



# Opaskwayak Cree Nation

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## Condolence to the Family of Austin Lathlin -Bercier

The Opaskwayak Cree Nation would like to express condolences to Lucy Lathlin and Adam Bercier on the loss of their son, **Austin Lathlin-Bercier**.

Austin was a courageous young man who put his life on the line to help fight the war in Ukraine. Unfortunately, his parents received the call on November 13, 2023, that their son was no longer with us.

We at the Opaskwayak Cree Nation feel this profound loss and extend our love and support to the immediate and extended family. In respect we have lowered our nations flag.

By all accounts, Austin was bright, compassionate, and extremely brave. He was a graduate of Cadets, the Bold Eagle program and left our community to teach English in Peru. He then made his way to Italy and Romania where he heard about the war in Ukraine. He called his mother Lucy and is quoted saying that he has a duty to help defend women and children. He enlisted with the Ukrainian Army right then and began his battle for what he believed is right. He sacrificed everything to help and paid the ultimate price. The way his lived his life unselfishly and for others is a beacon of bravery for such a young man. He lived and offered his life with honor. He made our nation proud.

We thank you, parents Lucy and Adam, and Kookom, late Lucy Head, for raising such a strong young man with immeasurable compassion for humanity.

His life, light and sacrifice will never be forgotten.

Our hearts and minds are with you in the coming days,

With respect, compassion, and kindness, on behalf of Chief & Council and the entire community of the Opaskwayak Cree Nation,

Sincerely,

*Maureen Brown*

Chief Maureen Brown

Opaskwayak Cree Nation