



KAHKEWISTAHAW
FIRST NATION

SPECIAL UPDATE

September 2020

Growing Economic Development Driving Our Sovereignty Forward

Tansi Kahkewistahaw Citizens,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and in good spirits during this difficult and unsettling time. As a member of Kahkewistahaw's leadership council and your Chief, I am extremely proud of Kahkewistahaw and our ability to come together to respond to the needs of our citizens, no matter where we live. Our nationhood extends beyond our reserve borders and the connections to our homelands remains strong.

Reflecting on the past few months, nationhood and sovereignty have certainly been common themes playing out in many First Nation communities across this country. It's an extraordinary thing to see the level of support and kinship that our people have brought to the forefront of community action. When faced with challenges, the resilience and willingness to work together is a strength that keeps First Nations moving forward.

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Kahkewistahaw is quickly becoming a major contributor to the overall Saskatchewan economy while establishing our own economy.

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As many of you may have seen in the media, in partnership, Kahkewistahaw is moving forward with a couple of business ventures on our Saskatoon and Yorkton properties. Each property will be the future home for the Yorkton Tribal Council and the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations. These developments demonstrate an excellent new level of economic impact our Nation is achieving outside our reserve boundaries. Kahkewistahaw is quickly becoming a major contributor to the overall Saskatchewan economy while establishing our own economy. Each venture is welcomed by both the First Nations and the local municipalities, as we are all facing an economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 shut-down.

Kahkewistahaw is extremely fortunate to be a major player in these high-impact ventures. Recently, at the FSIN's ground-breaking ceremony for their new office complex, I spoke about Economic Reconciliation. Economic Reconciliation is a term that describes a holistic, value-driven approach to First Nation economic opportunities. Opportunities that are built on meaningful and mutually beneficial partnerships or allyships. First Nations are no longer sitting on the sidelines of economic success. First Nations are now an important channel that non-Indigenous business developers seek out, a valued resource necessary for a strong economy.

I believe our Kahkewistahaw Nation is making significant steps towards our own independence and relationship building. However, it takes a team of dedicated and capable people to make it happen. We are privileged to have a strong network of people working for KFN. Our Kahkewistahaw Economic Management

**Chief Evan
Taypotat**



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Corporation's Board of Directors and CEO have been integral to our success. They have been advancing an economic strategy that is aligned to a collective vision shared with KFN citizens.

We are fortunate to have several trust funds that we must wisely manage and leverage investments towards our future. The trust has a direct correlation to our past because it represents a hardship that our ancestors endured. We owe it to our ancestors to utilize those funds for the benefit of our future generations. As the trustees carry out their fiduciary responsibilities, they do so with this connection in mind. We thank them for the good work they do on behalf of Kahkewistahaw's citizens.

Surrounded by all the good people who work for KFN, I am reminded of a traditional teaching that guides the economic goal of our Nation – *miyo-pimatisowin*. It is the teaching of "living a good life." The way to economic success is to balance goals to this teaching. Economic success is not only about a monetary goal. It includes education and training, capacity building, effective management of our lands and assets, building quality homes, and increasing our

community infrastructure. Economic success contributes to the enhancement and protection of our culture and language. Prosperity in these areas is the path to Economic Sovereignty. Its only through true sovereignty we will know the feeling of equality and self-determination for our Nation. We have started this journey and we are well on our way.

As the seasons change, our education warriors, our students are returning to school and/or to their post-secondary institution. Let us be mindful, their realities may have changed, but not their dreams of *miyo-pimatisowin*. We need to do what we can to support their journey. For all of us, COVID has changed our foreseeable future. Let us also take this time to remember, to do your part to stay safe and healthy. Wash your hands, keep your distance, wear a mask when in public. Simple things that can make a difference for the health of your loved ones and for the protection of our community.

Enjoy the Autumn season and we will see you all soon on the trail,
Chief Evan B.G. Taypotat



KFN Chief and Council (L to R) Councillor Michael K. Bob, Councillor Iris M. Taypotat-Scribe, Chief Evan B. Taypotat, Councillors William C. Kaysaywaysemaat and Councillor Cory D. Alexson.



KEMC Presses Forward With Economic Development Opportunities during Covid-19



First and foremost, the Kahkewistahaw Economic Management Corp. team hope that you and your family are healthy and secure during these difficult times. We are grateful that our team was in a position to quickly and safely reposition the way we conduct business and rise to the challenge of delivering on our mission in a rapidly changing environment.

- Complete the detailed design for the new home for Yorkton Tribal Council Child and Family Services, which consists of a 30,000 square foot commercial office complex to be located on our Yorkton property, which KEMC is developing;
- Taken on the lead developer role for the Hampton Village area in Saskatoon in order to expeditiously complete the detailed design for Kahkewistahaw Landing's infrastructure as well as the Phase I site plan which will include the development of a new gas station, c-store and two commercial rental units; and
- Safeguard our existing businesses through a prompt response to how we deliver our customer facing services at Kahkewistahaw Gas and Convenience and at Penipa Hotel, as well as by applying for



South West Perspective

Despite the significant impacts felt by our economy over the past few months that prompted an instinct to pull in and slow down, KEMC adapted extremely well to the new realities of doing business, and quickly implemented systems to further reduce expenses, preserve capital and allow us to continue developing our projects. The quick action taken allowed our organization to significantly soften the blow to our businesses and projects. Over the last few months, we managed to:



North West Perspective



South East Perspective



South Perspective

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a number of COVID relief measures to preserve liquidity. This has resulted in only minimal impacts to our businesses.

These turbulent times have further demonstrated the need to pull together for the common good of Kahkewistahaw First Nation and ensure alignment throughout the organization. As a part of this commitment, KEMC has been working closely with all of Kahkewistahaw's stakeholders to ensure our



Conceptual Overview of Proposed YTCCFS Office Building



With construction at both Kahkewistahaw Landing as well as our Yorkton development slated to begin in the Spring of 2021 and the launch of our trucking company set for this fall/winter, we are now looking to develop a job skills inventory of our membership to ensure that our qualified members play a pivotal role in the development of our lands. If you have interest in the transport or construction industries, please email your resume to info@kemcdevelopments.com.

Stay tuned for more news on upcoming developments!

corporate strategy to address the needs of Kahkewistahaw's membership.

While Kahkewistahaw Landing will provide significant employment and business opportunities for our members residing within the Saskatoon area, we are also focusing our efforts on establishing businesses that would provide for on-reserve employment. To that end, we have been working diligently on finalizing a strategy that will see the development of businesses in strategic sectors including trucking, contracting and agriculture that will provide for significant employment opportunities for our on-reserve members.





KFN Launches Mobile APP for Members

Kahkewistahaw First Nation Chief and Council is pleased to announce a new mobile APP. The community App is now available for download on both iOS (Apple) and Android devices.



Chief Taypotat says, "This is a great use of technology to keep our citizens informed. The alerts and news posts are especially helpful for leadership to get information directly to citizen's phones quickly."

The app can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play by simply searching "Kahkewistahaw" or "KFN News" and downloading/opening the APP. This app will provide updates for

citizens and App users of all of KFN's news, events and notices – along with other great features like photos, job opportunities, local bulletins and more. The app will also give you the option to get direct KFN notifications and alerts to your phone/device, so be sure to "allow notifications" when you first download the APP. You can even leave feedback to make your opinions heard and to help guide the direction of our First Nation.



**Get the
KFN APP
NOW!**

Get it on
App Store

Simply search
"Kahkewistahaw" or "KFN
News" and download the APP.

Get to Know Our KFN Staff, Businesses and Consultants

Wright Construction

Our name is Wright Construction and we are thrilled to be the general contractor for the Kahkewistahaw Governance and Administration Centre.

The good weather this summer has led us off to a great start. As for those that have been driving by the site, you can see that we are in full force as structural steel is starting to be erected.

Soon enough there will be floors, wall studs and exterior finishes going on in a push to get enclosed before winter.

We are excited to be a part of this beautiful new building for your community and we are committed to maximizing as much local content as possible. Wright Construction and our subcontractors have been in contact with the band office to employ locally and engage local vendors. We look forward to providing these opportunities and encourage people to speak with us to explore ways they can be involved. We are always looking for suggestions on local businesses that we can support and utilize throughout the duration of this project.

Hubert Hwang CFA, Principal, George & Bell Consulting

In 2019, Hubert Hwang of George & Bell Consulting was engaged by Chief and Council to provide advice with respect to the investment of the Kahkewistahaw Legacy Trust. Hubert and his firm will act as the Trust's investment advisor, helping to ensure that the Trust's assets are invested in a prudent manner to create a long-term legacy asset for the First Nation. Over the past several months, Chief and Council, in conjunction with George & Bell and the Trust's other advisors, have worked together to set a long-term policy asset mix for the Trust and have hired two investment managers to manage the Trust's assets. The policy asset mix consists of investments in global stocks, bonds, private loans, and

infrastructure. Approximately 70% of the Trust's assets have been invested to date. Hubert will be responsible for monitoring the Trust's investments and will be providing Council with investment advice on an ongoing basis. You may also see Hubert at future community events where he will be available to provide updates to members.



Des Dumais, Eagle Energy Solutions

I am the business owner of Eagle Energy Solutions Group and have been working in the industry over the past 20 years. I am committed to providing a wide range of skills and services to the Canadian energy industry. My current company partnership with my First Nation community is a design, fabrication and manufacturing facility, in addition to providing cutting edge 3D laser scanning and modelling capabilities.

I am a Kahkewistahaw First Nation band member from south-east Saskatchewan. I have had the pleasure of working as an indigenous entrepreneur during a progressive era for commerce in Canada. I am engaged in helping our community prosper in health and commerce and have served as a bridge to support partnerships between the corporate and First Nation interests.

Coming from humble beginnings, I started working in the energy service sector over 20 years ago. As the industry evolved, so did my interests developing a maintenance and pipefitting company to facilitate energy demands.

Throughout all this learning and expanding, I have been very ambitious to involve and assist my First Nation community in Saskatchewan. In Melville, just a short distance from the community, we have established a fully automated 55,000 sq. ft. fabrication facility. We are excited to provide this opportunity for the region's indigenous and surrounding communities and develop a positive working relationship with Canadian industries partners.

We wanted to share an update with the Melville steel fabrication shop KFN had purchased earlier this year.





This economic business venture is a part of KFN strategic economic plan to bring jobs and training to our members. The fabrication shop, which is located in Melville, will be a fully automated metal fabrication shop.

We anticipate the shop will be fully operational in mid October and we will be hosting a job fair to help fill positions at the end of September.

TD Bank

The Kahkewistahaw First Nation successfully negotiated a settlement with Canada for the Capital & Revenue Mismanagement Claim. In August 2019, \$35,000,000 from this settlement was deposited into the Kahkewistahaw Legacy Trust for the use and benefit of the members of the Kahkewistahaw First Nation.

We were honoured that The Canada Trust Company, a subsidiary of TD Bank, was selected by Chief and Council and appointed as the Corporate Trustee to administer the Trust funds in accordance with the Trust Agreement. Meet the TD representatives: Michelle Samagalski, Charlene Gill and Domenic Natale who are responsible for the day-to-day management of the Trust at the end of this update.

Since being appointed, we have worked with Chief and Council and Stephen Pillipow from SMP Law LLP as legal Advisor for the Trust to select an Investment Consultant. George & Bell Consulting Inc. was hired for this role and with their support, the process of hiring two qualified Investment Management firms that will be responsible for investing and managing the Trust funds has begun.

Chief and Council expressed that we seek out innovative investments to provide stable annual income to support members current needs, as well as grow the value of the Trust over time for the benefit of future members. Working with the Investment Consultant to hire the best Investment Managers to do this, especially during a pandemic, has been challenging but the process is moving forward. So far, one Investment Manager has been hired – Fiera Capital. They are managing 70% of the Trust Funds invested in traditional equity and fixed income portfolios, as well as alternative investments, which are not as sensitive to market volatility. We are in the final stages of hiring a second Investment Manager for the remaining 30% of the portfolio. This is expected to be completed by the end of September 2020.

What does this mean to community members? The Trust has already paid out \$1.2 million from the Trust for use by the Nation, in accordance with its financial laws and policies. Another payment will be made early in 2021 and annually after that. As well, despite the Trust not being fully invested yet and with the unprecedented market volatility during Covid-19, the Trust has increased in value since it was funded one year ago, by over \$1.5 million to \$36,595,000!

In addition to our support on the administration of the trust, TD has also provided financial support and given back to the Nation through sponsorship for requests such as the Kahkewistahaw Pow

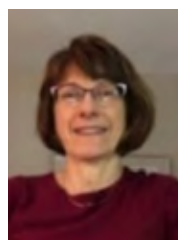
We are very excited to share this news, as this has been a focus of our Leadership for the past 2 years, and we look forward to seeing how this new business will help boost employment for our members.

As things progress, we will be giving updates and look forward to our grand opening in November 2020.

Wow. Your TD representatives were looking forward to attending this event in 2020 to meet and speak to community members in person. However, due to Covid-19, and the importance of keeping everyone safe, the event was enjoyed via social media. While not the same experience, we appreciate every opportunity we get to connect.

We wish you all good health and look forward to seeing you in person when it is safe to do so. You will be in our thoughts on Orange Shirt Day, September 30th, as we honour the residential school survivors and their families and demonstrate commitment to our collective journey towards reconciliation.

Your TD Corporate Trustee Team:



MICHELLE SAMAGALSKI, Regional Manager
– Indigenous Trust Services – Prairies – Lead Relationship – Winnipeg

As the Regional Manager Indigenous Trust Services, TD Wealth, Michelle is responsible for business development in the Prairies. She is the Lead Relationship Person for complex Indigenous Trusts throughout the Prairies and Northwest Territories, presents at the National NATOA conference and is involved with AFOA. She has a background in law and finance, as well as Indigenous Studies and has completed numerous industry related courses. She is a Board Member for the Winnipeg Branch of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP), as well as the Estate Planning Council of Winnipeg. Michelle volunteers as a coach for Special Olympics Manitoba and supports Waterways Canada – a canoeing and outdoor education program for Indigenous youth in Manitoba.



CHARLENE GILL, Associate Trust Officer
– Indigenous Trust Services – supports Lead Relationship – Winnipeg

Charlene has six year's experience in the Trust industry. She joined TD four years ago as a member of the growing Indigenous Trust Services Team. She is responsible for the day-to-day administration and support of First

Nations Trusts. She also maintains regular correspondence with her administrative counterparts within First Nations communities. Her education includes Indigenous Studies, and Social Work; through

which she regularly volunteers with immigrant and refugee youth as well as the elderly. She holds a certificate in Counselling and is currently working toward her TEP designation through STEP.



DOMENIC NATALE, Vice President and National Lead – Indigenous Services Toronto

As Vice President and National Lead, Indigenous Services, TD Wealth, Domenic is responsible for developing strategic business opportunities nationally for the Private Trust and Investment businesses

and where appropriate, in conjunction with other TD Bank Group business partners. Additionally, Domenic provides direct support to the front-line staff and often remains involved in maintaining the on-going relationships, frequently attending meetings in the community along with the Lead Relationship Person. Domenic holds a BA from the University of Toronto and has completed numerous industry related courses. He is member of the Aboriginal Financial Officers Association (AFOA) and is an Advisory Board member for the National Aboriginal Trust Officers Association (NATOA). He is also an Advisory Board member of Nation Talk, Canada's largest Aboriginal Owned Newswire and Employment Service.

Ron Maurice, Maurice Law Barristers and Solicitors

MAURICE LAW BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS:

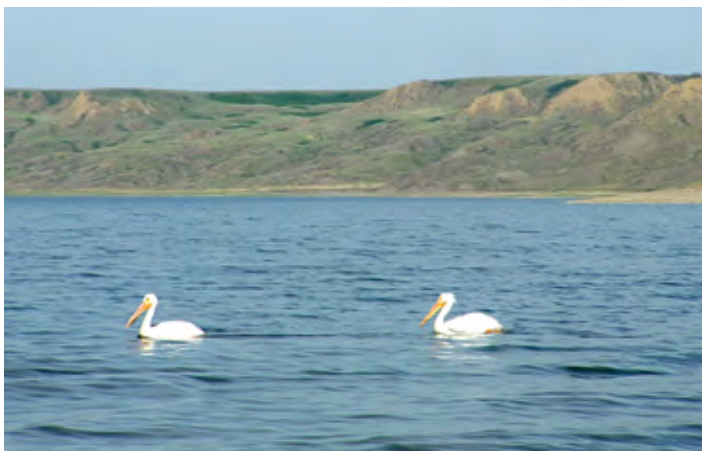
Maurice Law is the first Indigenous-owned law firm in Canada. We advocate for our predominantly Indigenous clientele to achieve justice and work toward reconciliation however each Indigenous community defines it.

Early Years: Maurice Law's roots trace back to 1992, when founding partner Ron Maurice began his career at the newly-established Indian Claims Commission (ICC). Ron was Senior Commission Counsel to the ICC and was involved in 66 public inquiries into many land claims across the country. During his tenure with the ICC, he personally wrote at least 15 inquiry reports and oversaw the drafting of many more as senior counsel. In a number of the claims that had been rejected by Canada, the Department of Justice agreed to reverse its opinion and accept the claim for negotiation based on the legal analysis set out in reports that Ron wrote for the Commission. This included Kahkewistahaw's 1907 Surrender Claim which settled for approximately \$94 million. Ron left the ICC and opened the doors to Maurice Law in 2002, where he was driven by his passion for achieving settlement for the grievances of First Nations in Canada.

Today: Maurice Law is a small firm that is rapidly growing. The most substantial aspect of our practice is advising and advocating for our First Nations clients in Canada's Specific Claims process. Our team of lawyers has extensive experience acting for our clients across Canada in pursuing claims under Canada's Specific Claims Policy and for advocating on behalf of our clients at the Specific Claims Tribunal. We understand the importance of community. Our team works closely with community Elders and experts to inform the historical record and speak to losses felt by the community as a result of Crown action or inaction.

Maurice Law has four key values:

- **Access to justice:** First Nations have a fundamental need to have access to justice without having to expend limited resources to do so. Thus, Maurice Law established an insurance and financing program for claims being pursued through Canada's Specific Claims Process. This program has since become pivotal for our client's efforts in seeking redress in relation to historical wrongs concerning their land and the promises made to them by Canada under Treaty.



Round Lake



Crooked Lake control structure



- Persistence: Maurice Law believes in persistence. We are open to negotiation in good faith, but always prepared to advocate.

- Multidisciplinary approach to legal issues: Maurice Law values the importance of historical research and uses historical facts to take emotionally charged situations and turn them into fair results.

- Creation of community legacies: After Maurice Law secures an award or settlement for its clients, we encourage clients to think about the future of their communities through the creation of legacies that will navigate the management of their settlements and awards and protect the rights of future generations.

KAHKEWISTAHAW'S SPECIFIC CLAIMS:

Maurice Law represents the Kahkewistahaw First Nation on two Specific Claims:

- (1) Specific Claims Tribunal – Flooding Claim: Maurice Law is currently working on a “flooding” claim for the Kahkewistahaw First Nation. The Flooding Claim concerns flooding and damages to Kahkewistahaw reserve land as a result of the Crown’s actions over the years, primarily by the negligent operation of the Round Lake and Crooked Lake dams. This has permanently altered and disrupted the natural flow and meander of the Qu’Appelle River system.
- (2) Specific Claims Branch—Agricultural Benefits Claim: The second claim is the “agricultural benefits” claim. Maurice Law currently acts for a number of First Nations with similar claims, three of which are presently before the Specific Claims Tribunal. Agricultural benefits claims are based on the Crown’s historical failure to provide agricultural benefits owed to First Nation groups under Treaty No.4. Agricultural benefits would include articles such as tools, implements, seed, and livestock that would have helped to facilitate a smoother transition into agricultural livelihood. In failing to provide those benefits, the Crown breached its Treaty obligations.

Crooked Lake and Round Lake Control Structures and Flooding of IR 72

Prior to the flooding caused by the dams, the lands along the Qu’Appelle River were naturally irrigated and well-suited for the production of hay which supported the Band’s horse and livestock industry.

Angus Vincent, Human Resource Manager

Angus Vincent is the Human Resource Manager for Kahkewistahaw First Nation.

“I’m very excited for this new role, and I’m looking forward to working with the Kahkewistahaw team and getting to know the community,” he says.

Vincent is a member of the Waterhen Lake First Nation in northern Saskatchewan, and currently calls Yorkton home. He is married with two children, and loves camping and golfing in the summer and spending time in the arena during winter.



Tyler Jones, Housing Director

Tyler Jones is the Kahkewistahaw housing director.

“Along with my team of professionals, I’m excited to bring the band’s housing to a new standard, and to bring forth growth for all of our members’ benefit,” he says.

Jones is a Kahkewistahaw First Nation member and is a red seal journeyman carpenter with six years of experience in affordable urban housing for First Nations people. He previously served as the maintenance director for Silver Sage Housing in Regina.



Sheila Bobb, Kahkewistahaw Gas and Store General Manager

Tansi. My name is Sheila Bobb. I am a member of the Kahkewistahaw First Nation. My parents are Sandra George (Bobb) and the late Frank Lerat. My grandparents are the late Verna Bob and Robert Bob.

I have been with the Petro Canada – Kahkewistahaw Gas and Convenience Store since January 28, 2018. I came directly from the Dakota Dunes Casino where I was the Cage Manager.

I take great pride in working for our First Nation and making a healthy profit for our First Nation. Excellent customer service is promoted as we represent Kahkewistahaw, all surrounding First Nations and Petro Canada.

Stop on in and check out our competitive fuel prices and our gift shop that sells many First Nation themed items. PST exempt with a status card, on fuel, tobacco and gift store items.

#Kahkewistahawproud



Sheila Bobb, Kahkewistahaw Gas & Convenience Store General Manager proudly represents her nation's business in Yorkton.



Community Safety Patrol Looking Out for Our Citizens

The Community Safety Patrols top priority is maintaining the safety of the community. These individuals are required to perform peacekeeping and general community monitoring duties. The Community Patrol Workers document all incidents, activities and report to appropriate community resources such as Child and Family Services, RCMP and/or Emergency Services. They work in cooperation with both citizens and our community officials and authorities. If you have question or concerns in your neighbourhood, they can be directed to (639) 205-7400. For additional safety and peace keeping services you can also call the RCMP- 911.



From Left to Right – Bobbie Alexson, Dani Bobb, David Bobb, Tanya Delorme, Christine Lerat, Demitri Bob and Councillor Cory Alexson.

Construction Underway for New KFN Governance and Administration Centre

Chief and Council are pleased to report the Governance and Administration Centre construction is well underway. The Centre is being built with the assistance of SAL Engineering Ltd., Consultants Aodbt architecture + interior design and contractor Wright Construction Western Inc.

The Governance and Administration Centre will have a combined area of 3,300 m² over two stories. The facility will include office spaces, boardrooms, multi-purpose areas, kitchen, fitness centre, daycare, Health Centre, and a museum area. The facility will also have a 100 kW solar field.

Chief Evan Taypotat says, "The facility will be a state of the art centre with much needed space and quality workspaces and community use areas. We should all be proud of this accomplishment."

The Governance and Administration Centre started construction in June 2020 and is projected to be completed in the fall of 2021.

Wright Construction is currently working on site development and construction of the foundation of the facility.

Wright Construction and the Project Management Team has proudly held a job fair in July of 2020 to initiate the use of local labour on this project. The Project has

already begun utilizing KFN members and will continue to provide opportunities throughout construction.

We want to thank everyone who has been involved in the Project and look forward to the completion.



Construction is well underway for the KFN Governance and Administration Centre



Sod turning ceremony marked the ground breaking for construction.



**KAHKEWISTAHAW
FIRST NATION**

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