

Beaver Lake Cree Nation Annual Report

Fiscal Year: 2024

Presented by: Micheal Lameman

Message from Leadership

A personal message to members that includes:

- Gratitude for community support
- Highlights of the year
- Commitment to transparency and accountability

Executive Summary

- Overview of the year's key achievements
- General financial summary
- Cross-portfolio themes or challenges

GIR

- Goals for the Year As the newly appointed lead for this portfolio, I can say that through recent discussions, a key priority for the department is to expand the Nation's own-source revenue. We aim to continue fostering effective consultation processes that not only generate revenue but also lead to meaningful agreements between the Nation and surrounding industry partners.

- Key Achievements During this time, we continued to utilize the knowledge of Elders by having them participate in site visits, providing guidance and insight based on their deep understanding of the land. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, these site visits were paused.

In place of in-person engagements, we began negotiations with TC Energy and Inter Pipeline to explore and establish potential agreements between the Nation and these companies. Additionally, we held meaningful discussions with Amaruq and Westcore, exploring potential joint venture (JV) opportunities that could benefit the Nation moving forward.

Challenges and Solutions

Challenge 1: Loss of Departmental Vehicle

The GIR department experienced an unexpected setback when its vehicle was destroyed in the bus shelter fire. This caused a temporary delay in conducting Elders' site visits, which are a critical part of the department's work.

Solution:

A replacement vehicle was secured in a timely manner, allowing site visits to resume shortly after the incident and minimizing long-term impact on fieldwork.

Challenge 2: Increased Workload and Capacity Issues

With a growing number of projects and ongoing consultation demands, the department faced challenges in managing the overall workload, risking delays in response times and internal strain.

Solution:

To address this, the department advertised and successfully filled the TLU (Traditional Land Use) Coordinator position. This new role has provided valuable support in managing project demands and improving the department's capacity to respond effectively.

Challenge 3: Tight Timelines from ACO

The department continues to face difficulty with the short timelines imposed by the Aboriginal Consultation Office (ACO), which can hinder meaningful engagement and thorough project review.

Solution:

We remain committed to challenging these unrealistic deadlines and advocating for more appropriate timelines that allow for proper consultation and decision-making processes in alignment with community needs and protocols.

Just to highlight a few

7 Lakes

- Goals for the Year With the recent appointment to the 7 Lakes portfolio—an assignment I requested personally—my primary goal is to advocate for stronger employment opportunities for Beaver Lake Cree Nation members. It's essential that this partnership meaningfully benefits our people through direct job creation and career development.

I have also received approval to begin asking important questions about the existing partnership agreement. This will allow us to better understand the terms in place and explore ways to ensure the agreement aligns with the Nation's long-term interests and values.

More information to follow as I've just started on this portfolio

Housing & Public Works

- Goals for the Year
- Key Achievements
- Community Programs Delivered
- Partnerships or Collaborations
- Budget Summary
- Challenges and Solutions
- Plans for Next Year

Tribal Chiefs Employment and Training Services Association (TCETSA)

- Goals for the Year TCETSA is aimed to increase employment and training opportunities for Indigenous members, support entrepreneurship, and build stronger partnerships with industry and community stakeholders.

- Key Achievements

- Over 100 Indigenous apprentices and tradespeople supported through TEAMS Alberta.

- Launched IndigiConnect to support Indigenous businesses.
- Hosted successful events like the Job Fair & Gala and Annual Golf Tournament.
- Delivered impactful employment services across six member Nations.

-Faced challenges in job matching and employer engagement. Addressed these through expanded training options and increased outreach efforts.

- Plans for Next Year

- Introduce new industry-specific training.
- Expand IndigiConnect.
- Increase support for trades and remote service delivery.
- Strengthen collaboration with member Nations and employers.

Indigenous Collaboration Committee (ICC)

- Goals for the Year while specific goals for the year have not yet been formally outlined, the overarching objective of the Indigenous Collaboration Committee (ICC) is to enhance communication and strengthen relationships between Lac La Biche County Council and surrounding Indigenous communities.

As the representative for **Beaver Lake Cree Nation (BLCN)** on the committee, my role is to ensure our Nation's voice is heard and to contribute meaningfully to discussions. BLCN also plays an advisory role to the County Council by identifying and advocating for initiatives that can promote both economic and cultural opportunities for our community and others in the region.

- Key Achievements As the appointed representative for **Beaver Lake Cree Nation (BLCN)**, I've worked to ensure that our community's voice is not only present but actively heard. In my opinion, communication has improved, and this has led to tangible outcomes. One key example is the inclusion of **Township Road 660A**—the main access road into BLCN—in the County's **road maintenance budget**. The County has committed to completing the necessary repairs by the end of summer. I've also reiterated that the standard of work must match that of all other County-maintained roads to ensure fairness and consistency.

In addition, the County has approved funding and partnership support for a one-day traditional powwow to be held on August 4th at the Bold Centre sports field. This event

will be hosted in collaboration with **Heart Lake First Nation** and **Whitefish Lake First Nation #128**, showcasing unity and celebrating Indigenous culture within the region.

- The ICC collaborates with various Indigenous communities and organizations, including but not limited to:

- Beaver Lake Cree Nation
- Buffalo Lake Métis Settlement
- Chipewyan Prairie First Nation
- Heart Lake First Nation
- Kikino Métis Settlement
- Lac La Biche Canadian Friendship Centre Association
- Métis Nation of Alberta-Region 1
- Whitefish Lake First Nation (Goodfish)
- Resource One Aboriginal Business Association (ROABA)

Pimee

- Goals for the Year As I transition out of the Pimee Well Servicing LP portfolio, **Councillor Jackson** will now be the lead representative moving forward. I want to extend my thanks for the opportunity to represent **Beaver Lake Cree Nation** in this important economic partnership.

For the **last fiscal year**, Pimee's goals remained consistent:

- **Maintain a strong safety record** with the continued target of **zero lost-time incidents**.
- **Promote meaningful employment** opportunities for members of the six partner Nations.

As of the time of this report, **three BLCN members are employed with Pimee**. While this is a step forward, we recognize the need for greater representation. Throughout the year, we've engaged in ongoing dialogue with Pimee leadership to **strategize ways to improve employability for Nation members**—including identifying skill gaps, training needs, and recruitment strategies.

With that said, I am confident that **Councillor Jackson** will navigate these challenges and help find effective solutions to create more meaningful employment opportunities for our Nation moving forward.

Housing & Public Works (Operations)

- Housing Summary

- **11 new housing units** were acquired and allocated to Nation members.
- **8 of the homes** had skirting completed; the remaining 3 are scheduled for completion by **May 2025**.
- **11 renovations** completed, including roofing, accessibility upgrades (e.g., wheelchair ramps), and other safety-related improvements.
- **Community Hall upgrades** included cubicle installations and ongoing kitchen renovations.
- *Please note that a **procedural error** occurred in the allocation process for a **2-bedroom handicap-accessible unit**. To address and correct this, the **Housing Committee will be arranging and conducting new interviews** for the unit. This action is being taken to ensure transparency.

Housing Goals for 2025

- Replace aging shingle roofs with longer-lasting tin roofing.
 - Install eavestroughs to manage water runoff and reduce mold issues.
 - Address high-priority safety concerns (e.g., stairs, bathrooms, flooring).
 - Prioritize homes with large families for expansion or renovation.
 - Increase engagement with **ISC** and **CMHC** to maximize funding access.
 - Improve communication with members regarding renovation timelines.
 - Utilize subcontractors to increase capacity and maintain quality of work.
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Public Works Summary

- Maintenance and improvements made at **Spruce Point** and the **Powwow Grounds** (drainage, gravel, and announcer booth repairs).
- Replaced several **water and sewer tanks**.
- Began development of **new housing lots**.
- Applied gravel to **Smallface Drive**.
- Responded to numerous service and on-call requests.

Public Works Goals for 2025

- Gravel and repair driveways across the Nation.
- Leverage the **school project** for potential revenue generation.
- Replace and repair aging culverts.
- Re-grade Nation roads to improve drainage.
- Train staff in **safe work procedures** and **heavy equipment operation**.
- Shift toward **proactive maintenance** to reduce emergency on-calls.
- Repair yards with drainage or settlement issues.

- Improve shop and yard functionality.
 - Continue enhancements at the Powwow Grounds.
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Operations Outlook for 2025

The focus moving forward is to be **proactive rather than reactive**, ensuring timely repairs, efficient service delivery, and better use of resources for the benefit of the Nation and its members.

Closing Remarks

I would like to sincerely thank the membership for their patience in receiving my annual report. I remain committed to improving the quality and timeliness of my updates and welcome any feedback you may have. Your input helps guide and strengthen the work we do. I will continue to provide regular updates and operate with transparency and accountability in all areas of my portfolio.

Thank you for your continued support.

Councilor Micheal Lameman

May

2025

Councillor Lameman Schedule

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 In Office – Community litigation update @ BLCN Hall	2 Out of office half day- 1:30 Alberta Minerals engagement @ Edmonton	3
4	5 In Office – 9am leadership meeting 10am litigation 11am MMIW community walk 1:30pm Mtg with Sierra Hydro Vac services 2:30pm Treaty day planning mtg.	6 In Office All Day	7 In Office- 10am Asset Management Handover with Bantu Khaya @ BLCN Chambers	8 In Office All Day	9 In Office All Day	10
11	12 In Office- 9am Leadership Update 10am Litigation update 1:30am Mtg. with HSV vac services	13 In Office All Day	14 In Office- 5pm 1- day traditional powwow planning meeting @ MacArthur park	15 Personal Day	16 In Office- 9am personal meeting via Zoom	17
18	19 Office Closed May long	20 In Office- 10:30am 7lakes presentation @BLCN Chambers	21 In Office All Day	22 Out of office- TCETSA Board training @ TCETSA Office In Edmonton	23 Out of office- TCETSA Board training @ TCETSA Office In Edmonton	24
25	26 In Office- 9am Leadership meeting 10am Litigation update	27 In Office All Day	28 In Office All Day	29 In Office All Day	30 In Office- Black Diamond mtg. in Chambers @ BLCN	31

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****Schedule subject to changes. When changes occur, a new schedule will be posted****