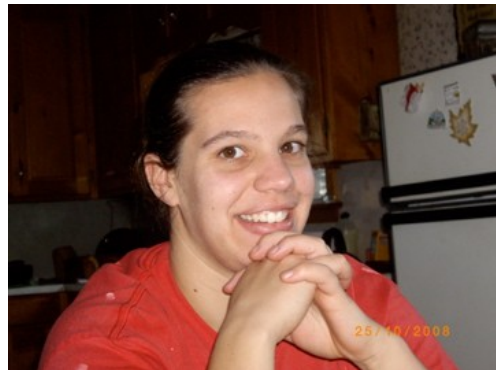


## Cynthia Nally serves on the Sandy Lake Indian Reservation Sandy Lake, Ontario, Canada.

**Cindy and her parents, Chris and Nancy Nally, are members of Reformed Presbyterian Church in Duanesburg, NY Here is her story:**

In May of 2008, I went to an International student convention. One of the events that I was performing was an Illustrated Storytelling. We were doing the convention at a college campus so I had to walk to the one end of the campus. By the time I got there I was exhausted and asked the one judge if I could just catch my breath and thoughts quick. She told me that I could, and then she started talking to me. She had judged my same event the year before. She wanted to know when I was graduating and what I planned to do after graduation. I told her that I was graduating that year but had no idea what I was doing in the fall. She then asked me if I would be willing to take a year off and come teach kindergarten on a reserve in Canada somewhere. I told her that I would pray and talk with my parents about it.



The rest of May and the beginning of June I did not give much more thought to teaching kindergarten on a reserve. Then on my graduation day people were asking me what my plans were, and so I mentioned for the first time the opportunity in Canada. It was a bit of a shock to my Dad because I had not mentioned it to either of my parents yet.

At the end of June I started working at a Christian camp and decided that I needed to email Carol and find out more about teaching on a reserve. Since I was at camp during the week, my mom did most of my emailing for me. August 2<sup>nd</sup> camp ended, and I still did not know what I was going to be doing in the fall. The next week I spent a lot of time in prayer as well as talking to my Pastor, parents, and a few others.

On August 8, I sent Carol an email saying, "Yes, I will come teach." I then spent two very busy weeks getting the supplies that I needed. On August 28, I left for Canada.

I am now the kindergarten teacher at Washtennigun Christian School. I have six boys in the kindergarten class. The boys in my class are the rejects from the public school. The oldest is eight and the youngest is five. They are all learning very quickly and most of them have a desire to be in the school. The children on the reserve are not made to do things that they don't want to do, so discipline is very hard. One of the students has realized that discipline is for his own good and now wants to be a teacher just like me. Just about every native on this reserve believes that God does exist, and evolution is not taught in the public schools. When you ask some one if they have ever done anything wrong they say, no, they haven't.



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