



JULY 31, 2025
STATEMENT FROM BEAVER LAKE CREE NATION
LEADERSHIP REGARDING DISCRIMINATORY
COMMENTS MADE BY
LAC LA BICHE COUNTY WARD 1 COUNCILLOR

Beaver Lake Cree Nation #131 (the Nation) expresses deep concern over the discriminatory comments made by the Ward 1 Councillor of Lac La Biche County (the County) during the July 22 Regular Council Meeting, and her refusal to apologize during the July 29 Special Council Meeting.

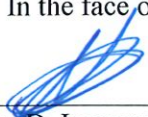
Despite these incidents, the Nation remains committed to a continued and constructive relationship with the County. We do not paint the rest of Council, Mayor Reutov, or the residents of the County with the same brush. In fact, we have received an overwhelming outpouring of support from community members, business owners, and allies within Council, and we are grateful for their solidarity during this time.

We echo the call from Mayor Reutov for the Ward 1 Councillor to resign immediately. However, in the spirit of reconciliation, we encourage the Ward 1 Councillor to learn about Treaty 6 and the principles of reconciliation. Leadership demands accountability, and words rooted in discrimination have no place in public service. We will not allow the actions of a vocal few to define the future of our relationship with the County.

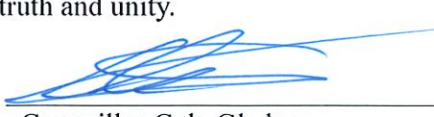
In addition to calling for accountability, we would like to see a more tangible action plan from the County to address racism, promote cultural understanding, and uphold the values of inclusivity and reconciliation in all aspects of local governance within one year. We also call upon the County to officially adopt the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Call to Action, principles of UNDRIP, and a reaffirmation of their commitment to the Indigenous Collaboration Committee.

The Nation continues to proudly contribute to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of these lands — our homelands. We honour the spirit and intent of the Treaty relationship that our ancestors entered into with the British Crown: to share the land in peace and friendship, for as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the rivers flow.


We do not meet hate with hate. We respond with dignity, love, and an unwavering commitment to rise above. In the face of ignorance and division, we choose truth and unity.



Chief Gary D. Lameman



Councillor Cole Gladue



Councillor Leonard Jackson



Councillor Micheal Lameman

Visions of Tomorrow