



BIGSTONE CREE NATION

2023 TRUST PROPOSAL APPLICATION

PART A — Information About You

Date: January 14, 2023

The following information is essential for approval and for BCN Trust Administration to contact you.

Project Director: Ray Yellowknee

Treaty No:

Address: Box 960

City/Town: Wabasca

Province: Alberta

Postal Code: TOG 2K0

Telephone Number: 780-891-3836

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Fax Number: 780-891-3888

Email: ray.yellowknee@bigstone.ca

Which Trust classification are you applying to access funding?

(Check off only one Trust Fund category, with amount requested for that category) Please note that all application submissions need to be in by January 15, 2023 at 11 pm, no exceptions.

(It is recommended to submit all proposals 5 business days prior to deadline)

BCN Trust x Off-Reserve Members [3 Cal I ing Lake Cl Ch ipewyan Lake

Wabasca/Desmarais

Team Member	Position on Team	Roles and Res onsibilities	Signing Authori
Ray Yellowknee	BCN Justice & Public Safety Manager	Manage & develop BCN Justice Department including Restorative Justice and Indigenous Courtworker ro ram	
Lanny Der Contractor	Special Projects and Program Development	Responsible for developing new projects following the strateoic Ian.	
Sophie Gambler	Dual Courtworker for Wabasca Court	Responsible for criminal, youth, and famil	
Deborah Cardinal-Ost	Restorative Justice Engagement Lead Family/Civil	Client file management, client intake and follow-up. attend CSAG mtgs. Liaison with other BCN and communi a encies.	

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Part B — Information About Your Project

IMPORTANT

Please note that this form is required for formal reviews of the project by the Trustees and Chief & Council and from time-to-time, Bigstone Cree Nation Members. It is also necessary if the Accountable Body is requested to make decisions that materially affect the project, including changes or modifications to the original plan. It is the responsibility of the Project Director to complete the form, assisted by the Project Team or Society/Committee.

Executive Summary

Title of your proposal: Developing BCN Justice and Public Safety Strategic Plan

Project Start Date: Julv 01. 2023 _____ Expected end date: June 30 2024 _____

Executive Summary

This Summary gives the reader a concise overview of the project 's purpose; the team 's research; progress; and process of the project. Summarize the importance of the project and its main objective.

The overall goal of this project is to develop, establish the BCN Department of Justice and Public Safety which was approved by BCN Chief and Council in March of 2022. This plan deals with all justice-related matters that are required to meet the needs of Nation members. Research has shown that Indigenous People face significant systemic barriers in their access to justice. Developing and delivering culturally appropriate and community based programs and services will support members to address the issues that bring them in conflict with the legal system and begin to heal and thrive.

Treaty No 8 includes a clause that provides First Nations with the commitment (and authority) to maintain peace and good order between themselves, and with the larger society. This clause recognizes the right of Treaty 8 First Nations to establish a justice system and the right to develop and enforce laws in its communities. We see this as an opportunity for the Nation to take responsibility for its members as well as other Indigenous people within the region and to advance the Nation's inherent right to self-determination around justice.

Establishing the Justice Department is also consistent with findings and recommendations of the UNDRIP - the right to self-determination and to maintain and strengthen our own institutions, MMIWG - the right to Justice, and the TRC - Call to Action on Justice #30.

All programs and services being offered and/or being considered have been determined through the experiences of our staff and our work with clients. We have relied on anecdotal evidence from our clients and service providers, including crown prosecutors, defense lawyers, RCMP, and Judges to determine needs. We have also used government and academic studies and reports, community monitoring reports and information and presentations at conferences and meetings to support our program development.



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We have partnered with the judiciary, the provincial and federal governments, and the RCMP to deliver programs. We have developed this strategic plan to assist in guiding our effort on a short, medium, and long term basis. In addition to our current Restorative Justice core program, we have confirmed projects for the

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up-coming year including the Indigenous Court Work Program, the King's Bench Pilot Project, and the Restorative Justice Docket Day. We have plans to develop programs and services to meet the emerging needs of our communities and Nation members.

We are requesting \$160,000 from the BCN Trust to carry out this work. We anticipate that this year will see our program to be considered an essential service and less reliant of funds from BCN Trust.

Description

Describe the nature of the project, it's overall goal and value to the Membership and to the Community. Be concise and brief without sacrificing the necessary details. Start your message with a brief introductory sentence followed by bullet points to highlight the purpose of the project.

Our core Restorative Justice Program provides services such as Appeals (AISH, Driver Control Board), Family Law (custody, parenting orders, adult guardianship, wills, divorce, maintenance orders, and criminal issues). Based on service demands from our Nation members including clients, and requests and consultation with our colleagues within the Justice System, we collectively saw a need to expand our services.

Over the past year, we undertook actions to advance our vision and have made significant efforts to develop new programs and services that will enhance and complement our core program. The following activities are currently in progress:

- We engaged a consultant to support our work and assist in seeking funding from the provincial and federal governments and to assist with letters and reports required for leadership to sign on behalf of BCN Justice.
- We are working with a strategic plan which lays out the programs and services that the department will be developing in the upcoming year.
- We received a grant from the Alberta Government to deliver the Court Work Program for Wabasca which started in October and will run until March 31st, 2023. Extensive work is required to develop the new proposal for this program to run from April 01st 2023 to March 31st, 2027. This proposal will have two parts: 1) to operate the ICWP for Wabasca, 2) to go after the Court Worker services for Athabasca Court which is crucial for our people in Calling Lake and Red Earth where our RJ program has already expanded to.
- We are participating in a stand-alone Restorative Justice Docket Day in collaboration with Slave Lake Crown's Office every two months and when clients successfully finish our program, and they appear in court, and we have a ceremony for them with a gift.
- We are following up with our meetings with the Minister of Indigenous Relations and the Minister of Justice and Solicitor General to support our initiatives. More meetings are planned for early in the new year.

Our focus for the upcoming year is to:

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- Participate in the King's Bench Pilot Project on Restorative Justice
- We have started working on a prefeasibility study for the development of a courthouse on reserve
- We have started work on developing a Healing to Wellness Court
- Develop a policing services concept that will include the research and development of a Peace Officer Program, Rangers Program, bylaw enforcement, Treaty Rights related to Fish and Wildlife matters, etc.
- Review and update of the CTA (RCMP services to the Nation).
- Work with leadership to research and determine the best options for BCN around policing.

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- Work has started the groundwork to address community safety and bring programs, services and solutions to the gang violence and drug trafficking activities in Calling Lake
- Develop a community monitoring program for BCN members returning to the community as part of their supervision requirements (bail, probation, and parole)
- Collaborate with other BCN departments to provide common/shared programs and services to community members

Goals of your proposal

You should provide data that describes relevant statistics and qualitative observations that outline the requisites of your project. Make it easy for the reader to understand why your project is important, how it is uniquely suited to address a specific challenge/barrier and how it will meet the needs of Membership and the Community.

As stated earlier in this proposal, we see access to justice as a fundamental right for our Nation members, which is provided for under Treaty No 8 and affirmed by our ancestors. Justice issues are complex and diverse, and spans a spectrum that includes early intervention, crime prevention, policing and enforcement, legal and court system processes, community monitoring and sanctions and aftercare supports. It is also consistent with the recommendations of the UNDRIP, MVIWG, the TRC and other research that have consistently pointed to the discriminatory policies and actions of the current justice system. We are developing a justice system that will meet the needs of our communities with the focus on restoring peace and harmony and not rely on a western based punitive and adversarial approach as a primary option.

We know that Indigenous peoples represent approximately 4.9% of the population in Canada (2016 census). A Correctional Investigator of Canada report (January 21, 2020) that the proportion of Indigenous individuals under federal sentence surpassed 30%, up from 25% four years earlier. January 2020 statistics (The Guardian) indicate that as much as 54% of the prison population in the prairie provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta are of Indigenous ancestry. In Alberta, 45% of all people in federal prisons are Indigenous while the latest report (2018) for Indigenous individuals in provincial prison is 40.3%.

We also know that Child and Family Services statistics are similarly disturbing. Findings indicate that 19% of Child Investigations in Canada involved Indigenous children. Relative to non-Indigenous children, dispositions made during investigations for Indigenous children are 3.6x higher during investigation. Caregiver risk factors among investigated families are consistently higher across all factors (alcohol abuse, drug/solvent abuse, cognitive impairment, mental health issues, physical health issues, few social supports, etc.) for Indigenous families as compared to non-Indigenous families. In March 2020, the Alberta Intervention Information and Statistics Summary Report indicated that 69% of children and youth receiving services in care were Indigenous. Indigenous children make up approximately 10% of the children population (ages 0 — 17) in Alberta.

Over the past several years, there have been several critical incidences in our communities. In Calling Lake alone, a community member was killed in September 2020 and three community members were shot in 2 separate incidents in January 2021. Two lockdowns occurred in the latter part of 2021. At least one lockdown in 2022 during which time a dangerous offender was apprehended after Six months terrorizing local people. Recently a dangerous offender was released with strict conditions one of which was to stay away from Calling Lake. After 4 days he was arrested near Westlock driving a stolen vehicle. He is now back in custody. We have



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reports from community monitors/security that gunshots are frequently heard in the community, sometimes several times a night.

On an average court day in Wabasca, our docket is approximately 20 pages long with approximately 99% of the names being BCN members. The predominant charges are drug or alcohol related including impaired driving and driving while disqualified, weapons-related charges, assault, breaches, fail to comply, trafficking or drug possession, and others.

It is evident that the current justice system is not working for Indigenous people in general, and for our Nation members specifically. We want to develop a justice system that has worked for us in the past using traditional and healing approaches. We want to create a process for our people to deal with their legal issues at the earliest opportunity while committing to making healthy changes to their lifestyle rather than continuing with the punitive approach. We want to reduce the over-representation of our people involved in the justice system and have developed and proposed programs that will address the issues within our community.

Target Timelines and outcomes for each Quarter (provide a summary):

All our programs and services are ongoing and are often influenced by external factors with some requiring multi-year commitments. Pilot projects will have a start and end date and outcomes can be identified on a quarterly basis; however, the core programs are continuous, and we will conduct annual evaluations to report on outcomes.

We anticipate outcomes as follows:

July 2023 — September 2023

- Continue to work with consultant to assess and apply for funding
- Confirm funding and implement the Court Work Program
- Finalize and approve the Justice strategic plan and develop a work plan
- Review and update the CTA (RCMP services to the Nation) and a new Agreement signed
- Participate in the King's Bench Pilot Project on Restorative Justice
- Participate in a stand-alone Restorative Justice Docket Day
- Collaborate with other BCN departments to provide common/shared programs and services to community members
- Host a community feast and information session in all three communities.
- Host a Justice Conference to show case Bigstone Justice and Public Safety.
- Continue developing our relationships with the Alberta Indigenous Relations, Alberta Justice and Solicitor General and Justice Canada to support our initiatives.

October 2023 - June 2024

- Confirm funding and engage consultant to conduct prefeasibility study for the development of a courthouse on reserve
- Continue work on developing a Healing to Wellness Court
- Develop a policing services concept that will include the research and development of a Peace Officer Program, Rangers Program, bylaw enforcement, Treaty Rights related to Fish and Wildlife matters, etc.



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- Develop programs, services and solutions to the gang violence and drug trafficking activities in Calling Lake
- Assess the potential for community monitoring for BCN members returning to the community as part of their supervision requirements (bail, probation, and parole)

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Result:

Evaluation Plan: What results do you expect to achieve over the course of the project? How will you know when the project is completed that your goals and objectives have been met?

List the resources needed for the project:

Describe the manpower, tools and resources being utilized to achieve the goals of the project.

- Briefly describe the activities and methods you/your team will employ to achieve your goals and objectives.

Which departments will oversee specific aspects of the plan and what programs, or information are they using?

- What results do you expect to achieve?
- What criteria will you be using to measure success?

Will you be subcontracting out? Briefly describe who, when, where why and how?

The reader should be able to understand who manages certain deliverable.

The project will be managed by the Justice Manager and supported by an Administrative Assistant. Staff will be recruited as new programs and funding are confirmed and the Manager will manage and oversee the staff and operations. For the current Restorative Justice Program, a work plan has been developed which guides the process and this plan will be updated annually. We will be preparing work plans for each new initiative that we achieve funding for.

The Finance Department provides the financial management, monitoring and controls for all program funds and the Justice Manager will manage program expenditures. As with all BCN Departments, annual financial audits will be conducted as per BCN policies. BCN Justice will continue to work with all other BCN Departments and local agencies to ensure that our clients have access to their services and to ensure that these agencies are fully aware of the services being provided and proposed.

Our projects will be ongoing and will continue to be developed over time. We will ensure that files are maintained on all services provided to clients. Progress reports and updates will be provided to our leadership monthly. We will monitor our progress and actively seek funding to allow us to achieve our goals and objectives on a continuous basis. We will use client satisfaction and evaluations to assess our effectiveness. The main result we expect to achieve is that more Nation members will change their lives and address issues that cause them and their families to need our services. Ultimately, we are supporting efforts to provide a safe and healthy environment for our Nation members.



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We will be conducting a formal evaluation of each program prior to the end of the fiscal year as part of the program delivery model.

We will be using the services of consultants to address specific tasks and projects. Over the past year, we have used the services of a consultant to provide support to the Manager and the Justice Department. We had contracted a consulting firm to facilitate the development of a strategic planning. A consulting firm will be contracted to conduct the pre-feasibility study for the development of the courthouse on reserve as funding is confirmed. The Manager will manage all deliverables of these consultants.

An evaluation process will be co-developed for the KB Restorative Justice Pilot Project and the Stand-Alone Restorative Justice Docket Project as part of the implementation plan and will be conducted in collaboration

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with our partners at a mutually agreed to timeframe. We will also develop a terms-of-reference for an evaluation plan for the Court Work Program, identifying what to measure and how to measure them.

Project End Evaluation by the Administrator:

The Justice Manager will assess the scope and timelines for an evaluation for each project.

Indicate below which category your proposal requestfall under:

- Community Development **
- Health Care
- Education and Training
- Elder Care
- Infrastructure improvement
- Preserving culture and language
- Community activities
- Economic development
- Cultural enrichment
- Protection of aboriginal identity and Treaty Right

● *Ifyou have chosen Community Development, which additional categories does your proposal request fall under?

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- Improve health and well-being (emotional, physical, mental, spiritual)
- Benefits from improving awareness of culture, traditions, identity
- Networking-building relationships with the community and outside the community
- Creating temporary jobs
- Occupational training and development of infrastructure
- Opportunity for creating greater economic independence

What research and/or studies have you/your team completed to determine the requirements of membership or the community, that this proposal will provide?

All programs and projects being offered and/or considered have been determined through the experiences of our staff and our work with clients that access our services. Additionally, we have relied on anecdotal discussions with our clients and service providers, including crown prosecutors, defense lawyers, RCMP, and Judges to determine needs. As indicated in the above "Goals of Your Proposal" section of this application, we have used government and academic studies and reports, reports from community monitors, consultation with justice personnel, and reports and presentation from conference presenters and meetings with legal and government representatives to determine the requirements of our clients.

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Quarterly Report

If you/your team do not submit the first (1st) quarterly report within the first three (3) months of starting the project and subsequent quarterly reports thereafter until the conclusion of the project, your funds may be suspended indefinitely at the phase, the delinquency had been committed.

Definition

Quarterly means every three (3) months.

Summary/Evaluation Report:

It is equally important to submit the final Summary/Evaluation report at the end of the project.

We are aware of the requirement for the quarterly reports and the Justice Manager will submit the reports as required.

IMPORTANT to KNOW

BCN Trusts will no longer tolerate negligence, procrastination and non-compliance.

1. The consequence for irresponsible acts of postponement, may be a "rejected proposal" by the Trustees and Chief & Council because of non-performance.



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2. It is equally important to RETURN assets (property/equipment etc.) back to Bigstone Cree Nation when such items are purchased with BCN Trustfunding, at the end, ofthe project.
3. Trust Administrator will conduct a Project End Evaluation Report.

When the Project Director undertakes to coordinate a project, it is his/her responsibility to comply with the requirements ofthe program and to ensure that his/her Team conforms.

BCN Trusts is responsible to Membership, the Trustees and to Chief& Council.

Ray Yellowknee



Signature

Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Executive Summary

Title of your proposal: Continuing the development of BCN Justice and Public Works programs

Project Start Date: July 01. _____ 2023Expected end _____ date:June _____ 30 2024

Executive Summary

The overall goal of this project is to continue establish and maintaining a Justice Department for Bigstone Cree Nation that would oversee all aspects ofjustice-related matters that would meet the needs of Nation members. Research has shown that Indigenous People face significant systemic barriers in their access to justice.

Developing and delivering culturally appropriate and community-based programs and services will support members to address the issues that bring them in conflict with the legal system and begin to heal and thrive.

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We have partnered with the judiciary, the provincial and federal governments, and the RCMP to deliver programs. We developed a strategic plan that will assist in guiding our effort on a short, medium and long-term basis. In addition to our current Restorative Justice core program, we have confirmed projects for the upcoming year including the Indigenous Court Work Program, the King's Bench Pilot Project, and the Restorative Justice Docket Day. We have plans to develop programs and services to meet the emerging needs of our communities and Nation members.

The work we did with project to date was to lay the groundwork for a comprehensive Justice program which will see Bigstone Cree Nation members benefit by working with them to make safe and healthy changes in their lifestyles.

The conference we are planning is to inform our people of our program and to inform other FNS what we are doing at Bigstone. Many of them had advised us to host a conference so they can learn from our Nation. This summer will be the ideal time for this conference.

We are requesting \$160,000 from the BCN Trust to carry out this work. With our efforts this year we anticipate that Bigstone Justice and Public Safety will be considered an essential service and funded as such.