

**Senior Subsidy Program
Executive Summary for Trust Fund 2020 Application**

Based on the Senior Support Worker home visits, the following have been identified as some of the urgent needs for our Bigstone Seniors: Subsidy for Seniors receiving a Pension with their utility bills during the winter months; Furnace/duct and mold cleaning in the fall and providing an air purifier once cleaned; Wheelchair ramps for accessibility; Walk-in bath tubs for safety; Funds to pay for a reliable medical escort for medical appointments; and Assistance with getting required identification such as status cards and birth certificates.

Most Seniors are on a fixed income. They often do not have the extra funds to pay for such things. This subsidy will help offset some of these costs. By helping our Seniors to live in a safe and healthier environment, we are in turn improving the overall health and well-being of our Seniors.

International Women's Day Celebration 2020

The Wabasca Iskwewak Society organizes and hosts an "International Women's Day Celebration in Wabasca, AB.

The first celebration was held on March 8th, 2011 and has become an annual celebration since then. It is for women ages 18 years and up, and women from the community and surrounding areas are invited to attend. International Women's Day is March 8th and that is the date we have our event.

The event has different themes each year and is usually issues/topics that affect women. Some of the themes we've had were "Cancer Awareness; Missing & Murdered Women, Self Care & Empowerment", but we have also had themes where the women can come out and have fun and participate/dress up. (multicultural theme, 80's theme and Western theme.

The evening consists of a "sit-down" catered dinner, games, draws for door prizes, guest speakers/entertainment, vendors and a photo booth. Each woman receives a gift as they register.

It is an event that is well attended and the women look forward in coming together, to be recognized and honoured for their contribution and roles in our society.

Alma Alook

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

REQUEST FOR TRUST FUND PROPOSAL: 2020-21

Executive Summary:

Bigstone Education Authority is submitting the trust fund proposal for the purpose of assisting families that are required to pay school fees for their child (ren) attending public schools. The proposed amount we are seeking to obtain is Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$65,000.00).

Each year we receive requests for financial assistance from the BCN member families residing off reserve. The requests are usually received via phone call, requested by email, or word of mouth.

Families residing out of the community have their registered students attending in locations such as Edmonton, AB., Grande Prairie, AB., Slave Lake, AB., and all over Canada, etc.

The students attending public schools or off reserve schools pay the required fees such as text book rentals, bus pass, locker fees, lunch fees, etc. These are extra costs the families are required to pay.

For members to obtain the funds we request they provide the child's (student) name, date of birth, treaty status number, along with an fee sheet/statment from the school(s).

Upon approval a maximum of \$500.00 per student; this amount will be paid directly to the school. In some cases the family submits receipts, and will then be reimbursed. As a result, the members and children living off reserve will benefit 100%.

If approved, the goal is to assist as many families residing off reserve, until the funding dollars (\$65,000.00) is exhausted.

Bigstone Cree Nation
TRUST PROPOSAL
Project Plan – April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021

Project Title

BCN By-law Program

Project Purpose

This program would be responsible for administering and enforcing Bigstone Cree Nation By-Laws.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Lands and Consultation Dept. is successfully addressing areas of growing concern which requires immediate preventative action in order to mitigate and manage before there is any tragedy.

Prior to the Lands and Consultation Dept. taking on this challenge, there was no Dept. or Agency on Reserve which focused on the implementation and/or enforcement of Bylaws. Although Bigstone Cree Nation has a Dog Control Bylaw since 2003, unfortunately no one was able to enforce it.

In response to the community concerns, my staff and I have assembled a team of health department staff and expert advisors, from the Alberta Spay Neuter Task Force, to develop the BCN Dog Control Component of the By-Law Program.

We have also successfully worked with the Municipal District of Opportunity # 17 on related animal care and control which never happened before, and we continue doing so.

We hope to continue to build upon last year's achievements provide an important service to the Communities.

Thank you.

Troy Stuart
Manager
Lands and Consultation Dept.

Funeral Costs Subsidy for BCN Members

Executive Summary

Bigstone Nation Members are having a tough time of paying for the remaining balance of the funeral costs due to the other expenses not covered by INAC, because of the traditional/cultural and common way of honoring our members that pass on.

We are proposing that the members of Bigstone Cree Nation set aside funding from the BCN Main Trust to offset the costs for funerals.

Again, the objective is to offset the funeral costs for the items not covered elsewhere and to help the affected families or individuals that have no other means of paying for these extra costs.

Donald Alook

BIGSTONE CREE NATION

2020 TRUST PROPOSAL SUMMARY

Facility Sustainability - Elder's Lodge & Group Home

Project **Start Date:** April 1, 2020

Expected **End Date:** March 31, 2021

Project Director: Andy Alook

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The BCN Elder's Lodge & Group Home was established in 1998 in an effort to honor the elders in the community of Wabasca. The Elder's Lodge's vision is to provide Elder residents with a home-like atmosphere to reside in and that has access to health services; is safe and keeps them living on their own community, surrounded by family and loved ones. Unfortunately, there is no funding to sustain the Elders Lodge facility and its programs and services. Previously, the Elders Lodge has received BCN Trust Funds to help with ongoing deficit. The ongoing main concern is not enough revenue to cover the expenses.

GOALS OF THE PROPOSAL

There are 11 Elder residents and 6 residents on the group home side. These are the individuals dependent on the facility.

The purpose of the proposal is to ask for funding to reduce the deficit. All monies will be fully invested towards the ongoing sustainment of the elders lodge facility and the programs and services will continue to be offered and/or enhanced moving forward. It will also reduce the burden and stress of a huge deficit.

Most elders prefer to remain in their own homes or in their community as long as possible. Ultimately, the residents will have a successful opportunity to enjoy a rich, full life!

EVALUATION PLAN

As we strive to ensure that our Elders stay in the community and remain close to their families and loved ones, the Elders Lodge Manager maintains family connections by hosting meetings with the residents and their immediate families and discussing programs / services suitable for the resident. These meetings result in providing info of what works and what needs to be improved. The Elders are not forced to leave community but consider the Lodge their "home". They continue to have access to the programs and services within the Lodge and ideally have access to enhanced services that will benefit their physical and mental wellbeing through the Bigstone Health Centre. Our fitness coordinator is scheduled weekly to visit the lodge and offer programs such as low impact exercising; the community wellness staff stay connected with the residents by visiting and playing games with the residents. The home care staff assist with the residents; the RAI assessments are completed. The facility is licenced

through Alberta Health. Since Bigstone Health Commission is right next door to the Lodge, the residents are assured that the health and their wellbeing is taken care of.

Aging in Community: Aging in Community (or aging place) means having the health and social supports and services needed to live safely and independently in your home or community for as long as you wish and are able. This Alberta government initiative is very important for people of all ages to create a plan to help ensure that health and social supports are available for them and their loved ones when and where they are needed. There are many resources supporting "aging in place - in your own home and/or community".

BUDGET

Please see attached statement of revenue and expenditures for this fiscal year. The Elders Lodge has been operating on behalf of Bigstone Cree Nation for the past several years. The following year-end financial statements from 2012 to 2019 indicated a huge deficit, the breakdown is as follows: March 2012: - \$295,956, March 2013: -\$199,202, March 2014: -\$293,267, March 2015: -\$189,532, March 2016: - \$310,543, March 2017: -\$131,054, March 2018: -\$94,235, March 2019: \$25, the projected deficit by March 31, 2020 is -\$135,933. The total accumulated deficit is -\$1,649,697.00.

The amount of funding requested is \$200,000 to address the deficit and therefore, maintain facility sustainability with deficit reduction. The residents will also continue to continue the safe home facility.



BIGSTONE CREE NATION Justice

2020 TRUST PROPOSAL APPLICATION

Executive Summary

Title of proposal: Calling Lake Community Justice Worker – Full-time

Project Start Date: July 01, 2020

Expected End Date: June 30, 2020

Introduction:

Our intent is to continue what we started with our part-time worker in 2019 and changing this to a full-time position will allow us to provide the same program as we have in Wabasca. We have a committee of Elders that work as a Justice panel and we are working with other BCN agencies to ensure that our clients have access to the programs offered by these agencies. The crown prosecutor that attends court in Athabasca is very supportive with our program and we expect referrals from her office to continue and even increase.

Our worker will be attending court in Athabasca as necessary and will also be planning workshops and community meetings for the benefit of our membership on and off-reserve. We have the commitment of the crown's office to support our endeavors in Calling Lake and will also work with us in some initiatives which will create an awareness of what we as a community need to do for our residents to address healing through traditional and cultural activities.

The benefits to the membership will include:

- Support and guidance to a healthy lifestyle;
- Support to community members when charges are first laid to attending court with clients when they complete the program and resulting in charges being withdrawn;
- Community will have full access to justice through our program and the workshops will create an awareness of how to address their justice issues and which programs are available through other local BCN agencies.

For the past year, we've had a part-time worker in Calling Lake responsible for Restorative Justice, client support and works with a local Justice Panel made up of Elders. This was funded by the nation's trust in 2019. This part-time worker is the reason for our continued success. After struggling to include this community in our program budget for years, we can now say that we have a program that BCN members can rely on. We have the full support of the Athabasca crown prosecutor.

Because of the work done by our justice worker, our team and the Elders panel in Calling Lake, we now feel that the membership and the rest of the community needs this program to continue and the worker to work full-time. We anticipate that we will be getting many more referrals from the Crown in Athabasca and we will also start having community education/awareness workshops on Justice in 2020. We will continue working with the other BCN agencies by referring our clients to them for the workshops and for counselling.

**Senior Support Worker
Executive Summary for Trust Fund 2020 Application**

This position will continue to address the needs of Seniors of Wabasca/Desmarais, Sandy Lake, Calling Lake, and Chipewyan Lake. This person will continue to oversee all administrative duties for Seniors business, well-being care and advocacy in Wabasca and surrounding communities. Some of the duties will include developing full daily/weekly programming, managing their files (electronic and hard copy), assisting with any application, including taxation, Senior's pension, explaining any mail or acting as translator.

Further, this position requires personnel to ensure adequate follow up/updates with the seniors, maintaining communication, as well as advocating for local seniors with regard to any program/service available. The Senior Support Worker will also complete financial reporting requirements by: uploading of any reports, and submit annual applications for additional funding in order to ensure this program is made available and continues to serve the seniors of Wabasca/Desmarais, Sandy Lake, Calling Lake, and Chipewyan Lake. The Senior Support Worker has identified a lack of senior financial support in regards to emergency needs. This year it is now included in the budget as special needs.



Bigstone Housing
P.O. Box 428
Wabasca AB, T0G 2K0
Ph (780) 891-2422 Fax (780) 891-2155

Executive Summary

Mission:

The Bigstone Cree Nation protects and strengthens the spirit and intent of the Treaties and the Traditional Lands for today and tomorrow's future.

"...committed to the pursuit of the highest quality of life for all its members..."

Bigstone Housing is dedicated to improve the quality of life for Bigstone Cree Nation and its membership.

Bigstone Housing consists of:

- Management Team administering housing programs with in the Nation.**
- New Housing, Housing inventory, Renovation program, CMHC Rental Program, Emergency service calls and repair program.**



Bigstone Fire Department
P.O. Box 428
Wabasca AB, T0G 2K0
Ph (780) 891-2422 Fax (780) 891-2155

Executive Summary

Mission:

The Bigstone Cree Nation protects and strengthens the spirit and intent of the Treaties and the Traditional Lands for today and tomorrow's future.

"...committed to the pursuit of the highest quality of life for all its members..."

Bigstone Fire Department is dedicated to protect Bigstone Cree Nation and its membership.

Bigstone Fire Department Consist Of:

-Volunteer Fire Chief and 16 Volunteer Fire Fighters in Wabasca, 6 Fire Fighters in Chip Lakes.

-Fire Hall and two Fire Trucks in Reserve a Wabasca, Fire Hall and one Fire Truck in Chip Lakes.



Bigstone Cree Nation – ADMINISTRATION

Box 960
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BIGSTONE CREE NATION EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Bigstone Cree Nation Emergency Management Department is a program under the Public Works Department and is NOT a funded program. The lack of funding creates barriers to purchase mandatory equipment required to ensure safety and effective communication between the Director of Emergency Management and the members of its agency. This is a huge risk that creates barriers to ensure the safety of BCN Members and First Responders.

Safety of the Emergency Management' First Responders is the safety of general public. Without First Responders we would not be safe. When a disaster/emergency occurs First Responders are initiated, dispatched to incident site and without proper equipment the lack of communication may cause accidents to occur and possible loss of life.

During the 2019 evacuation, the BCN Emergency Management team found that the BCN Emergency management lacked Radio's, making it extremely difficult for the Director of Emergency Management to communicate operation plans to its team. Communication was not effective.

- Communication breakdowns occur in disasters, such as lack of band width, loss of satellite signals on cell phones, ect.,Funding is requesting to purchase radios to eliminate this problem (list of radio equipment attached) resulting in blocked communication.
- Generators are requested to ensure Emergency Command Centre's are equipped to operator during electricity and/or heat loss at Reception centers, Emergency command Centre's and Emergency Lodging Centre's for first responders.

The Emergency Operation plan requires an annual reassessment review, training and awareness workshops to ensure the effectiveness of plan. The review prepares each department, manager, staff and member to act upon a disaster/Emergency.

Annual project review:

- January to April: Emergency Management courses (training)
- May to August Community Preparedness Engagement Sessions
- September to December Emergency Operations Re-Assessment planning managers of nation to review Roles and Responsibilities of each department. Program is to achieve a prompt and coordinated response to emergencies affecting Bigstone Cree Nation.

Name: Wabasca Victim Services Society
Address: Box 722, Wabasca, AB T0G 2K0
Telephone: (780) 891-3114
E-mail: Ernestine.cardinal@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

Purpose of the Organization: Our mission is to provide advocacy to victims which may include: support, assistance, information and referrals in a courteous and compassionate manner. We strive to respect the dignity and privacy of primary and secondary victims of crime and/or tragedy. This service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to our clients. Services include (but not limited to) court preparation and support, referral services, appointment accompaniment, legal system navigation and education. We have many community members who have suffered loss and/or tragedies in their families and we support our family members with emotional support along with assisting the community with the funeral planning/arrangements.

Our unit is a police-based, non-profit, registered charity with Society Status. Wabasca Victims Services is governed by a Community Based Volunteer Board of Directors with one RCMP Liaison. We are also governed by the "Victims of Crime Act." Our desire is to work with the people of the community and to contribute to the success of providing victims of crime and/or tragedy with the tools and resources they need. Our target population is our community. Our unit serves both male and female individuals; this includes elders, adults, youth, and persons with disabilities mentally or physically. The language in our community is Cree and English. Services can be provided in both languages.

There has been an increase in files over the last few years. It is difficult to determine the amount of time spent with each individual as each individual's needs are different. Depending on where the victim is at when they seek help also is a factor. Some of the clients require information and referrals to get the process started and others may take more time in listening/conversing every day for a few weeks. As they become stronger and more confident, the time spent with them decreases. We refer victims to Alberta Supports - fleeing abuse, Alberta Works - assistance/employment counselling and Alberta Health Services - Mental Health - counselling services. We have also referred and taken clients to various women shelter's in Alberta including our local and surrounding shelters. We also have taken and/or provided clients with assistance with transportation and or necessities to get to appointments. We've assisted in seeking other accommodations, if needed.

Crime affects us all, even if we are not a victim. Sometimes just the fear of becoming a victim is enough to affect the way we act. It can limit our choices, if we let it- where we go, whether we walk alone, what chances we take. It can make us feel isolated, and it can affect our relationships with our families, our friends, our neighbors and our community. We are here to support victims of crime and/or tragedies that affect us all, to listen to them, and to learn what they need and how we can help. We are here to think about how, as a society, we care for each other when we have been hurt or wronged. We need to help them find their voice, and restore the self confidence that crime can take away. We are all affected by crime in our community and we can together give, support and offer the help needed to our members of our community.