the great work everyone!

This is a reminder: Students must submit their grades to me as soon as possible. Continued funding is contingent upon receiving marks. Once received, I can begin to send letters of sponsorship to the school that you are attending in September to continue funding of programs. Please note however, because I am unable to obtain email messages prior to a certain date, if you have sent in marks previously please confirm with me that I have your information. So sorry about this inconvenience.

The language programming that was occurring bi-weekly since August 2, 2013 is placed on hold, as of the end of May 2014. At this time we plan to create a proposal to our Trust Fund to investigate the feasibility of creating a cultural/language resource

center which would include a cultural and language opportunities. "Healing through Language" is the focus of this initiative and would involve traditional healers to support the community in the movement toward wellness.

A proposal had been submitted by our Senior Administrator to the Canadian Heritage Foundation requesting **\$30,000.00 for language funding** earlier this year. Due to the inability to access and provide the additional information required, unfortunately we have lost this funding.

The tutoring program has continued to provide the necessary supports to the students; however the group sessions have been cancelled. We hope to be able to continue to provide the full services to our students this fall.

The annual **Education Banquet** will be held on **Wednesday June 18, 2014**. The location for this event is the Wahta Longhouse. Please RSVP your attendance by June 11. I encourage all community members to come out and support our children and youth in their accomplishment.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL MEMBERS CELEBRATING THEIR BIRTHDAY IN JUNE



Giant Hogweed

(*Heracleum mantegazzianum*)

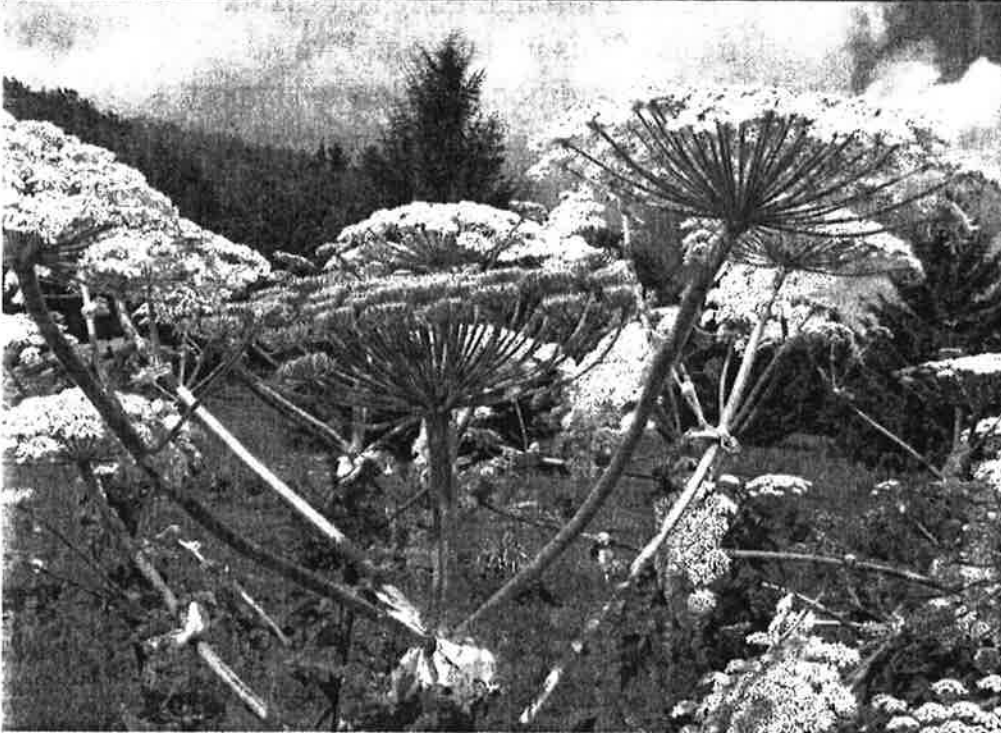


Photo courtesy of Patrick Hodge, MNR

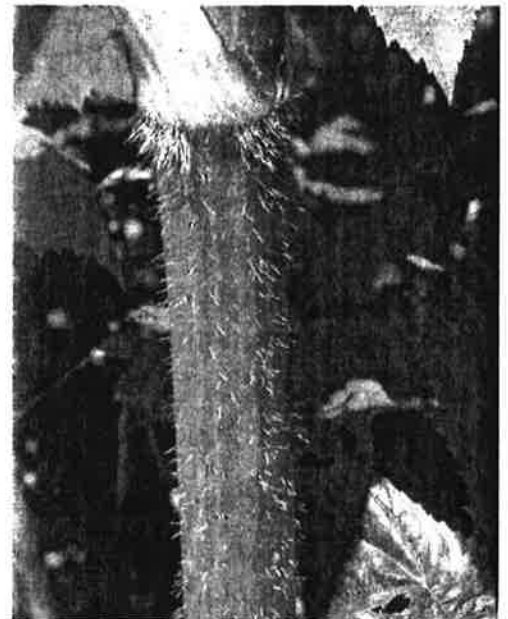
Similar Species

There are a number of plants that look very similar to Giant hogweed such as Cow parsnip, Purplestem angelica, Woodland angelica, Valerian, Lovage, and Queen Anne's-Lace (also known as Wild carrot). However, these plants are not as large as a mature Giant hogweed, which grows up to 5.5 metres tall under ideal conditions. The white flower clusters resemble those of Queen Anne's-Lace, but tend to be more widely spaced and can form a flower-head almost one metre wide.

Distribution

Giant hogweed has a scattered distribution across southern and central Ontario, south of the line from Manitoulin Island to Ottawa.

Giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*), also known as Giant cow parsnip is a perennial plant and a member of the carrot family. It is a garden ornamental from southwest Asia that is naturalizing in North America and becoming more common in southern and central Ontario. Giant hogweed has the potential to spread readily and grows along roadsides, ditches and streams. It invades old fields and native habitats such as open woodlands.



Giant hogweed stem. Note coarse hairs.
Photo courtesy of Ron Black, MNR

ontario.ca/invasivespecies



Giant hogweed stalk and flower clusters.
Photo courtesy of Karen Rimmer

Biology

Seeds may take several years to germinate and are viable in the soil for up to 15 years. During the first year, the plant produces a rosette of leaves up to one metre high. After 2 to 5 years the plant produces flowers. As it grows a large root, thick hollow stems and large lobed leaves are formed. The stems of the plant are covered with reddish-purple flecks and stiff hairs filled with sap. Sap may also collect in the hollow stem bases. Giant hogweed flowers once in its lifetime, unless the flower clusters are damaged before opening. Once the plant produces seeds it dies. Each plant can produce up to 120,000 winged seeds (typically 50,000). Seeds dropped in streams can float for three days. They can move long distances via water in ditches and streams. Seeds can also be spread up to 10 metres by the wind.

Natural Resource Impacts

There is evidence that Giant hogweed can shade out native plants, although scientists have not done extensive research on its impact in Ontario or Canada. In the United Kingdom it grows in areas bordering lakes, streams, and wetlands and causes rocks, soil and other material on stream banks to fall into streams. This threatens salmon spawning sites. Similar impacts may occur in Ontario.

Health Concerns

The clear watery sap of Giant hogweed contains toxins that can cause severe dermatitis (inflammation of the skin). You can get severe burns if you get the sap on your skin and the skin is then exposed to sunlight. Symptoms occur within 48 hours and consist of painful blisters. Purplish scars may form that last for many years. Eye contact with the sap has been reported (in the media and by various web sites) to cause temporary or permanent blindness. However, evidence of permanent blindness linked to exposure to Giant hogweed cannot be substantiated by any existing research. Coming in contact with Cow parsnip and Wild parsnip can cause similar reactions.

Prevention

Do not purchase, trade or grow Giant hogweed in your garden. Only buy native or non-invasive garden plants. When you transport soil, sand or gravel make sure it is free of Giant hogweed – both plant parts and seeds.

Removal and Management

If you have Giant hogweed on your property, it is recommended that you hire a professional exterminator to remove it. The plant will be removed safely and as few seeds as possible will be spread. Reducing a large population of Giant hogweed will take a long term commitment. The best time to remove the plant is in late April or early May. It is usually less than 30 centimetres tall, easier to dig up, and more susceptible to herbicides at this time of year. It is also cooler in the spring than in the summer so wearing protective clothing is more comfortable.

Protective clothing: Wear protective clothing, including waterproof gloves, long sleeve shirts, pants, and eye protection. It is ideal to wear a disposable "spray suit" coverall over top of your normal clothing (spray suits are commercial grade waterproof coveralls). Remove protective clothing carefully to avoid transferring any sap from your clothing onto your skin. Wash your rubber gloves with soap and water, and then take off your spray suit or outer clothing. Wash your rubber gloves again and then take them off. Finally, take off your protective eye wear. Put non-disposable clothing in the laundry and wash yourself immediately with soap and water.

Mechanical control:

Spring Removal (i.e. early May):

Use a spade to remove as much of the root as possible. Digging up older plants can be difficult since roots can grow deeper than one metre. The plant might re-grow from the root and you may need to dig repeatedly to remove it completely. Or, you can cover the dug area with black plastic to smother out new growth. If it's possible to use machinery, mow new growth every two weeks.

Summer Removal (i.e. early July):

- **Plants without flowers:** If the infestation is small dig the stems and roots out and dry them thoroughly before disposing of them.
- **Plants with flowers:** To prevent seeds from growing and spreading, remove flower heads before they ripen (when they are white). **Note: If the flower heads have changed from white to green, seeds are being produced and it will be very hard to remove the seed heads and/or cut the plant without spreading the seeds.** Return to the area regularly and remove any new growth.



Giant hogweed stalk and flower clusters.
Photo courtesy of Karen Rimmer.

Control Using Herbicides:

Herbicides can be used to control plants (like Giant hogweed) that are poisonous to the touch. Glyphosate is effective at controlling the top-growth of Giant hogweed. Foliar herbicide applications are most effective in spring on actively growing plants, followed with a subsequent summer application for missed plants or plants that have re-grown. Since glyphosate is non-selective and removes only the green vegetation that it comes into contact with, new seedlings will often germinate and emerge after glyphosate has been applied. If areas treated with glyphosate are covered in mulch 10 to 14 days after application, it will reduce seedling germination and growth. Herbicide treatments may need to be repeated in following years. If a plant is flowering, herbicides are not effective and control methods should focus on carefully removing the flower heads. Follow label directions and relevant provincial and federal legislation when using herbicides.

Disposal:

Do Not Burn. Do Not Compost. Carefully remove flower heads from stems and place them in black plastic bags. Make sure not to drop any seeds while you are doing this. Seal the bags tightly and leave them in direct sunlight for about a week. Allow stems and roots to dry out thoroughly before disposing of them. Call your municipality to find out if bags containing Giant hogweed can be sent to your local municipal landfill site.

In the event of any direct exposure/contact to this plant

If you get sap on your skin wash the area well with soap and water. Keep the affected area out of the sun. If photo dermatitis (inflammation of the skin caused by exposure to sunlight) occurs, see a doctor.

If you get sap in your eye, flush your eye with water immediately and see a doctor immediately.



Giant hogweed seedling.

Photo courtesy of Rachel Gagnon, Ontario Invasive Plant Council.

If you think you have Giant hogweed on your property or if you see it in your community please call the Invading Species Hotline at 1-800-563-7711 or report your sighting online at www.invadingspecies.com/Report.cfm. You will be asked to send in photos for identification. Do not collect parts of the plant for identification.

The Ontario Ministries of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Health and Long Term Care, Environment, and Natural Resources are working together with our partners (in particular Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, Ontario Invasive Plant Council, Municipalities and Conservation Authorities) to provide information on the identification and control of Giant hogweed.

Other Resources

Ontario Invasive Plant Council

Invading Species Awareness Program

ontario.ca/invasivespecies

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food
and Rural Affairs

Ontario Weeds

For More Information

Contact the Invading Species Awareness
Program hotline at 1-800-563-7711.

RETURN TO SENDER
RENOUVEAU A L'EXPEDITEUR

☐ Unclaimed
☒ No such addressee
☐ Address incomplete
☐ Address incomplete
☐ Moved / Unknown
☐ Damaged / Incomplete
☐ No such Post Office
☐ Return by registered mail
☐ Return post to destination

DONALD DECAIRE
 1020 HWY 11 NORTH
 KILWORTH ON P0E 1G0

WAHTA MOHAWKS
 BOX 260
 BALA ON CANADA
 P0C 1A0



K.S.



Please.....
 Please advise Wahta Mohawks of any
 change in address as soon as possible so
 we can continue to serve you.