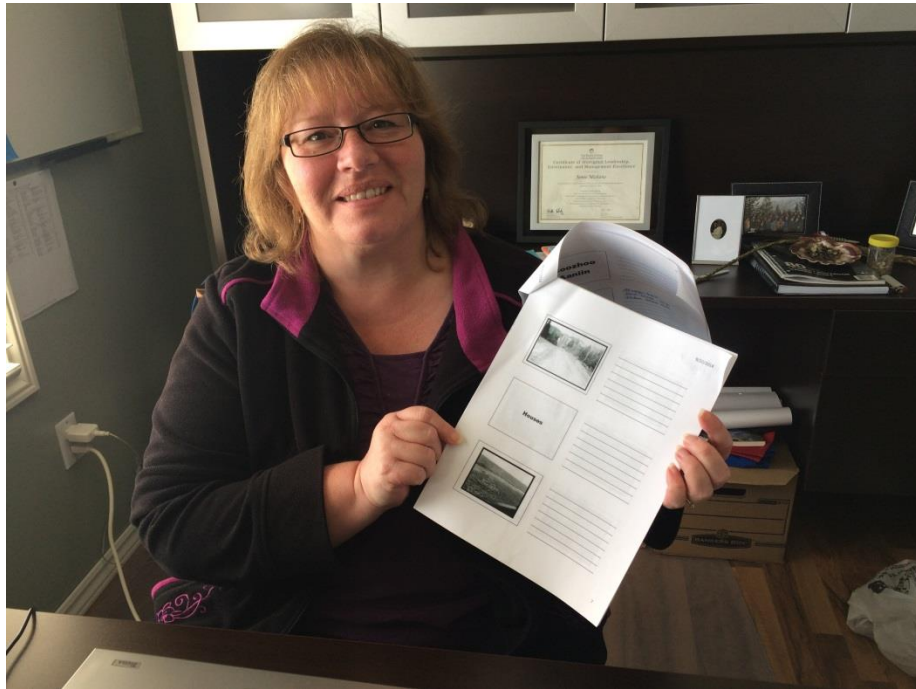
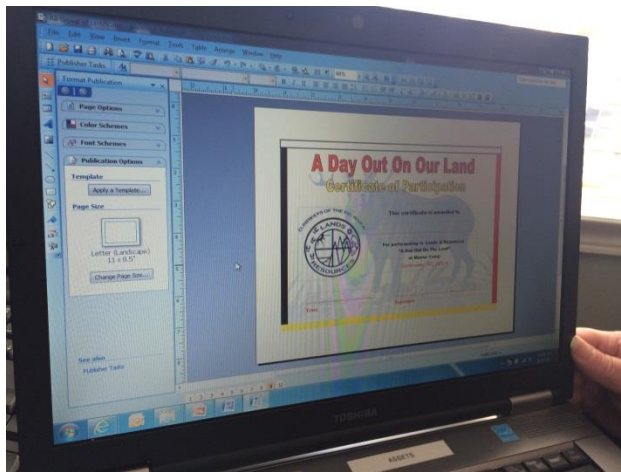


## A WAGE SUBSIDY SUCCESS STORY 2014



Lila Donaghy, Language Revitalization Coordinator



Certificate for elementary students once completed "Moose Camp"



Making of the Memory Tree

The **Ojibways of the Pic River First Nation** is in the process of reconstructing and documenting its dialect of Nishnaabemwin for use in the creation of immersion based material to facilitate the creation of speakers. With the Wage Subsidy program Pic River created a position to support the implementation of their Language Revitalization Strategy. Lila Donaghy began her training/employment on April 21, 2014. Lila has been quite busy and was in the middle of some big projects at the time of the AETS project monitor visit. In December she launched the "Pic River Dialects Dictionary" via a community presentation.

The dictionary had originally planned for 5,000 words but is now at 21,000 words – just amazing! She works with the children at the Elementary School by having them draw pictures of activities on reserve. She meets with the elders to gather history and pictures. This summer the elders met to share photos, scan them and bring out the oral history to those pictures. The subjects that come up frequently is the use of midwives and medicine bags during child birth. What they want to capture are the customs and traditions of the past, ie childbirth, naming ceremonies, death, weddings, roles of political leaders, hunting and gathering, etc. They have created a “Story Vault” facebook page where old photos are posted and comments are then gathered to identify the place, people or activity. Lila is also participating in the history project that the Lands and Resources staff are conducting. They are painted “The Memory Tree” in the the office and community members are to attach photos of traditional activities they participated in. Lila is also involved with childrens’ activities, ie moose camp. The wage subsidy ended January 2015. Other sources of funding are still being researched, however at this time Lila is unable to work for health reasons and should be returning later in 2015.