



## Chief Waubeno

The two Wabana lakes and the township of the same moniker were so named for an old, much admired Native American chief—Chief Waubeno.

Old Chief Waubeno resided on Balgillow Island with other members of his tribe. He was a minor Chief of the Mississippi band. Waubeno was admired and respected by the white settlers who came into contact with him. The Chief was an excellent speaker and storyteller among his own people—he was always anxious to spin a tale. The Chief also must have been a premiere salesman; he completed numerous land deals with some of the early pioneers without assistance from an outside agent.

Chief Waubeno, the Grand Sachem of his tribe, shared with his grandson, visions predicting the migration of thousands of early pioneers, the building of schools and buildings and the shaping of a new society in the middle of the Wabana wilderness.

This was a great man, a friend and mentor to his own people and early settlers alike, a man of far reaching visions, and a man who thought progress would be a good thing. Chief Waubeno now lies buried on his beloved Balgillow Island.

- Waubeno's age and the exact date of his death are unknown, although he was very elderly in the late 1880's.

