



UPDATE FROM CHIEF AND COUNCIL



MIKISEW CREE FIRST NATION

ALLISON BAY INDIAN RESERVE #219

Box 90, FORT CHIPEWYAN, ALBERTA T0P 1B0

PHONE: (780) 697-3740 FAX: (780) 697-3826

UPDATE FROM CHIEF AND COUNCIL TO MCFN MEMBERSHIP

July 18, 2022

Tansi Kakiyo Mikisew Iyinoiwak,

We would like to take this opportunity to update the membership on what we have been working on since our last AGM that took place in the fall of 2021. We would also like to thank you all for your patience in bringing this update to you.

Band Programs/Administration:

- IRS Project (Truth Scanning) – first information gathering was at the end of March and another information gathering will take place on August 22nd and 23rd. We encourage all MCFN members to attend the gathering if you can. Scanning is being planned for this fall and we will continue to work with ACFN and Metis on this important project.
- MCFN, ACFN, and Fort Chipewyan Metis have signed an MOU to determine a Fort Chipewyan School site. MCFN will still be surveying members to determine whether a MCFN First Nation School or Fort Chipewyan Community Public School will better serve MCFN members.
- New Band Office build – it has been determined that the ground by Allison Bay is too loose for the new build therefore the new band office will be built at the existing site. Workun Garrick has been contracted as the architectural firm to design the New Band Office.
- There are several policies and procedures that Chief and Council have been collaborating diligently with relevant staff to review and update. Some of these policies are:
 - Customary Election Code
 - Education Policy
 - Community Protection Bylaw
 - Council Accountability (Roles & Responsibilities for Chief & Council)
 - Housing Policy
 - IT Policy
 - Membership Code
 - Emergency Management Policy
- The MCFN Customary Election Regulation (law) survey was available to all members through the internet. The results of the survey would support potential changes to the Election Regulations.
- Ten (10) new homes were purchased for eligible MCFN members in Fort Chipewyan or on reserve.
- The Home Ownership Incentive Program (HIP) has been rolled out, please visit www.mikisewcree.ca/forms/hip for more information. We are excited to provide this opportunity for our members and assist them in becoming homeowners.



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- Athabasca Tribal Council – still meet regularly as MCFN is still a part of the Tribal Council. ATC AGM was recently held on May 26th.
- Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta – we look to this organization to assist us in the protection of our Treaty Rights. We are also reviewing and evaluating our involvement with the Treaty 8 organization.
- Human Resources – there have been numerous positions filled recently which include (but not limited to):
 - Acting Chief Executive Officer (CEO) – Melody Lepine (GIR)
 - Human Resources (HR) Coordinator – Johnny Thunder
 - Youth Coordinator, Fort McMurray Health – Melissa Colombe
 - Chief Financial Officer (CFO) – Otto Akate
 - Communications Coordinator – Lisa Mills

A new Chief Operating Officer (COO) is also expected to be hired in the near future. These additions to the MCFN team are crucial in ensuring that our programs run smoothly and effectively for our members.

- Legal: Annuities – legal council is currently reviewing and working with Ottawa on this matter.

Government and Industry Relations:

- Moose Island Road – an engineer will be checking the sink hole and have it repaired. For the long term, we envision MCFN maintaining the road and will work toward that goal.
- We are currently working on a bi-lateral agreement with CNRL.
- We are in litigation with the Government of Alberta to do with cumulative effects.
- Our outstanding BC Hydro settlement continues to be worked on. We also need to be consulted on the new Site C Dam.
- Mikisew Cree First Nation leads collaborative efforts between governments, industry, and neighbouring nations to further expand Kitaskino Nuwenënë Wildland Park. Celebration will take place this summer that will include cultural retreat and open house.
- GIR signed MOU with ACFN and Ft. McKay First Nation to look at a water strategy to ensure that companies do not release tailings without our Nations being consulted.
- An Elders Retreat being planned for August, please monitor website and Facebook for more information.

Mikisew Group of Companies:

- Unprecedented global events continue to have an ongoing impact on the overall business.



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- Fiscal Year closed with a significant increase in revenues and net income for both our wholly owned enterprises as well as our Joint Venture partnerships.
- Adjusted net income was up 13.2% from fiscal year 2021 to 2022.
- Fiscal year 2022 hours achieved were on budget at 1.1 million hours as we saw a significant increase in hours particularly on the Syncrude site, Suncor Fort Hills as well as Kearl Lake. Contrasting that was the loss of the Fort Hills contract which officially ended on June 30, 2022.
- Current payroll has 787 employees in the organization of which 12% are MCFN, 26% declaring First Nation, Metis, Inuit (FNMI) descent in total.
- As we look to implement our diversification strategy, we have established a private equity segment within the Group of Companies.
- With that the Group acquired 29% of Impact Safety. They are a leader in Remote Confined Space Monitoring which used technology to ensure safety of workers.
- To complement that service offering we have also acquired 100% of SmogBuster. It is a company that provides ventilation and overall air quality services in confined spaces, executing jobs across Canada and internationally as well.
- The merging of these two companies will allow us to bring a new combined service to our clients which is currently not available in the marketplace.
- In our partnership segment, we officially became partners with Conetec – the world's leader in cone penetration testing for tailings ponds and have since signed long term agreements with both CNRL and Suncor.
- We have also deployed five haul trucks that were jointly purchased with North American through our Mikisew North American partnership. We are also happy to report that Mikisew North American was also awarded the largest ever Aboriginal contract with Imperial Oil at their Kearl Lake facility.
- Brokered Indigenous Awareness training and preferred pricing for the partnership group.
- Promoted mental health awareness and support campaign.
- Strengthened and scaled our social media presence.
- We launched the Mikisew Group App. The App is available to download on Apple or Android phones. The App shares all our latest news as well as employment opportunities in the Group including our partners. Please download for our latest news.
- In February 2022 Fort Petroleum increased pricing from approximately 1.55/litre to \$1.85/litre. Furnace Fuel for status First Nations for personal consumption has been further reduced to \$1.65/litre. This increased pricing has reduced the losses we have experienced in the last several years however ongoing inflation will require increased pricing again in the future.
- Happily, the Group was named one of Canada's Best Managed Companies for a second year in a row solidifying our reputation as one of Canada's leading Aboriginal Businesses.



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MCFN Trust:

- Community Trust – an election was held for three (3) new trustees on June 17th, 2022. The newly elected trustees are:

- Tiffany Marten
- Trista Joy Simpson
- Roy Benjamin Vermillion

Congratulations to Tiffany Marten on her election and to Trista Simpson and Roy Vermillion on their re-election.

- Agricultural benefits – The 5th and final Whachask Trust distribution was provided to members in February 2022. Mikisew Minors who were members on ratification date can choose their distribution as they turn eighteen (18).
- The MCFN Land Claims Agreement is still in place. Interest from the TLE is used for PCD payments during Christmas time.

Other:

- Last Chief and Council meeting took place June 28th and 29th, 2022. Membership can make an appointment and read the minutes at the band office however copies are not available to anyone that requests them.
- Treaty Days was on June 17th and 18th, 2022. We thank everyone for attending and the committee for their hard work on putting this event together.
- Next AGM will be held in the Fall of 2022 – please monitor our website and social media for official date.