



**Kahkewistahâw
First Nation**

With the Eagle We Soar

Progress & Potential

Spring 2023

What's Inside?

Greetings from Chief Taypotat

Updates from KFN Council

Expanding KFN's Economy

#kahkewistahawproud

Celebrating our Community



**Kahkewistahâw
POW-WOW
June 23 - 25, 2023**



**Kahkewistahâw
RODEO
July 31 - August 1**



A warrior sacrifices himself for the good of others. His task is to take care of the elderly, the defenseless, those who cannot provide for themselves, and above all, the children, the future of humanity. Kahkewistahâw's warriors are the foot soldiers in the trenches, the people out in the graters, picking up the garbage, providing mental health and addictions support, using the hammers and drills that build our homes, the bus drivers, the safety patrol, the teachers... These people are the glue of Kahkewistahâw and what make our nation so great.

Some First Nations are gifted geographically, with access to resources, or home communities on the outskirts of major cities. While Kahkewistahâw might not have had these geographic advantages to start, our settlements have put us in a position to expand our footprint. Kahkewistahâw Landing in Saskatoon is growing. Our Yorkton property is growing. And leadership are exploring opportunities in Regina, too. Kahkewistahâw is a force to be reckoned with! Our economy is booming, and we should all be very proud of that.

Kahkewistahâw's members are 2,300 strong, with most of them living away from our home community. At our Pow-wow this summer, many members came home to visit, some of them for the first time in many years, or even ever. Our members are all #kahkewistahâwproud – and whether living near or far, Kahkewistahâw will always be home.

When Chief and Council plan, we think about how our decisions will impact the next seven generations. What will Kahkewistahâw look like in 210 years? More programs. More services. More housing. More post-secondary training here at home. More of our youth are staying here in the community, or returning home after they get their education. We are all working together to ensure that Kahkewistahâw is full of opportunity, especially for our children and grandchildren. We have achieved a lot over the past few years, and there is more to come!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Taypotat".

Chief Evan B.G. Taypotat



Greetings to all Kahkewistahâw members, near and far.

This newsletter is a celebration of our Nation, our community, and what we've achieved together. It is a celebration of all the leaders who carried the ball through the hard times of the '30s, '40s, '60s, 2000s... to make sure our people have success today. Most of all, it is a celebration of the people who serve Kahkewistahâw every day – our warriors!



Councillor Cory Alexson

I moved home to take on this role six years ago and am really proud of our community's growth and the progress that we're making because of our programs and services. Most importantly though, what I've seen is healing. I see our young people rising up. Our members are healing. Our families are healing. Kahkewistahâw is healing. And that means a strong, vibrant, healthier place for all our members. I'm definitely proud of that, and the steps our members are making. As we continue to progress, we are strengthening relationships and creating opportunities with our economic development and programs and services. Our home fire is burning bright.

Housing

15 units will be completed for summer 2023, as part of the CMHC Rapid Housing Initiative and we'll begin construction on two additional units through CMHC Section 95 in Spring/Summer 2023. We are applying for additional units on both initiatives.

CMHC Special Contribution Funding - Operating agreements ending September 1, 2023 - December 31, 2028 are eligible for \$171,000.00 to assist with repairs, maintenance, and replacement of capital items.

Housing Database System - Unit information and condition reports are being gathered for input into a new Database System that will help with preventative maintenance and renovation planning, asset protection, and record historical data on each unit for future reference.

Communication Strategy for Service Requests - We will be centralizing communications for housing, water, sewer, and service requests with a dedicated 24/7 phone number that will be shared with tenants and membership through various communication sources.

Justice

KFN Justice Committee and KFN Programs continue to strategize and provide personal and professional support for members who need it, including community connection to employment opportunities and professional development.

Prevention

Wahkotowin Safe Home has been in full operation for over a year and is proudly staffed by KFN Members who provide important support for our children and families. A Grand Opening celebration is planned for Spring 2023.

Community Safety Patrol

Our Safety Patrol Team has a new safety vehicle. We are grateful for the 14 serving members who keep our community safe between 4pm to 7am every day.

Fire Safety

On call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, the KFN Fire team is a recognized leader of fire safety and training. They do a great job keeping our community safe, demonstrated this winter by their response to several road-side emergencies.



Councillor Michael Bob

Kahkewistahâw to me is pride. It's been my life and life's work. I'm very proud to see where we have come from when I was elected Councillor in 1993 to where we are today. Our economic development has made it so we are able to offer many more programs and services to our membership that help them live better lives. And we are always striving to provide even better services and programs. We want to see our nation grow and provide great opportunities right here at home.

Lands & Resources

The Lands department has seen significant changes in staffing and structure and the team is busy tackling leasing and reporting issues. Leases have increased and injected approximately \$170,000 to KFN's 2022 Budget to support unfunded programs, including funerals. That number is expected to increase in 2023 alongside a rise in market values.

Operations & Maintenance

The backbone of the community, KFN's O&M team had a busy year handling road maintenance, managing water delivery and waste management for homes not connected to the waterline and/or sewer system, and assisting with new housing developments and other projects as required. Allen Delorme has retired from his position as O&M Manager. We wish Allen all the best in his retirement and thank him for his diligent leadership and service to our community.

Capital Projects

Phase 23 Subdivision - Just south of the existing village site, this project will be completed in two 10-unit phases and serviced with gravity sewer connected to the sewer line, waterlines, and roadways of the existing site.

Phase 24 Subdivision - Located east of the existing village site, Phase 24 will also be serviced with gravity sewer connected to the sewer line, waterlines, and roadways of the existing site. An additional roadway will be built to connect to Bacon Road and the Phase 22 south roadway.

Lagoon Expansion - The lagoon's land footprint will double in size to manage an estimated 20 years of future waste management needs.

Solid Waste Transfer Station - Pending INAC approval, this project will commence in 2024. We will be purchasing a new waste management truck that will provide pickup services and disposal management in a more environmental way and the old landfill site will be decommissioned. The new stations will be located on lands adjacent to the rodeo grounds.

Water Treatment Plant (WTP)

Phase 1 Complete - Well and WTP repairs to address and remove water advisories i.e., Boil & Do Not Consume.

Phase 2 - Construction of new WTP at the centre of the existing village site where the old band office was located.

Phase 3 - Expansion of treated water by low pressure water lines to all valley homes, addition of generators, and new fencing at existing wells to safeguard our water source, and construction of a new well to meet future community needs.

Elders & Veterans

The Elders resumed meetings after a long break due to the pandemic and are looking forward to the completion of the new Elders building this April. Veterans were honoured at the 2022 Remembrance Day ceremony, an important gathering to pay our respects to all those who have fought for our freedom.



Councillor William Kaysaywaysemat

Kahkewistahâw is a very progressive nation. We want to work towards sovereignty for our First Nation and have many plans to make Kahkewistahâw even more successful. We believe Kahkewistahâw deserves the best for all of its members. We pride ourselves on our community, our elders, our youth, an engaged community, and being successful and you can see that pride everywhere. We all want to feel connected and be a part of something, you know? Everyone wants to be on the winning team and I think Kahkewistahâw is that winning team.

Trusts

Our main goal with managing KFN's Trusts is to continue generating revenue. We have been purchasing land every year and have 9,000 of 29,000 reclaimed acres left to purchase over time. Our focus has been on urban centres

in recent years due to the opportunities for economic growth, but we always prioritize reclaiming land in our region.

2021 Amendments - The changes we ratified in 2021 enable KFN to pursue land purchases and other economic opportunities, as long as the market value of the trust doesn't go lower than \$60M. That base will always be protected. There are also clear rules related to expenditures that restrict spending to specific areas such as land, housing, economic development, and recreation.

Community Development Account (CDA) - The amendments also make grant funding available to KFN Members, who may apply for \$2000 every three years. Recipients of these grants must provide receipts to ensure spending aligns with the request in the application.

CDF Business Grant - The CDA also provides grant opportunities for KFN entrepreneurs. Members with a business licence and complete business plan can apply for a \$35,000 grant once every five years — Members who receive CDA business grants may reapply after five years of operations to expand their business.

Contact Lindsay Bird for more information and to request applications: Administrator@kahkewistahaw.com

Education

Our Cree teacher, Crystal Chief, is doing an awesome job at the school and a number of our students are speaking Cree words and phrases. We all love seeing the Cree signs all over the school. In the future, we hope to grow this initiative even more by adding more Cree teachers, and incorporating language into our land based education program.

Membership

KFN Membership Committee continues to process applications and now uses the Membership Code ratified in December 2021. The April 11th election will be the first time using the Election Act we ratified in December 2021. The Election process has been reduced from 75 days to 35 days.

Finance & Administration

We continue to improve our processes with changes that streamline operations and speed up approvals. We are using electronic file transfer systems in place of individual cheques wherever possible (e.g., payroll deposits by direct wire transfers to employee bank accounts). The team reviews policies annually, and when new scenarios arise that are not addressed by the current policy, we review and amend.



Councillor Iris M. Taypotat-Scribe

After two years of dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic, our programs are finally getting back to normal. I am so thankful for the dedicated work from all KFN staff who worked together to share information and keep our community safe. It's the people who make KFN great... the parents, volunteers, and chaperones who support our youth... the employees who apply for grants and programs and deliver services to our clients. I want to thank everyone who dedicates themselves to our community.

Income Assistance

Funded through Indigenous Service Canada, IAP is a last resort for eligible individual or family units who reside on the reserve and are unable to meet the need for food, shelter, personal and other items essential to their health and wellbeing. IAP served an average of 82-110 clients in our community in 2022.

Job Find Club - Employment training for youth clients

aged 18-24 coordinated by Darcia Kaysaywaysemat (KFN Income Support Administrator) and Yorkton Tribal Council Labour Force Development

First Nation Youth Employment Strategy - Empowers and inspires youth clients aged 18-30 with mentored work experience opportunities. We have seen six youth work in various departments at Chief Joseph Crowe Governance Centre since KFN's proposal was accepted.

Health

KFN's Health Department continues to provide high quality health services to all members, and recently achieved a high 94% average on *Accreditation Canada's Qmentum* accreditation program.

Community Health - Jaime Danscok (RN, BN, CHN)

Immunization, prenatal support, health promotion, communicable disease, and environmental health programs

Home & Community Care - Supports individuals/families to maintain independent care in their own homes for as long as possible, with a holistic approach that addresses physical, emotional, mental, social, and spiritual care needs. Since separating from the Ochapowace/ Kahkewistahâw Home Care Program in 2022, KFN staff (Natasha Scott - RN, Shelby Bear - LPN, April Bear and Megan Delorme - Continuing Care Assistants, Bonnie McKay - Admin Support) continue to provide excellent care to the clients in our community.

Sports & Recreation

Opportunities for members of all ages, including Summer Camps, Youth Softball Championships, Saskatchewan Roughriders Excursions, Bootcamp Fitness Classes, Volleyball Skills Camps, Gun Safety Courses, Special Day Activities, Wellness Workshops, Cultural Events, and Hockey. Youth who compete at professional, Provincial, National or International levels are eligible for Elite Sports funding.

Kahkewistahâw Miyototamowin (To Do Good Things) Centre

- In the planning stages to convert former Kahkewistahâw Health Centre into a Wellness Centre.

Gaming

Governed by the Indigenous Gaming Regulators (IGR), KFN submits monthly financial reports.

Bingo Fundraisers - Committee reviews group sponsorship requests every month.

Painted Hand Community Development Corporation - Proposal Deadlines: April 15, July 15, Oct. 15, and Jan. 15



“I see a really, really bright future for our Nation. We have smart people, bright people and they make sure things happen. I am really proud of that.”

Trishell Wasacase
KFN Finance Assistant III



“When I talk about teamwork and pulling together to build healthy families and healthy parents, I’m talking about our addictions department, our community-based prevention and parenting programs, our programs for the children, our recreation department, our schools, the teachers within the schools, our health department. . . We have so many resources. . . We’re a team, working together to build healthy families.”

Sharon Greene
KFN Family Connections Manager



“My favourite thing about Kahkewistahâw is our involvement in sports. It not only gets the community involved, but it gets the children involved in excelling in their skills and getting out of their comfort zones. And with the Kahkewistahâw community and our leadership behind us, the kids can reach further in life.”

Shandale Crowe
KFN Finance Assistant I



“Thinking of our children, our children unborn, there is hope for them! There is promise. Strong foundations they can build on. Giving them a good strong start in this world is so important. Strong leaders. That’s what we’re producing. You know? Future. Innovation. Change. It’s powerful!”

Josephine Kaysaywaysemat
KFN Director of Health



“I’m proud to be an elder for Kahkewistahâw. Our new buildings are amazing, beautiful, our leaders are doing things, schooling for our children, trying to teach them the right ways of living. To see our grandchildren, the community, which I take them all as my grandchildren, to see that they have a better life and education. . . I’m really proud of our community, our chiefs and councils, what they’re trying to do for us.”

KFN Elder “Kokum” Vesta Isaac



“We’re a thriving nation. Over the past five, ten years, our leadership brought a lot to the community and they succeeded in a lot of projects off the reserve, too. It just makes a person proud and makes me want to get involved more. When people come home and see what we’ve all done over the years, see what we have here, it’s a real good thing.”

Brandon Alexson
KFN Operations and Maintenance

#kahkewistahâwproud



“I’m proud to be from Kahkewistahâw because we do so many activities that I know other communities don’t. My favourite part of school is land-based education. We honour the elders and connect with our culture. We play hand games, we smudge, we pray, sing Pow-Wow, go to sweats. It helps clear our mind and body of any negative things going through.”

Janssen Yuzicappi - Grade 9
Chief Kahkewistahâw Community School



“My favourite thing about Kahkewistahâw is the support and the opportunities us youth get. We have a Junior Chief & Council and we get leadership training and get to join in with our leadership at their chambers. We get to see what it’s like and get experience in public speaking and grow confidence so if we want to be in leadership when we’re older, we know what it’s like.”

Elliana McKay - Grade 11
Chief Kahkewistahâw Community School



“My favourite thing about Kahkewistahâw is the community and how everyone helps everyone out. I’m thankful for all the public speakers and the gatherings that leadership have brought to us, and in the future I hope we get more learning and training here at home.”

Brooklyn Crowe - Grade 11
Chief Kahkewistahâw Community School



“My favourite thing about Kahkewistahâw is all the great sports. I play volleyball for the Hurricanes and I also play track and field and hockey. In the future, I really hope we get our own rink so we don’t have to travel far away to go play on the ice. Sports bring all of us together.”

Alora McKay - Grade 11
Chief Kahkewistahâw Community School



“I am very proud to be from Kahkewistahâw First Nation. I have been so amazed at the growth of our community within the last six years. Our school has grown and continues to grow; adding another gym and a youth centre for our students. Our students are becoming our leaders. I see more success for our community because we’re working together as a team, as a village, to support leadership from the ground up.”

Jean Taypotat
Learning Resource Teacher
Chief Kahkewistahâw Community School



Tell us what makes you proud!

Connect with us on Facebook!



Kahkewistahâw First Nation

.....
KFN Chief & Council
.....

KEMC Board of Directors
.....



 **Kahkewistahâw**
Gas & Convenience

Our Yorkton KGCS location was the first gas station operating on First Nations land in the area. We opened a second location in Saskatoon at Kahkewistahâw Landing in November of 2022.

PENIPA HOTELS

Yorkton’s Home Inn & Suites hotel, operated through a management agreement with D3H Hotels and franchise agreement with Home Inn & Suites.

Mâmawi Holdings

KFN’s property management company that holds the head lease for the Yorkton lands.



TIMASKÂW

A partnership between KFN and Gambler First Nation, Timaskâw’s mandate is to source, acquire and scale successful businesses in the transport and construction industries with a strong reputation for customer service and quality of work.



Mamawi Developments oversees development of KFN’s lands in Yorkton and is currently overseeing construction of the Yellow Thunderbird Lodge (YTCCFS) office, as well as the design and planning related to an industrial bay and mixed-use commercial office building.

Kanatan Energy

Kanatan’s mandate is to seek out and develop opportunities in the renewable energy sector, including related contracting opportunities.



 **Kahkewistahâw**
Landing

Kahkewistahâw Landing is the entity responsible for the development of KFN’s 60-acre urban reserve land development in Saskatoon.

KEMC UPDATE



Kahkewistahâw Gas & Convenience

Our Kahkewistahâw Landing location is now open and operating 24/7. This development was funded by more than \$900,000 in non-repayable grant funding from ISC and traditional financing from First Nations Bank of Canada, with no equity requirements for KFN. Both adjacent commercial rental units are leased, and fuel sales are projected at 4 million litres a year.

The Yorkton location continues to provide good returns on our investment. We'll be looking to provide some infrastructure upgrades in 2023 to ensure a great customer experience within the store.



Mâmawi Developments

Mâmawi Developments is currently overseeing the construction of a 38,000 sf office complex at our Yorkton urban reserve property that will serve as head office for Yellow Thunderbird Lodge (aka: Yorkton Tribal Council Child and Family Services).

While our Yorkton urban development is at maximum capacity, we are exploring the development of an 8,000 sf building to accommodate existing tenant demand and are in the design stage for a mixed-use commercial condo.

Timaskâw Partnership

A partnership with Gambler First Nation (MB) formed in 2021, Timaskâw was created to improve access to business financing and a larger network related to provincial government and Industry procurement. The company's mandate is to source, acquire and scale successful transport and construction with a strong reputation for customer service and quality of work.

Timaskâw is open to investment from other First Nations communities outside of Manitoba and Saskatchewan that share our commitment to professionalism and good governance. We hope that through this shared platform, Indigenous communities across Canada will be able to grow bigger and better businesses together.



Odanah Truck Line

Odanah Truck Line Inc. was the first business acquired by Timaskâw. Since its acquisition, Odanah has added 11 more trucks and grown revenue by over 30% and is exploring transport contracts with some of the largest companies in Saskatchewan and Manitoba — www.odanah.com

Future Acquisitions

Building on the success of Odanah, Timaskâw will soon complete two more acquisitions: a paving business in Penticton, BC, and a heavy equipment and truck repair business in Brandon, MB. Both were selected for acquisition because of consistent financial performance and scalability. \$1.4 million in grant funding has been secured to support acquisition, with the balance covered by traditional financing.

Kanatan Energy

Kanatan continues to pursue renewable energy projects and is reviewing a 200 MW solar project with our industry partner, PNE Canada, and exploring another project related to the production of hydrogen using waste products.



A Gathering Place



- **60-acre urban reserve development in Saskatoon (first 40 acres were purchased in 2017)**
- **Zoned for commercial, light industrial and warehouse development**
- **Premium location off Circle Drive, 1.5 km from the Saskatoon airport**

Phase 1 (2021-22): Gas Station, Convenience Store and Commercial Rental Units

We completed Phase 1 development in 2022, including all required infrastructure (roadworks, earthworks, and underground work) celebrating Kahkewistahâw Gas and Convenience Store's Grand Opening in November 2022. With KGCS operating and the two commercial rental units (CRUs) leased, we will be adding three more commercial rental units adjacent to the convenience store to meet leasing demand. KEMC is awaiting confirmation on partial funding to support construction of these CRUs and will cover the remainder with traditional bank financing. Construction will begin in Spring 2023.



Aerial of Kahkewistahâw Landing, with the airport to the North, and FSIN head office at the upper right corner (NE).

Infrastructure Development

Focus for Kahkewistahâw Landing in 2023 is servicing a section of Phase 2 and meeting infrastructure development commitments with City of Saskatoon. This phase will ensure Kahkewistahâw Landing has what it needs to grow. Design plans for the sewage infrastructure are nearing completion and tender packages for the work go out in April 2023.

Deep Trunk (estimated completion by end of 2023) - main sewer line that moves wastewater to intercepting city system.

Lift Station (estimated completion in 2025) - pumping station that moves wastewater from lower elevation to higher elevation.

Force Main (estimated completion in 2025) - pressurized sewer pipe that moves wastewater from Lift Station to main line (used when gravity flow isn't an option).



Industrial Bay Development

Design work is underway for an Industrial Bay development that maximizes Kahkewistahâw Landing's location and responds to market demand.



Kahkewistahâw Landing Business Centre: A Hub for the Indigenous Economy

Pre-leasing opportunities for the two-level Kahkewistahâw Landing Business Centre will be available Spring 2023, with construction expected to begin in the Fall. The Centre will be a valuable on-reserve business space, with 20,000 sq ft of co-working and office space dedicated to fostering collaboration between Nations and industry.



Hotel and Conference Centre Development

KEMC recently completed a market study related to the development of a hotel and conference centre on Kahkewistahâw Landing that confirmed a significant need to create on-reserve meeting and conference space in the region. Building on our success with Penipa Hotels, plans for an approximately 100-room hotel catering to business and crews are in development. KEMC is applying for funding to offset the design costs required to advance the project in Spring 2023 with plans to begin construction in 2024 or 2025.

Medical and Wellness Centre Development

Based on KFN’s commitment to fair and equal access to quality, culturally safe healthcare services for Kahkewistahâw members and all Indigenous people, we are planning to develop a Medical and Wellness Centre at Kahkewistahâw Landing that will provide integrated, holistic

health care. The Centre will focus on targeted services for natal and post-natal care, and areas that disproportionately affect Indigenous peoples, including dialysis. Plans also include holistic health and pharmacy services that integrate traditional knowledge and medicine.

Funded through a transfer agreement with Health Canada, the Centre would be owned and operated by KFN through an agreement with the Saskatchewan Health Authority. These negotiations are in motion with the Province of Saskatchewan and the Government of Canada, and we are seeing a very positive response at all levels.

Financing for Kahkewistahâw Landing

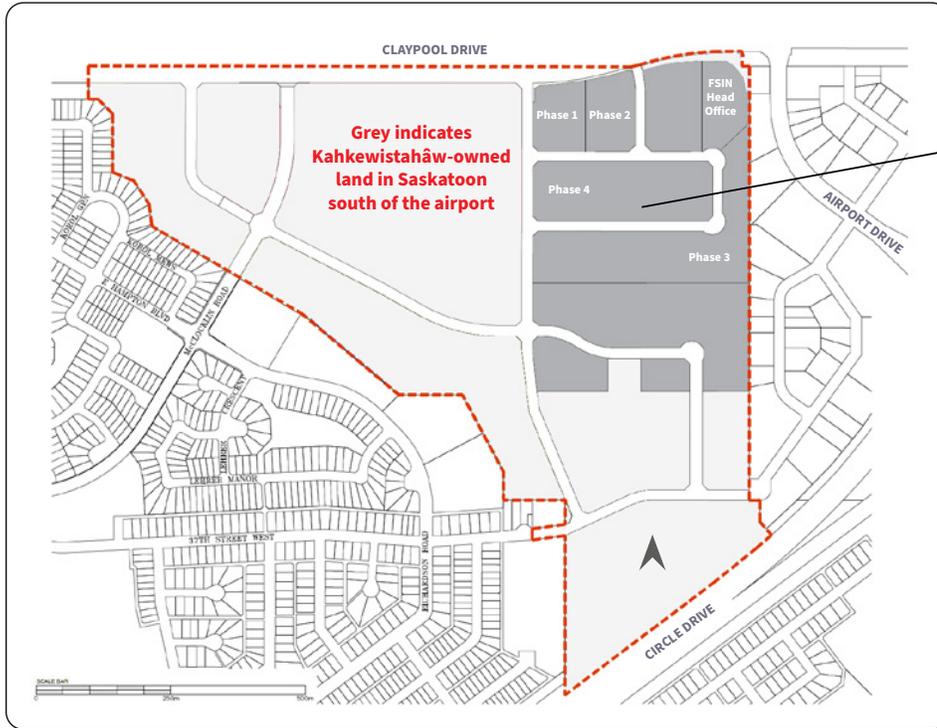
In addition to the ground-breaking \$15.4 million Canada Infrastructure Bank financing announced in March 2022 (secured at 1% interest, with 25-year amortization, no recourse to KFN, and no repayments required until project completion), we received an additional \$2.5M in non-repayable equity gap grant funding from ISC.

This funding has ensured no significant requirements from own-source equity funding for development of Kahkewistahâw Landing. We are applying for further funding to offset infrastructure costs for Phase II site grading and road and curb development, expected to start in Summer 2023.



Leasing revenue from the FSIN Governance Building has been reinvested and utilized to support further development at Kahkewistahâw Landing.

Hampton Village Business Park Concept Plan / Saskatoon



Other Initiatives

Agriculture

KEMC is in discussions with the University of Saskatchewan College of Agriculture and the Province of Saskatchewan's Ministry of Agriculture about an agricultural development program. This program would include assistance with economic modelling, agricultural business planning, site assessments, and agronomy. Goal is for KFN to develop a mixed farming operation that would include fruit orchard, market garden, grain crops, and livestock.

Lobbying/Government Relations

To promote a better investment climate for other Indigenous businesses, we have been lobbying the Government of Canada (Indigenous Services Canada, Canada Revenue Agency, Business Development Bank of Canada, Export Development Canada, and Immigration Canada) for changes to ensure our businesses thrive and our children prosper.



Members at work!

Kahkewistahâw First Nation member Darian Lavallee joined the Odanah team last year and has been representing our Nation in his travels across North America.

Safe travels, Darian!

We're Hiring!

If you're a KFN member looking for career opportunities, we encourage you to send your resume to: info@kemcdevelopments.com

For more information about careers in transport, logistics, and warehousing, contact Odanah's GM Stefan Levasseur at: stefan@odanah.com, Councillor Iris Taypotat-Scribe, or Councillor Michael Bob.



Elders Group



2022 Remembrance Day



Senator Louison QJM



Every Child Matters



Every Child Matters



Tiny Home Build Project



CKCS Grads 2022



Ribbon Cutting KGCS Saskatoon



KFN Program Managers/Directors



Summer Games - Men's 15U Softball



Treaties - Men's 15U Fastball



Treaties - Men's 18U Fastball



Summer Games



Summer Games



Staff Ball Challenge



Treaty Day



Pow-Wow



Pow-Wow



**Kahkewistahâw First Nation
Joseph Crowe Governance Centre**

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