



ATHABASCA CHIPEWYAN FIRST NATION

K'AI TAILÉ

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MESSAGE FROM CHIEF & COUNCIL

Edlanete to all ACFN Members,

During the period leading up to the ACFN General Election we had the incredible opportunity to meet with and talk to Members about your concerns, hopes, dreams and aspirations for our Nation. We are honoured and humbled that you have put your faith and trust in us to lead Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation into the future.

As your new Chief and Council, we are looking forward to working together to serve our Members. This includes establishing strategic goals and priorities for the Nation and working with administration to deliver on these goals, as well as ensure the consistent provision of services, events and programs for our Members.

We want to thank all those who added their names to the ballot, a bold and courageous act that shows their deep commitment and dedication to the Nation. We also want to congratulate all the newly elected K'ai Tailé Denesłine Trustees.

Finally, we want to thank former Councillors Tim Flett and Cody Marcel for their service and their willingness to invest their time, energy and efforts in ACFN.

We are excited to connect with Members through upcoming events and activities as we begin our work. We are committed to continuing to listen to the concerns, hopes and dreams you shared with us as we begin our service as your Chief and Council. We are grateful for this opportunity.

Marsi cho,

Chief Allan Adam
Councillor Flossie Cyprean
Councillor Hazel Mercredi
Councillor Mike Mercredi
Councillor Teri Villebrun

CONDOLENCES

Henri Villebrun - Feb 2023
Lance Ackworth - Feb 2023
Lorraine Cardinal - Feb 2023
Gabe Mercredi - March 2023
Chantel Voyageur - March 2023
Wayne Adam - April 2023
Johnny Flett - June 2023
Harry Adams - July 2023
Mason George Adam - July 2023
Dakota Charles Sleeping Wolf Cardinal - August 25, 2023
Rosemarie Zoerb - November 7, 2023
Patrick Cardinal - November 2023
Roger Deranger - December 7th, 2023

ACFN Chief & Council and Administration would like to express their sincere heart felt loss/condolences for members that passed away since the beginning of 2023 to-date (Oct. 31/23).

We apologize if we missed anyone inadvertently, please email info@acfn.com and the name(s) will be in the next newsletter. Thank you.

CEO UPDATE

Edlanet'e!

After an incredibly busy spring and summer, which held some unprecedented events such as the full evacuation of Fort Chipewyan, our administrative team settled into the fall and winter months to focus on the delivery of services, programs and events for ACFN Members. We are pleased to see strong participation in every event and program we host, which speaks to the need for Members to gather and connect to share culture, tradition, history and language.

This fall we were pleased to launch a new ACFN website that was designed for ease-of-use and to bring a fresh and modern look to our online presence. This site is designed to serve both our Members and those who might be seeking more information on the Nation.

Our team has been busy as always preparing for the new year ahead of us, including working with our newly elected Chief and Council as they embark on their ACFN leadership journey. Our team is excited to see what the future holds as Chief and Council work on establishing our vision, mission and priorities for their term, as well as continuing the important work we have been doing to serve the Members and advocate for our Nation.

During 2023 we saw many challenges, including the wildfire that threatened Fort Chipewyan, and we know we must continue to prepare for future similar challenges. This winter the delay in completion of the winter road was an additional challenge that we are seeing more frequently as we experience warmer winters, and this is an area of great concern. We continue to push forward with our advocacy with other levels of government and industry on all fronts as we protect Treaty Rights and preserve ACFN traditional lands and way of life.



I want to thank Chief and Council for their guidance over the past several months as we faced these challenges together; difficult times require strong leadership, and ACFN is fortunate to have dedicated, committed leaders who represent the Nation and Members with courage, integrity and determination. I would also like to thank our administrative team, who work together to ensure we serve Members with excellence. Finally a sincere thanks to all ACFN Members for your support and contributions to the Nation - we are proud to serve you and ACFN!

Marsi cho,
Maggie Farrington
ACFN Chief Executive Officer

HUMAN RESOURCES

During the last quarter, the total number of staff employed with the Nation stayed constant at 75 employees, and there was a slight increase from 44 to 45 ACFN members. The total number of ACFN members and Indigenous people slightly increased from 57 to 58.

With the creation of the Dene Yatié (Language) Program, the workforce will increase due to four (4) current vacancies (permanent, temporary, and contractual roles).

Over the summer, ACFN/DLRM recruited eleven summer students in the Housing department, Youth and Elders Lodge, Administration, DLRM, and the Fort Chipewyan Community Daycare Society. It's a highlight of the year for the team to host work experience opportunities for the youth. In May 2023, two Job Readiness Workshop sessions hosted by the Human Resources team provided the students with practical tips and job preparation skills, including on-the-spot interviews and resume writing sessions.

ACFN/DLRM completed and modernized the internal human resources employment policies and looks forward to the Diversity and Inclusion training in the fall. In the works is the development of an in-house Customer Service training for all staff.

The team, with the lead of Kristi Deranger, Employment Liaison Coordinator, successfully delivered the ACFN/DLRM Job Fair and Conference on October 18, 2023, at Shell Place, MacDonald Island, Fort McMurray, AB. Hearing the "nuggets of wisdom" shared by the entrepreneur panelists was a highlight. Geraldine Carriere, Human Resources Advisor, coordinated the fashion show. Seeing the choreographed segment with Indigenous music, images, designers, and models was inspirational! Excellent teamwork, and kudos go out to Kristi and TEAM ACFN/DLRM.



Please join us in welcoming five new ACFN/DLRM staff in the article titled "New to the Team."

I wish all Members a safe and enjoyable fall season and a successful fall hunt to those out on the land!

Marsi chogh,
R. Shirley Cardinal
Human Resources Director

HAVE YOU MOVED?

**Please remember
to update your
address with ACFN's
Membership Registrar.**

membership@acfn.com

HOUSING UPDATES

Home Sweet Home in Fort Chipewyan

ACFN's Housing Department is thrilled to share some exciting housing updates with you this fall. Our housing team has been hard at work, aiming to improve ACFN members living experiences.

The upcoming Housing Shop is a game-changer, set to boost maintenance efficiency starting in early 2024. It promises smoother operations and improved housing facility upkeep for the Housing Department.

In 2024, ACFN is adding two new homes to the housing stock, addressing the community's housing needs. More housing options mean greater peace of mind. Our Cluster Homes' playground has undergone a fantastic upgrade, ensuring safe and engaging play areas for our children.

We're committed to your long-term well-being and satisfaction, with interior and exterior unit renovations, better appliances, energy efficiency, and enhanced security. Additionally, a new fence at Chip Plex enhances security and outdoor space, catering to our tenants' needs.

These updates reflect our dedication to improving housing options and the overall living experience for ACFN members. Our housing crew and staff are working diligently to meet your needs, fostering a positive impact on the community's well-being.

Marsi Cho,
Linda Berry
Housing Director



MESSAGE FROM LISA TSSESSAZE DIRECTOR OF DLRM



'Celebrating ACFN Members'

Greetings ACFN Members,

This newsletter focuses on celebrating ACFN members, and so we want to start by recognizing that our members are rich with culture, rich with talent, and hold incredible knowledge passed down to them. The DLRM department celebrates our ACFN members everyday by continually seeking out that talent and knowledge. ACFN members shape our programs, our policies, our research initiatives and guide the overall work of our Team. It is a major part of the work we do here at DLRM. Each year we have ongoing research and monitoring programs, with new ones continuing to emerge every year. Some of these include the annual fish camp, muskrat camp, CBM sampling and Ronald Lake Buffalo research. We interview members continuously and we actively seek additional land users to update and expand our database.

We recognize and celebrate our members by employing them here at DLRM. At this time, 60% of our staff are ACFN members, and they bring with them family connections, opportunities, and tremendous history.

We also celebrate our ACFN member entrepreneurs. We actively seek to support our ACFN members' talents by purchasing crafts, artwork, and services. There is always room to include our entrepreneurs with our work here at DLRM.

Celebrate our ACFN members with us! Join us in the new year for our annual New Years Elders Celebration on January 17, 2024. Join us at our annual fall Dene days event. Both these events are held in the community of Fort Chipewyan and give us the opportunity to showcase and celebrate our people!

Lisa Tsessaze
Executive Director
ACFN DLRM

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING BRIEF UPDATE

In October ISETS held a safety ticket course in cohort with MCFN and Metis from October 23, 2023 – November 3, 2023 there was 16 participants and 2 of them were ACFN members. During this course they received the following tickets: Traffic control person, Fall protection, confined space, WHMIS, TDG, Bear awareness, ground disturbance, Standard First Aid, H2S Alive, and CSO.

Currently, we are in the process of training Mattea in Darrelyn's absence. A lot of the recent requests have been 1-on-1 with clients, requiring safety tickets and PPE for employment.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENTS UPDATE

2023 K'ai Tailé Dene Days August 23 & 24

The K'ai Tailé Dene Days was another success this year. Community members were very excited to sample the traditional food. The food was prepared by Lily Marcel and Rose Ross and the ACFN staff. We also had traditional food at Paul Lepine's Culture camp.

We started the event with a hot breakfast and opening ceremony. Our MC for the event was Willis Janvier. We had traditional storytelling with ACFN member Morningstar Mercredi. She told traditional stories and legends that were passed down to her.

The hand games began after a delicious lunch, demonstrations on dry fish making, dry meat making, and bannock on a stick were enjoyed by everyone. Traditional food preparation began in the morning for lunch. The menu consisted of goose and duck soup, fried moose meat, fried moose heart, root vegetables, and Chief Adam cooked fish over a fire.

Workshop with artisans demonstrated how to make traditional crafts. A table displayed medicinal plants and showcased our new book on various plants.

The first day ended with a Dene Language Challenge; the teams were made up of an elder who taught a youth/adult and company representative to say a sentence in Dene. This event is always a lot of fun and demonstrates the progress we have made in our language revitalization efforts. Dinner was served and the rest of the day ended with the continuation of hand games. The second day began with a hot breakfast, the continuation of hand games. Workshops demonstrated bead and craft work with members. The artisans displayed their arts and crafts for members to see and purchase. The elders and members enjoyed bingo after a lunch. Community members also enjoyed making bannock on a stick, and sampling traditional food (Partially dried fish was cooked over the fire). Boat rides were offered to all community members and representatives from various companies.

The second day ended with a closing ceremony, and a drum dance. The drummers were from Meander River Dene Tha.



NEW TO THE TEAM



Sandra Kallal
Finance Clerk - DLRM

Sandra was declared the successful candidate for the Finance Clerk position and commenced with TEAM DLRM on October 23, 2023. She holds a Technologist, Finance,

and Accounting Diploma, a Professional Bookkeeping certificate, and a Human Resources certificate. Sandra has extensive experience with banks, technology advertising, and messaging, and with transportation companies.

Over the last ten years, she has enjoyed representing Latin America with bulk displays and dance performances at the local Fort McMurray Multicultural Expo. Welcome to TEAM DLRM, Sandra!



Jeanne Lepine
Temporary Health and Prevention Advocate - ACFN

Jeanne was declared the successful candidate for the Temporary Health and Prevention Advocate role and started on October 16, 2023. She is a proud Mikisew Cree

First Nation member and holds a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) license; a Practical Nursing Diploma; a Counselling certificate; a Native Communication certificate; and has completed 2 of 3 years of a Bachelor of Indian Studies, Indian Health, at the University of Saskatchewan, Regina, SK. Jeanne is a hardworking and passionate nursing professional and brings 20 plus years of experience as an LPN. She excels at coordinating successful care and advocacy for her clients, organizational and multitasking skills. Welcome to the TEAM, Jeanne!



Patrick Flett
Grants and Impact Benefit Agreement Coordinator - DLRM

Patrick is the successful candidate for the Grants and Impact Benefit Coordinator role and started on October 10, 2023. He is an ACFN member and

holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Alberta. Some of his interests are fishing in and around Fort McMurray, running and kayaking. Wishing you the best in your new role Patrick and welcome to the TEAM!



Doren Otung
Climate Change and Sustainability Coordinator - DLRM

Doren was declared the successful candidate for the Climate Change and Sustainability Coordinator role

at DLRM and joined the team on October 3, 2023. She is originally from Nigeria and holds a Master of Sustainability and Society, a Master of Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security, and a Bachelor of Agriculture. Doren has a strong passion for environmental stewardship and a proven track record in coordinating sustainability initiatives.

Doren's hobbies include badminton, being out in nature (e.g., hiking), music and dancing. A warm welcome to TEAM DLRM, Doren!



Breanne "bre" Jacobs
(they/them)
Administrative Assistant - DLRM

bre was the successful candidate for the Administrative Assistant position with DLRM and joined the team on September 25, 2023. They are a proud Two-spirited

ACFN Member and studied for a year at Grant MacEwan University, and is taking time off from studies. bre holds a High School Diploma from Holy Trinity Catholic High School, 2021; and enjoys the fine arts and helping the community as well the environment. Welcome to TEAM DLRM, bre!



Mattea Flett
Temporary Receptionist - ACFN

Mattea was declared the successful candidate for the Temporary Receptionist role and joined the Administration team on September 1, 2023. She is an ACFN Member, holds a High

School Diploma from the Fort Chipewyan Community High School, and graduated in 2023. In her spare time, she enjoys catering with her grandmother Dorothy, hanging out with

friends and family, and has 10 years of babysitting experience! Mattea is dedicated and committed to her goals. Welcome to TEAM ACFN Mattea!

CAPITAL PROJECTS



ACFN Maintenance Shop. 7200 sf with 2500 sf of office space. Includes 2 mechanical bays, carpenter shop and electrical/plumbing shop. Completion is slated for end of January 2024.



Unit 1 interior. Cabinets ready to be installed.



Maintenance Shop. Offices being framed with steel studs.



Unit 2, 104 MacKenzie Ave. 2nd floor ready for interior finishing.



ELDER PROFILE

NO QUESTIONS ASKED TO URANIUM PROJECTS, ABSOLUTELY NO DEVELOPMENT.

Elder Rose Desjarlais actively defends the land, participating in Traditional Land Use Studies (TLU), intervening in Hearings proceedings and industry meetings, and speaking about the impact of Uranium development on Treaty Rights and livelihood.



“My first breath of air was in 1954, Uranium City, Saskatchewan. One earliest memory, the one that's stayed with me forever, is of Martin Lake. We couldn't go down to the lake to get water to drink anymore, and, gradually, we couldn't go swimming in it because of the contamination from uranium”.

“After that, hunting was no longer in the area, and people could not eat fish from the lake or wild chicken and birds. We stopped hunting. We used to find medicine, but the medicine was not alive anymore. There was nothing pure anymore”.



“The development of uranium impacted my whole life. The thing is that the uranium is really! Really! Bad! It is a chemical that's released into the air. You could say that uranium is murdering people. It's murdering people in this like so slowly. A slow killing of the people... the environment, the animals, the medicine, and the water. So, kills and kills uranium kills”!

“I want the Saskatchewan government to know, and I want the federal prime minister to take these words very seriously—no questions asked and absolutely no development”.



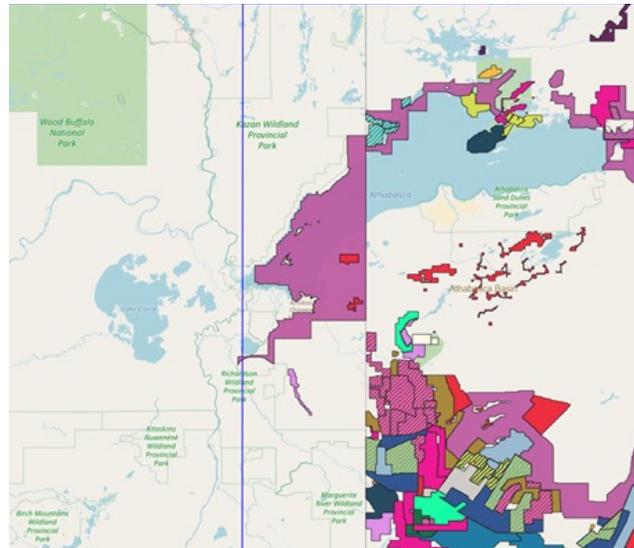
“It is disrespectful to our people, the land, the trees, the animals, the water, the streams, and the flowers- yeah, everything that's cause life. Uranium chemicals will kill it. And in most cases, the result of all this development is that they are making bombs. Okay. Bombs are made from uranium chemicals”.

-Rose Desjarlais

At the cost of ACFN rights (livelihood and way of life) and basic existence, Canada is a world leader in uranium, producing close to 15% of the world's supply and having some of the most prominent and highest-grade uranium ores in the world, especially in the Athabasca Basin in Saskatchewan. 85% of this production is exported. With increasing demand and rising uranium prices, the threats to eroding of ACFN rights and decreasing availability of traditional territory to practice ACFN's inheritance Aboriginal and Treaty rights are at an increasing risk as demand for and prices of uranium increase on the global market. These Uranium mines in ACFN's traditional territory include mines in remediation, such as Gunnar and Lorado; decommissioned mines are Beaverlodge and Cluff Lake. The NexGen Rook 1 Project has been approved for construction, and the Fission Resources Patterson Lake South Project is next in line. In 2023 alone, ACFN was consulted for eighteen (18) exploration projects.

ACFN-DLRM is working with land users and scientists to ensure that ACFN is aware of the performance of decommissioned and remediated mines. At the same time, we provide ACFN concerns and preferred mitigation for newly proposed projects to ensure regulators and companies are held accountable for infringing on ACFN's rights.

In 2023, ACFN Elders participated in a Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) hearing on the closure of the Cluff Lake Mine, a Traditional Land Use Study to highlight uranium impacts to members, a meet and greet with Cameco on the closure of the Beaverlodge mine, and numerous meetings and monitoring programs with the government of Saskatchewan, CNSC, and Industry. Land users are working with DLRM to identify the impacts and provide mitigation measures that meet ACFN's standard to address the consequences and effects of uranium mining to ensure ACFN's land as well as its Treaty and Aboriginal rights including its way of life are protected.

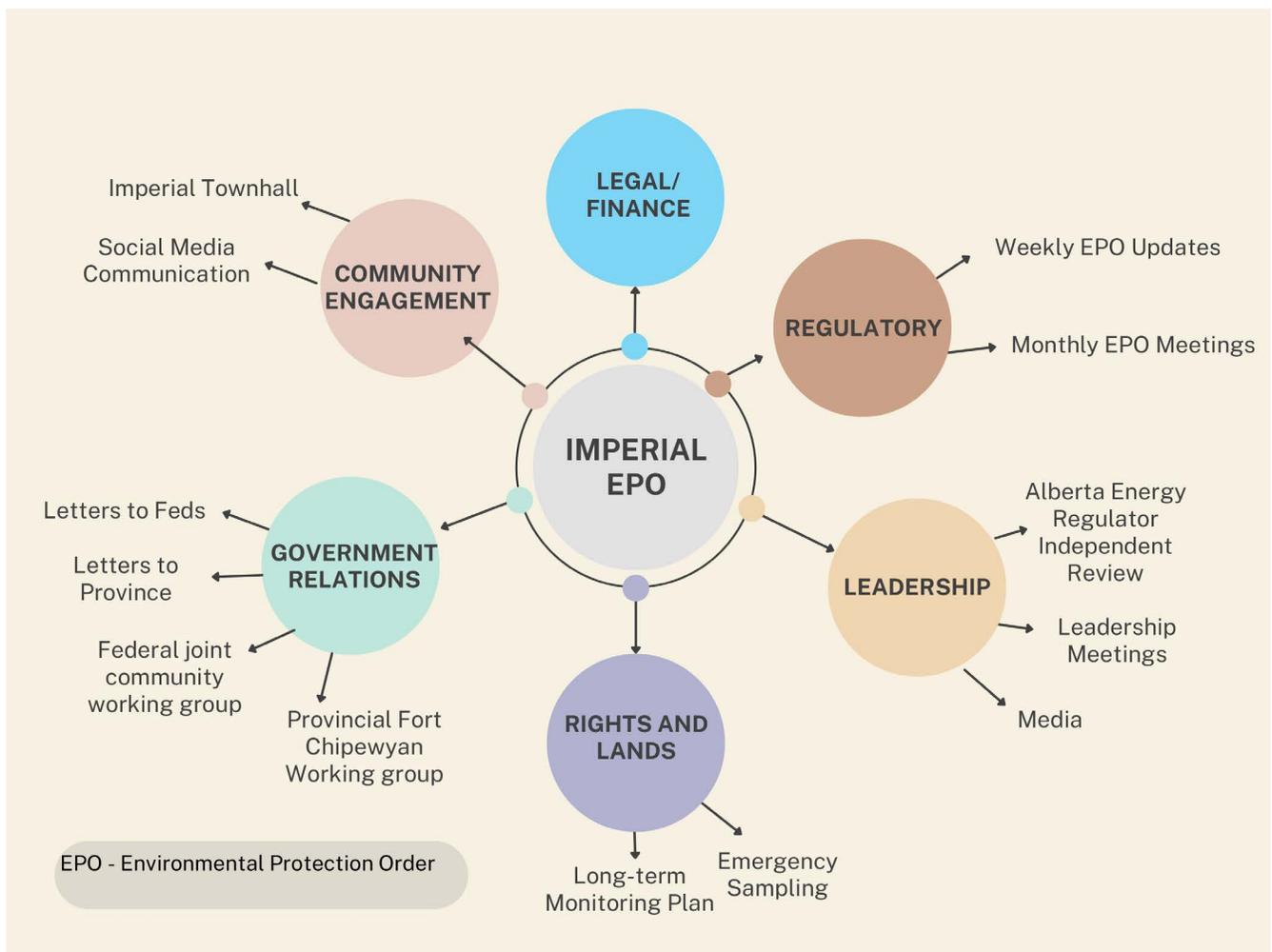


Uranium Decommissioned mines and proposed mine projects



INDUSTRY RELATIONS UPDATE

Imperial Visualization



EDUCATION UPDATE



Fort Chipewyan Community High School is three months into the new semester the 2023/24 School Year with approximately 120 students registered, 350 credits, and one graduate already! With a focus on completing core courses such as: Math, Science, Social Studies and English, staff are seeing high attendance, increased module completion and improvements in writing skills. Additionally, students have been given the opportunity to participate in the yearly moose camps, create ribbon skirts and beadwork, and blacksmith fire pokers! It has been a busy start to the school year, which is flying by already!

Alongside the educational progress of FCCHS students, the High School also is pleased to have accepted the Guiding the Journey: Indigenous Organization Award through Indspire. This award recognizes an organization that has made valuable contributions to community-based education and honours the principles of Indigenous knowledge. FCCHS is proud to have received this award, graciously acknowledging all students, community members and individuals who have helped to establish an organization that promotes versatility in education. The integration of traditional, Indigenous learnings that promote culture, land-based learning and languages such as Cree and Dene into the daily curriculum has elevated student interest and participation while promoting personal well-being. The High School encourages students to embrace their history and culture while working towards the ultimate goals of not only their Alberta High School Diploma, but also a strong identity and connection to home and confidence to progress into the future.

FCCHS is looking forward to the new year of 2024. With the progress that is already evident in student growth and learning, 2024 is shaping up to be a most productive (and fun) year!

RIGHTS AND LANDS UPDATE

My name is Braden Blair. I am the Indigenous Knowledge Coordinator for the Dene Lands and Resource Management, also a member of the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nations. I engage a lot with ACFN Members, Elders, Knowledge Keepers and Youth. My responsibility is to ensure that when our members attend any meetings that require sharing Indigenous and or Traditional Knowledge, that it is being honored and respected appropriately.

I coordinate mainly with the WBNP action plan. We have a few projects going on such as our Water Control Structures that are soon being developed in the Big Egg Lake and Dog Camp area. The main purpose for this is to bring back life into our reserves and most importantly our delta. We also have a research facility currently being developed called the "Nipy Tu Research" the purpose for this is to have a space for our community members to gather, host events and most importantly learn about all of the different things that are within our delta.



ACDEN PROFILE

Meet Vanessa Cardinal – Marketing Assistant at Acden!



My name is Vanessa Cardinal and I am a member of the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation (ACFN). I was born in Fort McMurray but lived in Fort Chipewyan up until grade nine when my family moved back to Fort McMurray. I graduated from Father Mercredi Community High School and then decided to go work in the oil sands after high school. I am currently a part-time student at Keyano College (upgrading) while working part-time at Acden. I plan on going into the Business Management program at Keyano and I hope to continue to work for Acden when I have finished my degree.

Fort Chipewyan and Fort McMurray will always be considered home to me. I am happy and grateful to be living back in Fort McMurray, close to my family and friends and being able to learn more about my Dene culture.

Please tell us about your role at Acden and your previous work experience:



I currently work for Acden part-time as a Marketing Assistant in the Business Development department. In my role, I assist with strategic marketing projects including managing resources and timelines, maintaining the company website, interfacing with Acden's graphic designer, liaising with printers and promotional product vendors, and providing support with event, facility, and vehicle signage and promotional materials (on and off-site). I also assist with ACFN events and projects.

Throughout the years I've moved back and forth from Alberta to British Columbia and have worked different jobs for both ACFN and Acden. My very first site job was working for Denesoline Janitorial as a janitor. I've supported ACFN as a receptionist, community-based monitoring technician and as an office administrator. Before joining Acden's business development team I had also worked for Acden Tech Sonic as a labourer a few years prior.

What made you interested in working for Acden?

I decided that I wanted a change of scenery from working as a labourer. I wanted to challenge myself and try something new that I hadn't done before so I applied for the summer student - marketing position at Acden, and thankfully got hired! I started with Acden as a summer student in June of 2023 and am currently working part-time and going to school.

What are the best parts of your role?

The best parts of my role are assisting with all the creative projects such as helping design promotional posters, signage, e-signatures, website design, business cards, advertisements, etc.

What are your favourite creative mediums?

My favourite creative mediums are working with paints and canvas (acrylic paint, watercolours). I like drawing/sketching, crafting, photography, and poetry - I love all forms of art!

What do you like about working for Acden?

I like working for Acden because as an ACFN member, I get to help contribute to our Nation and our community. It makes me feel proud to be a part of such a successful business that continues to grow and is recognized throughout Canada.

Can you highlight a recent project that you've worked on?

Every summer Acden supports ACFN Dene Days. This summer I designed a Dene colouring book to be given to the kids at 'Dene days' in Fort Chipewyan and used for any other Acden or ACFN future events. Once I had finished hand drawing the pictures, I worked with Hazel Mercredi and Kristi Deranger to translate the words from English to Dene using the 'Chipewyan dictionary' by the South Slave Divisional Education Council and the 'Dene word list' by Dr. Eung-Do Cook. I am thankful to start learning Dene language and to be able to share what I learned with others through my colouring book.

Did you have any specific inspiration(s) for the drawings in the colouring book?

I wanted the drawings to feel connected to my Indigenous (Dene) heritage/language. I feel most inspired by the pride I get from my community back home in Fort Chipewyan, working together to bring back our cultural ways of life.

What did you enjoy most about the process of creating the colouring book?

I enjoyed being able to express myself the best way that I could (through art) and being able to share it with the kids who get to colour the pages of my colouring book. I want them to feel inspired and proud of their culture like I do and to know that they can do anything they set their mind to! I want the kids to know that they should always be able to express what they need freely, especially if their passion is art!

What are you most looking forward to regarding your continued studies and future Acden work projects?

I am looking forward to continuing to work with my amazing Business Development team and helping contribute to any future projects that help develop Acden even further in business and within our community. It is a great environment to work in and I appreciate all the staff who welcomed me and continue to guide and help me grow here.



ACFN DLRM JOB FAIR

On October 18th ACFN Dene Lands and Resource Management held a one-of-a-kind job Fair at Shell Place in Fort McMurray. The day started with a blessing from Elder Patrice Mercredi, followed by a dene drum song from Denesuline youth and mentors. Opening remarks began with Cr Villebrun and with ACFN's Director of HR, Shirley Cardinal.

The conference featured over 30 exhibitors from the region and 8 Indigenous vendors. Highlights of this event included a fashion show that featured Indigenous artists and members who designed the creations and walked the runway.

ACFN Entrepreneurs took part in the discussion panel and shared some words of wisdom with the crowd. Marsi cho to Mike Deranger from Derantech, Mike Voyageur from Voyageur and Robyn Villeburn, president of Medika North. We appreciate and value your input and look forward to your connections with community members in the future.

Jim bob Ghostkeeper from Ghost security was in attendance as an exhibitor, and although he did not have a chance to address the audience, we look forward to including him and all other ACFN Entrepreneurs in upcoming discussions.

Marsi cho to all participants.

Here are a few words from Jim Ghostkeeper from Ghost Security:

What is the message you would like to share with ACFN members now that you have had a chance to engage?

Hello everyone and thank you to ACFN for the opportunity to showcase my company Ghost Security Services. The Job fair was excellent, and I hope that activities like this will continue to develop and even be



available to Edmonton and other areas. It was great to meet some ACFN youth as well as other community members from around the area. We had a really diverse group of applicants that expressed interest in working with Ghost Security and hope to offer some employment opportunities in the near future. Big Thank you to all the staff for putting this amazing event together and want to say a Thank you to Chief Adam, Councilor Flossie, and Councilor Teri Lyn for making an appearance and supporting myself and other companies that were there. It helps to know that the Band Council is in the background supporting our members.

On what capacity would you like to continue to engage with members?

I would really like to see more opportunities for members to become trained in the security field and for opportunities for Ghost to be able to come into the Wood Buffalo and Fort Chip area to work, so that we can hire, train and help to create some long-term employment opportunities for community members with an interest in the security field. I would really like to come into Fort Chip and showcase Ghost Security to the community if there is an opportunity within Fort Chip in the future.

How can members learn of employment opportunities with your company?

Members wanting to know more about Ghost Security Services can check out our website.

At www.ghostsecurityserices

Online applications are also available on our website.



MEMBER PROFILE

Jack Bauer

Jack Raymond Bauer earned his living initially as a Journeyperson Carpenter. He was immediately raised through the ranks to a Foreperson. From that first promotion, he knew he would have the skills and the experience to do the work of a Superintendent. He worked for a company that built many prominent buildings in Edmonton.

At 7 p.m. on March 26, 1986, Jack Bauer saved a young girl from drowning in the North Saskatchewan River in Edmonton. The girl had been walking her dog alongside the partially frozen river when the animal ran out onto the ice and fell in. She followed to attempt its rescue and also broke through the ice.

Mr. Bauer, in his house some distance away, heard her screams for help and decided to investigate. As it was very dark outside, it took him some time to locate the source of the cries, but eventually he spotted the dog some 50 m. from shore. He quickly ran down the riverbank, uprooted a sapling 7 m. long and grabbed a stick with which to test the firmness of the ice. Carefully, he made his way out towards the open water, lying down flat on the ice when he reached the slushy part. He extended the sapling towards the girl and instructed her to grab hold of it. Then, he pulled the tree back

towards him until he was able to catch hold of the girl and pull her onto the ice. He also pulled out the dog. Once they had reached the firm ice by crawling, he stood up and carried the girl to shore, running to the nearest house to call for medical assistance.

Jack recalls the evening clearly, He heard the girl's cry for help despite nobody else in the house hearing the same cry; and neighbours who were closer to the source of the cry did not hear the cries.

With his sons he set out to investigate, finding a young woman on the ice and in a desperate situation. Telling one son to run to a house nearby for help and telling the other son to sit on the bank, he began his heroic rescue.

Jack says he does not remember feeling his feet touch the ground as he went down the bank, and he recalls an inner voice giving him the ideas of how to save the young woman. His feet "floated" up and down the bank, and he used a tree – which seemed to come out of the earth the moment he touched it – to reach the girl on the ice.

Time lost all sense; and while he was convinced this episode took a significant amount of time he realized later it all happened within minutes, and his son, who sat on the bank and watched the entire rescue, has no memory of the incident.

To honour his heroism, Jack was awarded the Governor General's Medal of Bravery in 1987, recognizing his courage and selflessness in saving the life of another.



Faith McGeogh

My Name is Faith McGeough, I went to school for psychology and have a paralegal degree. I have always been passionate about helping people.

Now I work with outlining Nations around Edmonton to get our indigenous youth meaningful internships and apprenticeships during and post high school.

With my work I am constantly growing my knowledge of many different indigenous cultures and being apart of many different nations community events. As well as bringing career exploration to the youth on nations surrounding edmonton.

Being able to help our younger generation become successful is what thrives me everyday.



DIVERSITY HERO

Edmund Mercredi

Edmund Mercredi is Denesuline (Dene) and a member of the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation from Fort Chipewyan, Alberta, the oldest European settlement in Alberta. Edmund is a hairstylist located at Ponytails + Horseshoes Salon, 'GOLD.KEY Educator' for KEVIN.MURPHY, and editorial hairstylist.

In addition to his full time work as a hair stylist and educator, Edmund volunteers for First Nation 'Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation' and the neighbouring First Nation 'Mikisew Cree First Nation'. When Edmund returned to Alberta after living in Ontario, he began frequently returning to Fort Chipewyan to offer complimentary haircuts for community members. During the pandemic Edmund saw a greater need for his services, and invited his cousin Trevor Michael, Barber at BT Barbers, to join him on his philanthropic efforts.

"Fort Chipewyan is an isolated community, one where you fly into in the summer and drive the ice roads in the winter. In such an isolated community that having amenities is so important." Edmund continues to shares that, "Being able to go in and provide haircuts to youth and adults is great, and it also means that I am able to give back to our Elders. In Indigenous culture, we hold our Elders with the highest respect and admiration, so it is an incredibility opportunity to be a part of."

Both he and his cousin are incredibly grateful and thankful to the First Nations Chief and Councils for the opportunity of being able to visit home to serve the community. He also shares, "My First Nation has been incredibly supportive of me through my career and helping with my education. I am extremely proud as a First Nation person to say I am Denesuline and a Member of the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation."

YOUTH PROFILE: ARCTIC WINTER GAMES TRAINING

Training coaches: Rachel Marcel, ACFN Youth coordinator & Tamera Ellingson RMWB Events Coordinator.

In the month of September 2023 Tamera and Rachel met to discuss the starting date for youth in the community to train for the Arctic Winter Games. The first day of training was on September 13th, 2023 and they had 18 youth attend the training: at the meeting they went over some ground rules and commitments that the youth had to attend all training exercises to attend the trials in Slave Lake, AB. The reason they did that was to give the youth some responsibility and show their commitment in wanting to make the trials. In the weeks of training, they had 13 out of the 18 show up for training every Wednesday evening.

The training consists of 3 Dene Games: Finger Pull, Snow Snake, and Stick Pull.

The coaches also worked with the participants along with parents to get their passport applications completed should the youth make "Team Alberta North" for the

2024 Arctic Winter. The host community will be Mat-Su Alaska, and they will require their passport for travel.

The 13 participants who have committed to attend all training will be travelling to Slave Lake, AB to attend the trials on December 2nd, 2023, and from there we will find out who in our community made "Team Alberta North".

List of youth that will be attending the AWG trials on December 2nd, 2023, are:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Colby Courtorielle | 8. Kailen Marten |
| 2. Jaiden Cyprien | 9. Storm Simpson |
| 3. Chase Grandjambe | 10. Lendon Tourangeau |
| 4. Mackenize Grandjambe | 11. Greyson Wanderingspirit |
| 5. Chase Marcel | 12. Markus Waquan |
| 6. Tyrell Marcel | 13. Ayrica Whitehead |
| 7. Reid Marcel-Wylie | |

As a community we would like to wish the youth Good Luck at the trials!

YOUTH SHOWCASE

Jayce Flett

Jayce Flett is 9 years old. He lives in Fort McMurray and is currently in grade 4 Ecole Dickinsfield in the French Immersion program. He loves to play hockey and is a left winger for the 2014 MOB Hockey Team which is part of the Hockey Super League. He was part of the Dickinsfield Dene Hand games team which took silver in a city wide tournament. He wants to be in the NHL when he grows up or a mechanic like his father.



Logan Elizabeth Flett

Logan Elizabeth Flett is 11 years old. She lives in Fort McMurray and is currently in grade 6 at Ecole Dickinsfield in the French Immersion Program.

She loves dance. She is on the competitive team with YMM Dance Company. She is also part of Team Canada going to the World Dance Cup in Prague next June 2024 where she'll compete in groups and individually. She is currently an Elder Keeper at her school and loves to learn about her culture. She wants to be a dance teacher and physiotherapist when she grows up.



ENTREPRENEURS

My name is Maddy Daniels and I am thrilled to share the inspiring journey of Madz Catering, a culinary haven brought to life by me- Maddy Daniels, and with the help of the business grant opportunity provided by the Athabasca Chip First Nation (ACFN). I have come from a long line of paternal figures from Fort Chip from my great Grandfather Griffin Daniel, to my great Grandfather, Fredrick Daniels, and my Grandfather, William Daniels, to my late father James Daniels who was also passionate about cooking. Some have thought that starting a new venture at the ripe age of 61, is challenging, but I know that my lifetime of experience and wisdom will help in creating a successful business venture. My culinary expertise was well-known in my local community of Paddle Prairie, where I catered to events and gatherings with a passion for cooking and baking that had been nurtured for over 15 years. My culinary journey began in the industrial catering field, working alongside seasoned chefs who imparted invaluable knowledge and skills. This hands-on experience became the foundation for my culinary aspirations.

I love to bake and cook as a hobby. Learning culinary foundations from red seal chefs in the industrial catering business excited me, and I explored every opportunity to be adventurous and exploratory in the kitchen.

This grant has propelled Madz Catering to new heights, allowing me to obtain licensing, commercial equipment, and a dedicated commercial kitchen. This has also enabled me to offer a range of services, including crafting custom menus within set budgets for clients, all prepared from scratch and presented with professional flair. My commitment to excellence extends to hiring practices, bringing in contract workers on a project basis, from chefs and sous chefs to servers, ensuring that each event is staffed with talented individuals who share my passion for the culinary arts. Madz Catering offers a diverse range of services, from catering for intimate gatherings to large-scale events. My culinary philosophy reflects my respect for tradition and the importance of maintaining a peaceful, loving mindset in the kitchen. I strongly believe that our energy transfers into the food we prepare and further into anyone that eats it, so great care must be taken in preparing food from your first thoughts to final service.



Drawing inspiration from grandmother's kitchen, I have incorporated traditional flavors into my creations, such as raisin cookies, bread pudding, and fresh buns. Beyond catering, I also engage with the communities, offering workshops on kitchen basics and empowering programs for youth. Whether it's a corporate gathering, a birthday celebration, or any special occasion, Madz Catering is equipped to meet your culinary needs. I take pride in delivering delicious, pleasing food that leaves a lasting impression.

To inquire about Madz Catering, reach out via phone at 587-487-8745 or email at madzcatering@gmail.com. With kitchens in Paddle Prairie and Edmonton, Madz Catering can cater to events anywhere within the province of Alberta.

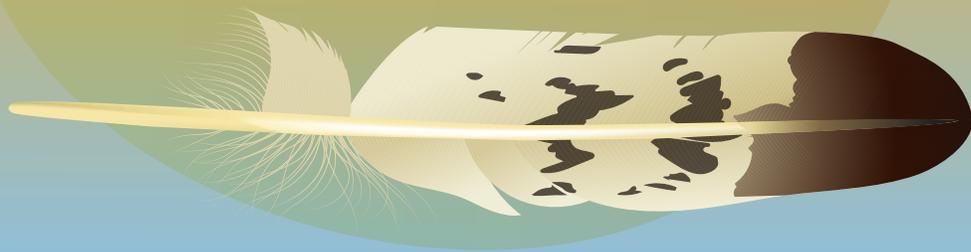
Embark on a culinary journey with Madz Catering, where passion meets professionalism, and every dish tells a story!





ACFN Dene Lands and Resource Management

CAREER Exploration Day



◀ • Wednesday, February 28th 2024 • ▶
11am-4pm

Mamawi Community Hall, Fort Chipewyan



EVERYONE IS WELCOME



CAREERS
take on the future

For more information please contact Kristi Deranger
at kristina.deranger@acfn.com

For more information please contact Anika Campbell
at acampbell@nextgen.org

EVENTS

It was a pleasure to gather and connect as a Nation in the fall and winter of 2023 as we celebrated the inauguration of our new elected Chief and Council, as well as our annual Christmas parties! Members came from far and wide to enjoy these event and celebrate as a community as we marked these special occasions. Whenever ACFN Members get together, laughter, fun and good times are sure to follow! Thanks to everyone for attending and we can't wait to see you at all our events in 2024!



Inauguration





Fort Chipewyan Christmas



Fort McMurray Christmas



2023 K'AI TAILE DENE DAYS AUGUST 23 & 24

2023 K'ai Taile Dene Days August 23 & 24

The K'ai Tailé Dene Days was another success this year. Community members were very excited to sample the traditional food. The food was prepared by Lily Marcel and Rose Ross and the ACFN staff. We also had traditional food at Paul Lepine's Culture camp.

We started the event with a hot breakfast and opening ceremony. Our MC for the event was Willis Janvier. We had traditional storytelling with ACFN member Morningstar Mercredi. She told traditional stories and legends that were passed down to her.

The hand games began after a delicious lunch, demonstrations on dry fish making, dry meat making, and bannock on a stick were enjoyed by everyone. Traditional food preparation began in the morning for lunch. The menu consisted of goose and duck soup, fried moose meat, fried moose heart, root vegetables, and Chief Adam cooked fish over a fire.

Workshop with artisans demonstrated how to make traditional crafts. A table displayed medicinal plants and showcased our new book on various plants. The first day ended with a Dene Language Challenge; the teams were made up of an elder who taught a youth/adult and company representative to say a sentence in Dene. This event is always a lot of fun and demonstrates the progress we have made in our language revitalization efforts. Dinner was served and the rest of the day ended with the continuation of hand games.

The second day began with a hot breakfast, the continuation of hand games. Workshops demonstrated bead and craft work with members. The artisans displayed their



arts and crafts for members to see and purchase. The elders and members enjoyed bingo after a lunch. Community members also enjoyed making bannock on a stick, and sampling traditional food (Partially dried fish was cooked over the fire). Boat rides were offered to all community members and representatives from various companies.

The second day ended with a closing ceremony, and a drum dance. The drummers were from Meander River Dene Tha.







ACFN

DENE LANDS AND RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT (DLRM)

2024 QUARTERLY ELDERS DLRM INFORMATION SESSIONS

Q1 - March 13th



Q2 - June 5th



Q3 - September 11th



Q4 - December 4th

Charlie Voyageur Conference Centre

For more information contact:

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kristina.deranger@acfn.com | 780.742.7163