

February

det'anchogh zá  
February 2025

# yunadhé ha hóꞤa hołé

## Trailblazing



2025 has been off to an exciting start with so much happening with our Nation!

In late January we were proud to announce that the Acden lot in Fort McMurray is now officially reserve land as the Addition to Reserve process has been completed.

An Addition to Reserve is a parcel of land added to the existing reserve land of a First Nation or that creates a new reserve. This Addition to Reserve relates to the land on which the Acden building in Fort McMurray is located.

This is an exciting achievement for the Nation and one that leaders have been working on for many years.

In other news, the Nation announced that the Government of Canada has extended a formal offer to settle the Treaty 8 annuities claim. You can find the full announcement at the end of this letter. We strongly encourage you to participate in the process as we move towards voting. This includes opportunities for you to share your feedback and thoughts through surveys. This information is posted on our Facebook group, on the Members-Only section of our website, and on the HAWK app. Your voice matters and we want to hear from you, so please ensure we have your updated email address!

Our ACFN DLRM team has launched a logo contest for our Land Code Development Committee! Deadline to submit a logo design is March 1. This is a great chance to let your amazing creativity shine and help contribute to the development of the ACFN Land Code, too!

Dene language classes are ongoing, and we are excited to see so many Members taking the opportunity to learn and practice our traditional language. Language is a critical part of our culture, and we are committed to preserving it for future generations.



**ACFN**  
DENE LANDS AND RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT (DLRM)

### CALLING ALL ARTISTS!! LOGO DESIGN CONTEST

ACFN DLRM is establishing a Land Code, and our Land Code Development Committee needs a logo!

**THE WINNER WILL RECEIVE A \$300 GROCERY GIFTCARD OF THEIR CHOICE!**

**Eligibility:** Must be an ACFN member. Each member can only submit one design. The logo must include ACFN colours (Black, blues, oranges, and yellows). By entering the contest, you guarantee your design is original and you agree to give copyright to ACFN if you are the winner.

Interested? Submit a **HIGH QUALITY** image of your logo to [dara.mahowich@acfn.com](mailto:dara.mahowich@acfn.com)

**Deadline: March 01, 2025**



## Greetings from Chief and Council - Continued

Free online workshops for artisans and entrepreneurs are being offered to help ACFN Members realize their business dreams! These sessions take place on Zoom and all Members are welcome to join and learn. You can find more info on Page 3 of this letter and on our Facebook group and app.

Thank you to all Members for your ongoing support, and especially for your interest and participation in the annuities settlement process. We genuinely appreciate all your thoughts, feedback and questions and we look forward to sharing more information as we move forward on the settlement!

*Chief Allan Adam*

*Councillor Flossie Cyprean*

*Councillor Hazel Mercredi*

*Councillor Mike Mercredi*

*Councillor Teri Villebrun*



**DID YOU  
KNOW?**

### LUMP SUM PAYMENTS & AISH, INCOME SUPPORT

#### DID YOU KNOW?

Under Alberta's Income Support, Training, and Health Benefits Regulation, a lump sum payment of a non-recurring nature (such as a Per Capita Distribution) does not automatically impact income support benefits, so long that it is paid equally to all members on a First Nation's Membership list.



### BENEFITS OF ACFN'S TRUSTS

#### DID YOU KNOW?

Since 2018, ACFN has provided all Elders aged 65+ with a subsidy to help make life and paying bills easier. ACFN now provides year-round \$600 monthly payments to 126 ACFN Seniors.



### TREATY ANNUITY PAYMENTS

#### DID YOU KNOW?

Since 1899, each Treaty person is entitled to an annual payment of \$5. Additionally, the Treaty stipulates annual payments of \$25 to the Chief and \$15 to each Councillor.

These annuity payments are part of Canada's legal obligations to honour treaty commitments.



# Important Dates & Upcoming Events

## Artisan and Entrepreneur Online Workshop

March 4 and 11  
Mar 17 and 24


## ACFN DLRM Quarterly Elders Meeting

March 12

For more information on these and other events, please visit our Facebook group or ACFN app!

**IN-PERSON FORT CHIPEWYAN BEGINNER DENE CLASSES WITH CECILIA ADAM**

Monday, Feb 3-10-17, 2025  
March 17-24-31, 2025  
1-2:30 PM  
YEL



To register email [dorothy.voyageur@acfn.com](mailto:dorothy.voyageur@acfn.com)



ACFN and Catalyst+ presents

**Online WORKSHOP SERIES FOR ARTISANS/ ENTREPRENEURS**

Interactive Sessions  
Expert-led Examples and Discussions  
Certificate upon completion

**Invest in yourself**

**WORKSHOP MODULES** | PLEASE SEE DATES BELOW  
10:00AM - 12:00PM MST

1	Jan 21 / Jan 28 Dream Big: Crafting Your Business Vision	4	Mar 4 / Mar 11 Create and Innovate: Product Development
2	Feb 4 / Feb 11 Shine Bright: Marketing and Branding	5	Mar 17 / Mar 24 Connect and Sell: Building Customer Relationships
3	Feb 18 / Feb 25 Money Matters: Managing Your Finances	6	Apr 1 Community Connections: Building Local Partnerships

FREE REGISTRATION • 780-788-0877 • [employment@acfn.com](mailto:employment@acfn.com)

We are restarting in-person classes


# dene yatié

Join us for 6 weeks of In-person beginner Dene language classes with Janette Flett-Jones

**Tuesday Nights**  
Feb 4, 2025 to Mar 11, 2025  
6:30 -7:30 p.m.

Location: Athabasca Tribal Council Boardroom  
9206 McCormick Drive Fort McMurray, AB

Contact Dorothy for more information at [dorothy.voyageur@acfn.com](mailto:dorothy.voyageur@acfn.com)



**Weekly PRIZE**

Questions? Connect with us  
at [info@acfn.com](mailto:info@acfn.com)



## OPPORTUNITIES



**Congrats!**

Are you an ACFN Member celebrating a special achievement? ACFN wants to celebrate YOU!

Please send your special achievement to [info@acfn.com](mailto:info@acfn.com) to be featured on our social media, newsletter and website!



Find more information on opportunities, upcoming events, and important dates at [www.acfn.com](http://www.acfn.com)



**LET US HELP WITH YOUR GROCERY BILL!**  
**Win a Grocery Gift Card Worth \$250**

Win a Grocery Gift Card – 4 Winners Every Month!  
With the rising cost of groceries, we want to lend a helping hand.  
Open to all ACFN Members 18+

How It Works:

- 4 Winners will be chosen every month via a Wheel of Names draw!
- Winners will be announced on the 1st of each month.



 **ACFN**  
ATHABASCA CHIPEWYAN  
FIRST NATION

**TO ENTER PLEASE FILL OUT THE GOOGLE DOCUMENT**

For more information please contact Michelle Carroll [info@acfn.com](mailto:info@acfn.com) or Candace Voyageur [info@acfn.com](mailto:info@acfn.com)



Looking for a career with ACFN? Visit [www.acfn.com/careers](http://www.acfn.com/careers)

**HAVE YOU MOVED?**

We encourage all Members to ensure their current address is up-to-date with ACFN. You can update your address by emailing [info@acfn.com](mailto:info@acfn.com), or by calling the ACFN Band Office (780-697-3730) during business hours.

Marsi!



## ACFN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

- If you have moved, please **update your address** by emailing [info@acfn.com](mailto:info@acfn.com) or calling 780-697-3730 during business hours!
- Know Before You Go - you can **check winter road conditions** at [www.rmwb.ca/winterroads](http://www.rmwb.ca/winterroads)
- **Nunee Health is now offering Al-Anon** meetings on Tuesday at 7pm at the Nunee Wellness Building

Join our ACFN Facebook community at [www.facebook.com/groups/athabascachipewyan](http://www.facebook.com/groups/athabascachipewyan)



## ACFN INTRODUCES NEW MOBILE APP

*We are excited to announce the launch of a new mobile app for ACFN Members!*

ACFN has worked with Hawk Solutions, which was created by Nautsa mawt Tribal Council, a non-profit society supporting ten Coast Salish Nations, and a technology provider specializing in secure, customized solutions, to customize and app for ACFN Members. *This app has been designed by First Nations for First Nations!*

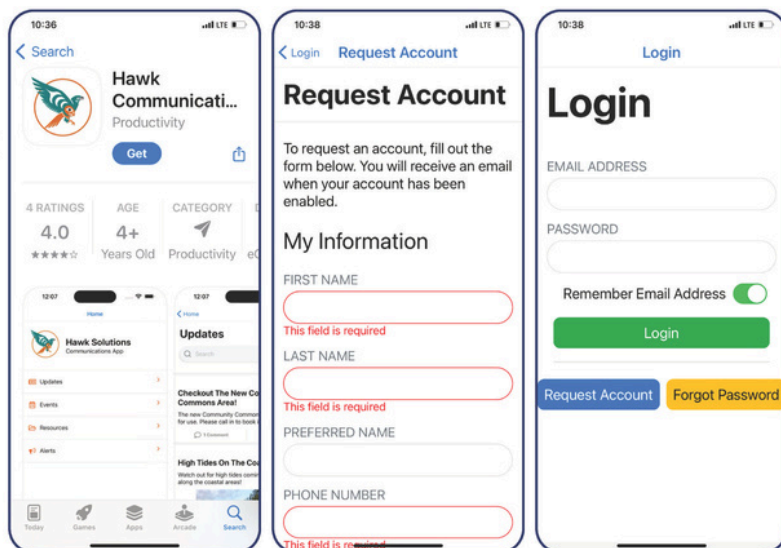


The new app provides easy access to information on resources, events, updates and alerts for Members, as well as an emergency management function that can be quickly deployed in emergency situations.

Below you will find the steps to download the app and connect with ACFN in an entirely new way!

## HOW TO INSTALL ACFN MOBILE APP

1. Install the Hawk Communications app from your **Google Play Store (Android)** or **App Store (Apple)**.
2. Launch the app and choose your permission settings. You will then be directed to the login page. Click the **Request Account** button.
3. You will be directed to a page to fill out your basic personal information. Fill out all required fields and under **My Account Request** select **"Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation"**. Click **Submit**.
4. After your account request has been approved by the admin, you will receive an email notification that your account has been approved. Click the link in the email to activate your account. Make sure to check your spam and junk folders for an email from **"noreply@einsight.net"**
5. Start exploring the app!





# Annuity Settlement Notice - February 3



## **IMPORTANT NOTICE TO MEMBERS RE: ACFN'S TREATY ANNUITIES CLAIM**

**FEBRUARY 3, 2025**

After years of dedicated effort and perseverance, Chief and Council are extremely pleased to announce that ACFN has received a formal offer from Canada to settle its Treaty 8 annuities claim.

This claim is in relation to Canada's failure to increase the annuity payments originally set at \$25 for the Chief, \$15 for Councillors and \$5 to every other Treaty 8 member to account for inflation. Additionally, the claim includes Canada's commitment to providing ammunition, twine, and suits of clothing as promised under Treaty 8.

**Please note this claim is only for historic (past) treaty annuity losses (1899 to 2025), not for future annuity payments. ACFN will enter a new round of negotiations with Canada to determine the Treaty 8 annuity payment going forward.**

ACFN's legal counsel is working with Canada on the terms of the Settlement Agreement. Chief and Council are also in the process of working on a financial plan for the use of the settlement funds.

We are mindful of the possible change of the federal government and how that may impact the process. Time is of the essence, and we appreciate the support of Members to help move through this process efficiently.

Before the ratification vote, we will host an information meeting to provide full details on the settlement terms and proposed financial plan. Member feedback will be gathered through online surveys to ensure your voices are heard.

Once the financial plan and settlement agreement are complete, ACFN membership will vote to accept the settlement and financial plan. For the agreement to be approved, at least 25% plus one of all eligible ACFN voters must vote in favour, and of the votes cast, at least a majority vote in favour.

We are also anticipating that there will be an electronic voting option for this ratification. To ensure you receive important updates and voting instructions, please update your email address as soon as possible by contacting [info@acfn.com](mailto:info@acfn.com). You may also be contacted directly to verify your email.

This is a historic moment for our Nation, and we encourage all Members to participate in this process. Please stay tuned for further details on the ratification vote.

Marsi cho,

ACFN Chief & Council



# NEW SURVEY!

## 2025 ACFN TREATY ANNUITY SETTLEMENT SECOND SURVEY

We want to hear from you!

This new survey is based on the feedback you provided in the first survey.

Please complete the second survey now!

For more information please contact [info@acfn.com](mailto:info@acfn.com)



**Complete the  
survey now!**

