



McLeod Lake
Indian Band

Quarterly Report

2023

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A portrait of Chief Harley Chingee, a middle-aged man with dark hair, smiling. He is wearing a blue suit jacket, a white shirt, and a blue and white striped tie. The background is a blurred indoor setting with a window and curtains.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Dana'chea,

I am thrilled to share the tremendous achievements of our Nation in the past quarter.

McLeod Lake Indian Band had successful negotiations on reconciliation, economic development, and environmental sovereignty. This marks a significant milestone in our journey toward a more prosperous future. Together, we have demonstrated the strength of our Nation.

We have been working hard to develop an environmentally and culturally responsible opportunity. If successful, it will make us a key contributor to a clean-energy future. This past quarter MLIB signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that strengthens our relationship and lays the foundation for the proposed Tse'khene energy transition hub, supporting economic reconciliation and development for the region through the production of low-carbon energy.

By fostering new partnerships and leveraging opportunities, we are laying the foundation for generational wealth that will benefit our community for years to come. Thank you to our dedicated council, staff, and members for your work in paving a path forward that our children will be proud to walk in.

I extend my deepest gratitude to each and every one of your support and dedication. I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

Sincerely,
Chief Harley Chingee

Chief
HARLEY
CHINGEE



Chief and Council

**Chief**

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BAND ADMINISTRATOR

Season's Greetings to all,

As I get older, I'm finding that Fall and Winter are my favourite months. I enjoy the snow as it helps sustain our beautiful rivers and lakes. Below you will find my report for MLIB's Dlezeh Camp investment that I have been working on throughout the past quarters.

Authority to Purchase

On August 9, 2022, C&C approved BCR 61820220809:055 authorizing a camp purchase for \$1.7 million from Falcon Camp Services Inc.

Investment Asset

The 45-man Industrial Camp includes a 45-man Jack & Jill Dormitory, Kitchen, Diner Complex, Water Storage Unit, Sewer Storage Unit, 2 Lift Stations, 4-man sleeper, linen, TVs and other camp supplies.

Camp Location

4821 Coquiawaldie Road Mackenzie, B.C. (This site is owned by Duz Cho Construction an MLIB entity) MLIB IR 19 (Mackenzie) has no infrastructure for development. MLIB was forced to find an alternate site for the camp.

Development Permit

The District of Mackenzie approved and issued development permits. Additionally, the camp was granted a sewer tank permit, water system operating permit and food/operating permit (CICC applied) for its operations from Northern Health.

Construction/Installation

- Mobilization and demobilization of camp trailers
- Site prep – clearing, grading, access construction
- 50-man camp residence
- Camp cookhouse and dining area
- Engineering costs for permanent sewage and water hookup
- BC Hydro poles/hookup

Construction and installation of the camp was slated from August 2022 to September 2023. Falcon Construction was the main contractor to install and construct the camp. Power and water were established on site. B. Schmautz Contracting completed the Septic Installation. Although the camp installation was completed earlier for operations– the sewer septic system was completed in September 2023.

Camp Services

CICC Camp Services provided camp services for the 400 Camp (located on the south end of McLeod Lake) and continued with the Dlezeh Camp once it became operational. A Camp Services Agreement with CICC was signed on January 13, 2023, for the Dlezeh Camp. We pay CICC according to the terms of the contract. The rates are very competitive compared with other providers.

On August 9, 2022, C&C approved BCR 61820220809:055 authorizing a camp purchase for \$1.7 million from Falcon Camp Services Inc.

Camp Management and Administration

In August 2022 the camp was purchased and managed under MLIB. This was amended by a BCR 61820230130:088 giving authority to TDLP to manage and administer the camp which was rescinded in October 2023. On October 20, 2023, BCR 61820230925:058 was approved for transferring Dlezeh Camp management and administration to Duz Cho Logging. The camp remains under MLIB's capital assets.

If you have any questions about the camp feel free to contact me directly.

The Dlezeh Camp is the only camp operational in Mackenzie since Camp David closed its doors. This is a positive for us, so we're very excited about Dlezeh Camp's future. Duz Cho Logging will develop a marketing strategy to attract users to the Dlezeh Camp.

As always, I want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a blessed 2024 year.

Adele Chingee

Band Administrator



**ADELE
CHINGEE**



Tse'khene Energy Transition Hub

In the summer of 2021, MLIB Council initiated the potential development of an “industrial park” at Kerry Lake East IR#9. The focus would be projects that make existing sources of energy cleaner. The area was named the Tse'khene Energy Transition Hub (TETH).

At that time, the MLIB Council wanted to explore the development of a natural gas liquids extraction plant (“the Straddle Plant”) that extracts valuable natural gas liquids from the existing pipeline on IR #1 and IR #9, while also reducing carbon output from the gas inside the pipeline.

If approved by the MLIB Council and membership, this could be the first project at the TETH. In the summer of 2022, Mixt Energy Ltd. and its partner, Mitsubishi Power Americas selected the TETH for consideration as its primary site to develop a major hydrogen production facility (“the Hydrogen Plant”). It produces power without GHG emissions. If approved by the MLIB Council and membership, this could be the second project on the TETH.

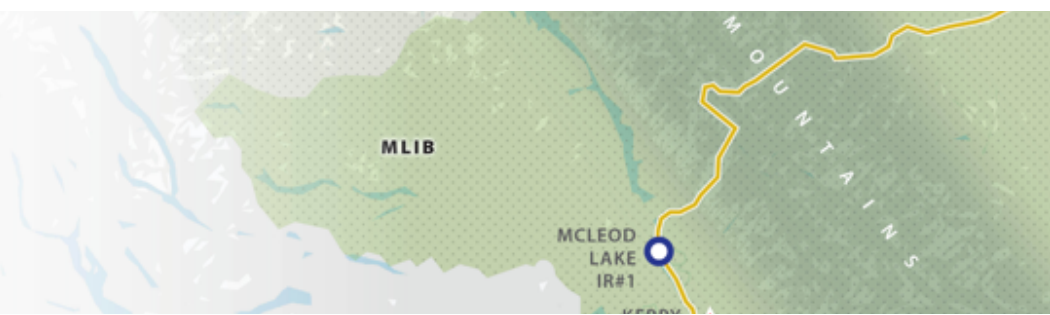
This Q&A report delves into key aspects of the TETH project, addressing inquiries related to its nature, ownership, environmental considerations, economic benefits, and the pivotal role of the McLeod Lake Indian Band in this transformative initiative.

What is the Tse'khene Energy Transition Hub, also known as the “TETH”?

TETH is a potential green energy hub at Kerry Lake Indian Reserve #9. Two potential projects are being considered at the Hub: A hydrogen project (to export hydrogen/ammonia). and a “straddle” plant (to export ethane).

What is Mixt Energy Exports LP, also known as “Mixt”?

Mixt is a company that was created to pursue the TETH on behalf of the McLeod Lake Indian Band. The Band's ownership of TETH is controlled by the Duz Cho Group of Companies.



Is a plastics plant being considered at the “TETH”?

No, although ethane can be used for plastics manufacturing, the ethane extracted at TETH is intended to be moved by rail to the West Coast and then to Asia by tanker. There will be no plastics manufacturing on MLIB’s territory.

Has the proposed site been logged?

Yes, TETH would be a great way to reuse land that was logged long before TETH was considered.

How much carbon will TETH emit?

None, In fact, TETH will have a negative carbon input as the hydrogen displaces carbon-emitting energy sources and the ethane is no longer burned for energy production.

What about impacts on wildlife, water, and land?

Studies are underway to ensure that any potential impacts on wildlife, water, and land are understood and mitigated so that Band members have all the information they need before voting on this potential opportunity.

Is there an Impact Benefit Agreement or “IBA”?

No, unlike the traditionally low-value IBA model, TETH follows the “Cedar LNG model” in which the Band will be the majority owner in the TETH.

What is the estimated economic benefit to the Band?

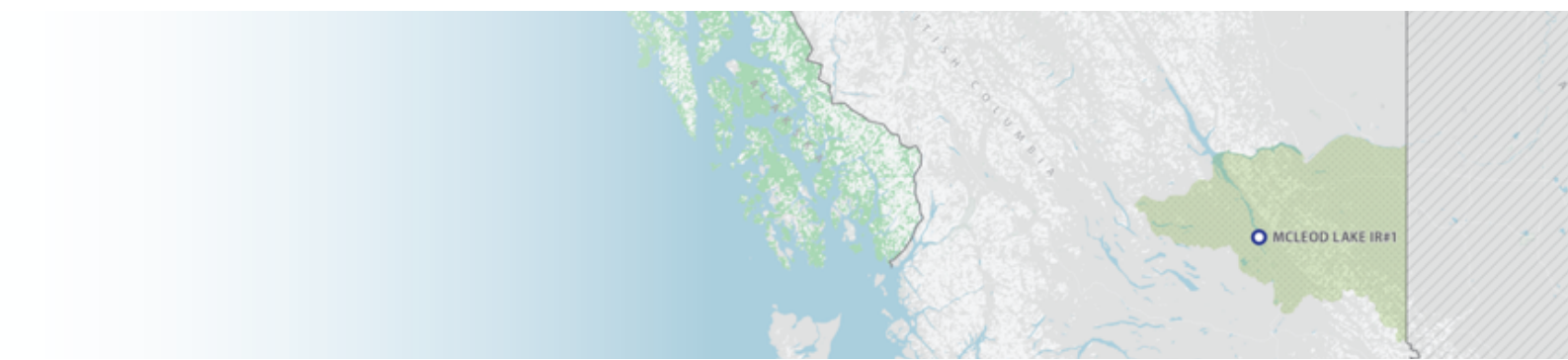
The estimated economic benefit to the Band is at least \$50 million per year for at least 25 years, with the potential to be much greater. Additionally, there will be tremendous job and contracting opportunities during the construction and operation of TETH, as the project may cost as much as \$7 billion to build.

What “say” do Band members have?

Before any decisions are made to approve TETH, Band members will be fully informed and ultimately will approve or reject TETH with a vote. This project will not be approved until at least late 2024 and not until after Band members have voted to approve it.

If approved by Band members, when will the TETH be ready?

Construction would start in late 2025 or early-2026 and operations would start in 2029 or 2030.





Duz Cho Group of Companies



**JACOB
ALBERTSON**

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

The third quarter proved to be our biggest challenge for the year as we had multiple large-scale jobs start in the same time period such as DA Thomas/Wilder/Brule BCR's and North ditch/ and Portage quarry. To be noted, these projects are all high dollar value with some very technical aspects to them.

On September 22, I interviewed a candidate for a Project Manager position, throughout the interview it became apparent that the individual was also a very strong candidate for the General Manager position. He had been a VP of a prior company taking it from a 14-million dollar company to a 120-million dollar company very quickly.

I am happy to report that Trevor Argue joined our team on September 25 as a Project Manager and that after monitoring his performance and ability he has been offered the position of interim General Manager for a period of 6 months at which time a performance review will be conducted. If performance is satisfactory then a full-time position will be offered.

HALFWAY RIVER BOAT LAUNCH BC HYDRO

The Halfway Boat Launch is near completion, with the ramp and parking area installed, to be utilized after the reservoir is filled.

We finished paving the bottom lift (there are two lifts required) for all asphalt works, including the MOTI road and the boat launch access road last week. However, colder temperatures shut down paving until 2024. We have progressed significantly with earthworks and will complete all earthworks, concrete, and other scopes this year so that the only work remaining in 2024 is milling/paving.

Our claim for impacts caused by Hydro delays is still a work in progress as we are still tabulating costs daily that we are incurring such as higher supply prices for soil nails, turf reinforcement matting, extra efforts required to work in colder temperatures etc.



QUINTETTE & BRULE MINE CONUMA COAL

Brule CCR and North Ditch have been completed. Both projects were of large size and significance to DCCLP. Both have been completed both on time, on budget, with no incidents. Duz Cho Construction has officially begun work at Conuma Coal's Quintette Mine, with the initial Earthworks starting on multiple projects.

Clearing for the Conveyor System is almost complete. We have had a D10 and D8's doing the stripping work on this. The M19 Bridge- phase I is complete, we are waiting on the bridge contractor to erect the bridge for phase II excavation. Scheduled to start in a week, will be dozers, rock trucks, and excavators.

Pond Construction is scheduled to start and there will be significant dirt to move. Slurry Pipeline is also scheduled to start and will involve excavation and placement of pipe as well as fusing and backfill. We will be using our Pipefuser on this job.

We were just awarded 225,000 cubic meters of stripping that needs to be done this winter.



PORTAGE MOUNTAIN RECLAMATION

Portage Mountain reclamation has started. Portage Mountain was a rock quarry we have been producing rock out of for BC Hydro for the last three years for the Highway 29 realignment due to the flooding of Site C. We started the reclamation by constructing Bat Caves to create a new Habitat for the Bats. This is the first time this has ever been done in North America and has been a huge success. Duz Cho and its blasting subcontractor have created 3 caves 30 meters deep about 1.5 meters in diameter for the Bats. This project had lots of attention from BC Hydro and its team. So far everyone is very happy with our success and production. We are currently still reclaiming all the disturbed areas which will take until December with a second phase planned for 2024.

WILDER CREEK BC HYDRO

Our Doig River partnership brought us the great opportunity of the Wilder Creek Fish Littoral. This is a highly sensitive environmental area and a unique project for us.

For this project, we have been making fish habitats in the bottom of what will be the Site C Reservoir. These ditches are intended to be vital areas for spawning fish and hopefully will be an intricate part of the future ecosystem.



WATSON SLOUGH CLEARING

This was the final year for the reservoir clearing, which has been a significant project for DCCLP for the last four years with a value of \$28 Million. This project was a huge success for us. Not only were we on-time and on-budget but in the 4 years and countless manhours we had a single safety incident which was back in 2021.

The remainder of the timber to be harvested at Watson slough has been completed. This Timber was left because a bear moved into the areas this winter when we were working and had to be ribboned off and removed from the clearing prescription to protect the bear and den. We harvested the timber and had a chipping company come in and remove all the waste timber that didn't meet mill specifications. This project is now complete.



LONEPINE FOREST PRODUCTS

Inventory - This is a current inventory as of the end of day July Aug 31, 2023.

Lone Pine Yard

1033 – Bolted access mats
185 – Dura Dowel access mats
24 – 8' x 20' 3 beam Rig mats
1 – 8' x 30' 3 beam Rig mats
12 – 8' x 40' 3 beam Rig mats

Chetwynd Yard

131 – Bolted access mats
5 – Dura Dowel access mats 4 – 8' x 40' 3 beam Rig mats
The current inventory is valued at \$1,470,180.00 with the sale of \$12,300.00 of 40' Rig mats to Axiom Oil.

Mat Production in July

Dowel mats 98/21 days = 4.67 Avg. daily
8' x 30' 3 beam Rig mats 1/21 days = .047 Avg, daily
8' x 40' 3 beam Rig mats 1/21 days = .047 Avg, daily

Employees currently at Lone Pine

10 Employees Total
2- 2-Man Team alternating between dowels
1- Loader Operator
1- Yard Foreman
1- Cutter
1- Office Manager
1- Part Time/Assistant/ Janitor
1- Operations Manager

Chetwynd Yard

131 – Bolted access mats
5 – Dura Dowel access mats 4 – 8' x 40' 3 beam Rig mats
The current inventory is valued at

Quotes Completed Aug 1- Aug 31, 2023

Aug 8 – 2220-078-Axiom - (2) 8' 40'-3 beam rig mat at 6,150/mat= Total of \$ 12, 915.00 Aug 22 – 2220-079-Caleb Greenworks - Current mat prices

Paid This Month

Aug 9 – 2220-078-Axiom - (2) 8' 40'-3 beam rig mat at 6,150/mat= Total of \$ 12, 915.00 ORDERS CURRENTLY IN PROGRESS
Sept 7, 2023, -2223-80- WPW- \$38,745.00= (6)8X 40' mats- shipped
Sept 29, 2023 – Clearwater Country - \$1953.00 – (2) 8X14 Bolted mats- shipped
Oct 2, 2023 – Sinopec - \$38,745.00 - (6)8X 40' mats – waiting for pickup

Recent Incidents

None to report since Oct 5, 2023

DUZ CHO LOGGING

While the fires through the summer made logging in our area difficult, we were able to secure work for some of our equipment and crew with the BC Wildfire Service. We also looked at other avenues to earn revenue from logging and were able to work out a deal with Dunkley Lumber to log some private land parcels in the Tumbler Ridge area and we are working on more deals with them in the same area.

Conifex Sawmill has hired us by the hour to haul wood out of the bush. Additionally, we are doing hourly deactivation for them, employing one dozer. Conifex Power has hired us to do some hog pile rotation too, employing one excavator.

Coastal Gaslink- New business prospects resulted in a 3-month pipeline project. This of course came with its own challenges, especially with the dry hot summer and local fire ratings. This project should be ending within the week.

Sinclar Group Forest Products- We have just started a contract to log for the Lakeland facility. We are currently logging two summer blocks and will be in them until mid-November. They have several winter blocks for us as well that are not far from the summer blocks so the cost of moving there will not be extreme. In total, they have 129,000 m3 for us up until the end of March.

We have been extremely busy in the last few months building bridges. We have hired a dedicated subcontractor to oversee and manage these bridge installations. The majority of the bridges have been for Cantor and to gain access to blocks that we logged or will be logging however, we have been doing installs for Sinclar for road access that is not required for the wood we will logging. This is exciting for us, and we hope that we continue to further develop this program.

On the resource side, we have had a successful year. We worked with Duz Cho Construction on several different projects. The largest was the Rainbow Creek water line project. This project brought us \$500,000 in gross revenue. We Also worked with them on the Morfee mountain road project for MORATA, we had a supervisor and one operator and machine for approximately two and a half weeks.



DUZ CHO LOGGING

We have done several exploration projects this year with Mount Milligan. Resulting in a gross revenue of \$ 137,000. We also completed some small projects for them as well. We build fencing around some sub-stations, and the road maintenance and ore haul continue throughout the year. Unfortunately, the mine was having some issues with the quality of concentrate so there were some slowdowns with the ore haul, but overall, it remained steady.

We had 4 trucks consistently working this summer on dewatering for Dunkley. This has now finished for the season but will recommence next year.

We also provided road maintenance services to Dunkley and Conifex. We have a standing contract with the Ministry of Forests to provide emergency road maintenance for them. We placed large concrete blocks to deactivate a bridge on the West Parsnip for them when the bridge needed emergency repairs.

We have taken over the operations of D'elzeh Resort, the 45-man logging camp, in the area of Mackenzie. This transition is recent, and we are still working out all the bugs. We installed a proper septic system there and we are looking into adding a boot room to the cook shack. We have also started the quote process to put a roof over all the buildings to extend their life due to the high amount of snow we receive.

On the financial side, our revenues at the end of August were on par with the prior fiscal at \$22,000,000. We have made small gains in profit through managing labour costs and productivity through uptime on machines as mentioned above. We also anticipate a marginal improvement to the bottom line at this fiscal year's end on October 31.



Capital Projects

Wellness Center

Progress continues on the Wellness Center Construction project. Substantial completion is still on schedule for early March 2024. All civil work outside of the building is complete. Concrete work is complete with the last sidewalk pours completed in early November. All service conduits are installed. Interior work is moving ahead with the completion of rough-ins, drywall, painting, millwork installation and concrete floor polishing

The New Band Hall/Wellness Center

septic system installation was completed in October. The Band Hall is now tied to the new system and is in operation. Interim power supply is supplied from the Band Hall until power is established to the Wellness Center.

Cemetery

Cemetery construction was completed in early September. The road to the cemetery was also upgraded for easier access. Flower bed and walkway plantings were done during AGA as part of the events and were supplied by Land Life Company. Other contributors to the project were Pauls Lawn Care, River Road Landscape Supply, Sunset Memorial, Forever Green Irrigation and Landscaping, Valleyview Fencing, and Northern Hart Designs.



SITE C

Some critical work areas still need to be completed on the project before it can be safely filled. These areas include:

- the approach channel
- spillway gates
- powerhouse intake gates.

Once it is ready to begin reservoir filling, MLIB will communicate this milestone to all members. Whether reservoir filling happens this year or next year, Site C remains on schedule to have all six generating units in service in 2025.

During this quarter, the initiation of water filling in the tailrace commenced. This phase required the utilization of pumps to transfer water from the Peace River to the tailrace zone, facilitating preparations for reservoir filling. The removal of the cofferdam situated downstream of the spillway, which had been installed to maintain dry work areas during construction, is now underway. This pivotal action is essential in readiness for the utilization of the spillway in the upcoming reservoir filling procedures.

For detailed information and videos on the reservoir filling, please visit sitecproject.com.





Human Resources

As we approach the festive season and eagerly await Christmas, McLeod Lake Indian Band extends warm wishes to all our employees, stakeholders, and the Tse'khene people. The MLIB member's support is the cornerstone of the impactful work we undertake, and we are committed to honouring this support with dedication and respect.

We would like to express our appreciation to the Chief and Council for their continued guidance, direction, and wisdom. Your leadership sets the foundation for our endeavours.

In the past quarter, we welcomed valuable additions to the McLeod Lake Indian Band team. Our recruits include a Public Works Manager, Elder's Knowledge Keeper, Janitor, Land Based Healing Coordinator, Public Works Maintenance Worker, Cook, and Janitor. These individuals bring diverse skills and perspectives, enriching our team.

Despite ongoing vacancies within MLIB, we are committed to recruiting the most qualified candidates. As part of our

dedication to diversity and inclusion, we are pleased to report that, over the last four months, Indigenous people have constituted 70% of our new hires. This reflects our commitment as an equal-opportunity employer to fostering a workforce that mirrors the rich cultural diversity of our community.

Encouraging training and promoting from within remains integral to our approach. We actively collaborate with our current employees, supporting them in reaching their full potential. By providing growth opportunities, we aim to create an environment where each team member can thrive both professionally and personally.

In the coming year, we remain committed to fostering a workplace that provides fulfillment to every member of our team.



EMPLOYMENT TRAINING

Employment & Training has been busy this past quarter connecting with members on and off reserve. MLIB employment training offers assistance with job search, resumes, employment counselling, labour market research, training needs for employability, assistance with Skilled Trades BC, work supplies, and can assist with barriers to employment.

Looking Ahead

This next quarter, employment training aims to foster new relationships with industry and partners to encourage long respectful relations for MLIB to ensure future employment opportunities and partnerships. In order to help with these connections Employment Training Services will be hosting a career fair in March 2024.

In the New Year, the department will explore training in wildlife monitoring, wildland fire training, PAL and various industries. We encourage all members to reach out and share what they would like for training for your employment goals. As an employment specialist with strong.

To learn more about employment training opportunities please contact Doris Kilba at employmenttraining@milib.ca or 250-997-1387.





Health

The Wellness Worker position includes working with Band members who may be dealing with various addictions. One-on-one counselling is available as well as referrals to residential treatment centers and aftercare support upon completion of treatment. Some upcoming activities that we are planning include critical incident stress training, harm reduction activities and workshops, naloxone training and fentanyl strip testing training for staff members, as well as hosting a weekly sober fire.

We will be hosting a family sober dance during National Addiction Awareness Week among other activities. We look forward to seeing Band members join us for these informative events.

Our health team keeps the funding dollars coming in, does the reporting to the government and our partners and helps keep our programs and projects moving forward. The year ahead will be very exciting with the new Health and Community Centre being completed. It will open up so many new opportunities for the Community.

MLIB works with a social worker, Indigenous Counsellor and Clinical Therapist to offer a range of services to members.

To heal together, MLIB members lit candles in honour of the young children who have been born this year while also remembering Band Members who are in the spiritual world

2023 has been a year of growth, renewal, and strength for our younger generation. .

We Honour Our Mothers who have recently had their babies and other BM's who are expecting. It is a time of celebration for the whole community.

As our Elders' say, "A child is a sacred gift from the Creator, babies are so precious, seeing them, touching their hands, and giving them a huge smile makes me feel good and happy inside. It is the new generation, they are the seeds we need to look after for our Tse Khene future continuity.", babies are so precious, seeing them, touching their hands, and giving them a huge smile makes me feel good and happy inside. It is the new generation, they are the seeds we need to look after for our Tse Khene future continuity."

Family Services provided counselling and support for parents and children providing emotional support on relationships, communication and advocacy and life skills. Family Services hosted a 2-day family camp in September. The department supports families with Jordan's Principle applications, planning with social workers and access to resources for children.

We welcomed Vivian Olson in the position of Community support. She started up the on-reserve foodbank and provides social and emotional support to vulnerable community members who struggle with mental health and families who have children at risk of MCFD involvement. Community Support has helped band members access medical services, and worked with caregivers to support healthy mealtime and bedtime routines for children.





The Education team has been working hard to support our McLeod Lake youth to find success within their school settings. On Tuesdays and Wednesdays, we have been working in the schools to provide our students with a safe alternative space to learn. We offer literacy and numeracy support, in-class help, social-emotional help and techniques, and advocating for our youth with administration.

While working in the schools we also attend meetings with school staff, District staff, as well as parents and community members. This aids the department in being able to better understand, plan for, and support our children.

Along with working in the schools, the education department works onsite in McLeod Lake doing various behind-the-scenes tasks to ensure our children are getting and receiving the best education possible and providing one-on-one instruction to students who may not be able to attend classes for various reasons.

Our youth are our future.

Our McLeod Lake Youth programming provides social-emotional support, self-awareness, and healthy methods of processing emotions. The team also organizes programs to provide our youth with activities.

Recently, we had UBC come up and provide programs for 5 days called Gearing up for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics).

Junior Achievements Canada (JBAC) came and taught 3 free courses based on financial literacy, health, and job preparedness. We were thrilled to provide school year-end and back-to-school BBQs.

We are working hard so our youth can be proud of where they come from.

I have established a great connection with our Mackenzie Recreation Centre, this is where I have youth evenings in town. The kids can utilize the swimming pool, gym, multi-sport-court and arena. McLeod Lake has a tab with Fry Daddy's so that I can provide the youth with a meal after their activities.

In the new year, we will be organizing youth trips to Prince George for fun outings such as bowling, Famous Players, CN Leisure pool and PG Cougars games.

Culture and traditional learning are of utmost importance here in the MLIB Education Department.

Students must complete and submit the McLeod Lake Indian Band's Post Secondary Application form, including all supporting documentation, to the Education Department by the deadline:

- Fall April 1st
- Winter September 30th
- Summer February 1st

Extra Curricular Activities 2023-2024

The Lheidli T'enneh First Nation education leaders teamed up with McLeod Lake Indian Band education leaders in 2018, to bring light to systemic racism concerns and ways to address these issues within School District No.57 (SD57). In January 2021 we formally introduced our creation of the Indigenous Education Leadership Table (IELT).

This table serves as a governing Indigenous education board that oversees the targeted funds. In addition, it creates processes and policy that ensures equity in the treatment of Indigenous family experiences with SD57, equity for Indigenous employees and allies. It strives for more successful outcomes for all Indigenous students within SD57.

On Wednesday, October 25, 2023, the Ministry of Education and Child Care announced that they passed the legislation for the Indigenous Education Council Policy. This means that all the work our team did in creating the IELT has been recognized and is now law. This will require changes to the school act so all boards in all districts encourage the establishment of an Indigenous Education Council (like we did with IELT) in their school districts to ensure that our Indigenous people have input into decisions affecting Indigenous students.

The membership and function of IECs will recognize and reflect the local First Nations in whose territories the board operates. IECs will support boards in the provision of ongoing, comprehensive and equitable education.

It will support services for Indigenous students, provide Indigenous perspectives for the benefit of all students, and advise on and approve the board's spending plans, and reports in relation to Indigenous education-targeted funds.

The education department would like to take this time to acknowledge the following education leaders who put in a lot of work in making this happen:

Crystal Gibbs, LTFN

Mel Aksidan, LTFN

Joshua Seymour, LTFN

Jodie Ware, MLIB

Jayde Chingee, MLIB

Kevin Brown, LB Communications

It took countless hours and meetings as well as an extensive amount of time in relationship-building with SD57 leadership.

**School Supply
Cheques****100****Extra Curricular
Activities
2023-2024 Funds:****\$500**

For eligible children
registered with MLIB, aged 4
to 18 from April 1st, 2023 to
March 31st, 2024

**Post Secondary
Fall 2023****18****Full time
students**

Contact

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Samantha Carty - Educationsupport@mlib.ca

Rod Solonas - Youthcoordinator@mlib.ca

Doris Kilba - Employmenttraining@mlib.ca

Letitia Woytkiw - Daycare2@mlib.ca

Crystal Lake - Daycare@mlib.ca



Aboriginal Infant Development Program & Strong Start Mackenzie

AIDP is a parent-attended program we have at MLIB Daycare held on Tuesdays and Thursdays aimed to make connections between the community of McLeod Lake and Mackenzie where the children would eventually attend kindergarten. Morfee Elementary School's Strong Start program is for children aged 0-5 years. They offer many learning toys and spaces to promote the connection of parents to each other and staff.

Community Kitchen Friday Mornings

from 10-12 we have a Community Kitchen where families can come to the daycare to create a meal with staff to take home to their families. This program helps parents on reserve interact and meet other families with children. The Community Kitchen program is growing, we incorporate parents' ideas into the meal planning. We often model healthy eating habits, the children are more apt to eat something they've never tried before when they see their caregivers eating the same foods.

Aboriginal-Supported Child Development

We assess through AIDP; children's needs and limitations. ASCD is a funding stream we have used to help our children in Morfee Elementary

School and SD57 get extra support staff. During the summer if children need extra support for school, speech therapy, swimming lessons, hearing/sight evaluations, and daycare help to bridge these gaps.

Aboriginal Head Start on Reserve

This program is Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 8:30 am-3:50 pm. This is a free program offered to children to connect them with indigenous learning, art materials and most importantly Elders who speak the Tse' Khene language. We are still currently looking for a Tse' khene Elder to come into daycare 3 days a week for this program from 1:30 pm -3:30 pm.

Community Garden

Our Community Garden was started in April 2021 and goes until the middle of October each year, when the harvesting of vegetables is completed. This year we had many successes harvesting and distributing our produce. The children and staff planted peas, peppers, beefsteak tomatoes, cherry tomatoes, stevia, peppermint, spearmint, mojito mint, parsley, celery, romaine lettuce, potatoes, onions and chives, blueberries, raspberries, blackberries, saskatoon berries, and grapes. All of the above foods were distributed amongst elders and daycare community members. We received \$20,000 in funding in 2021 for the creation of garden spaces, and maintenance over weekends and holidays.

Reading Program

We started a preschool reading program this September. The preschoolers will follow along with each story with their fingers on the words being said aloud, then repeat the words of the sentence after the educator has finished saying it. The books are short alphabet books focused on pronunciation of consonant, and vowel sounds. This activity promotes language development, and verbal sound recognition as well as promotes many primary sight words they will learn again in kindergarten.

Homework Books (x12) (IT, Preschool levels ABC)

The age-appropriate books teach children patterns, numbers, colours, and shapes, as well as large and small concepts. Working side by side with children we show them how to hold their pencils. We teach them to hold and cut with training scissors and teach them how to use wet and glue sticks. By modelling numbers and alphabet lines, we are able to show children where and what they may be looking for. Our walls at daycare are teaching tools often filled with posters of shapes numbers and learning concepts.





LANDS & STEWARDSHIP

Environmental Management Plan (EMP)

A virtual and in-person meeting of members took place on September 17, 2023, at the Courtyard by Marriott to discuss the preliminary draft of the Environmental Management Plan. The notes from the meeting were submitted to the Lands Advisory Board and Resource Center (LABRC), resulting in the completion of the third milestone for our funding arrangement. Land Management expects to meet with MLIB Staff and Administration, during the month of November, to review the second draft which members will also be welcome to attend.

MLIB Law to Deal with CP Lots & Land Expropriation

Land Management continues to work with Indigenous Services Canada, the LABRC, and the legal council to bring Certificate of Possession lots back to MLIB jurisdiction. The legacy of Certificate of Possession Lots dates back to the 1990s and remains problematic since the passing of the original owners. Land Management is hoping to see completion of this project in the first quarter of the new year.

Parcel Fabric Renewal

The Parcel Fabric Renewal Project has now received approval from the Surveyor General. The project corrected the placement of lot lines and will assist in planning for new developments.

Cemetery

The construction of the new cemetery is now complete thanks to collaboration between Land Management and Public Works. The Land Management Office is working on writing Tse'khene Cemetery Regulations, and taking referrals regarding cemetery mapping software.

IR 1 Animal Control Initiative

Land Management continues to work with Pet Owners to provide tools so community members have more control over pets within the IR 1 community. Using a grant that Land Management received from TDLP, we have implemented a Spay, Neuter, Vaccination and Dog Training Program. The MLIB Dog Control By-law, 2011, needs to be rewritten to include attainable animal control measures.



Supplemental feeding is a widespread technique used to benefit wildlife populations. Herd numbers had been declining for many years and MLIB Land Stewardship hoped supplemental feeding would help reverse that trend. The team began feeding caribou at Kennedy Siding in 2014. We provided caribou food in the form of dry pellets made from various grains and other plants that were highly nutritious and easily digestible. The Land Stewardship team fed from late October through early January, which was the time caribou typically occupied the pine forest of Kennedy Siding. The rest of the year those caribou live on the alpine and subalpine ridges to the north.



We used pictures from motion-activated trail cameras to identify each caribou based on its antler size and shape. Each caribou was provided with a number and a name. A memorable name helped us tell the caribou apart. Who could forget a caribou named Fuzz Butt, Ford F150, Droptine, Kahuna, Triceratops, Bag Lady, Certified Forklift Operator, Walrus, or Stuntman Mike?

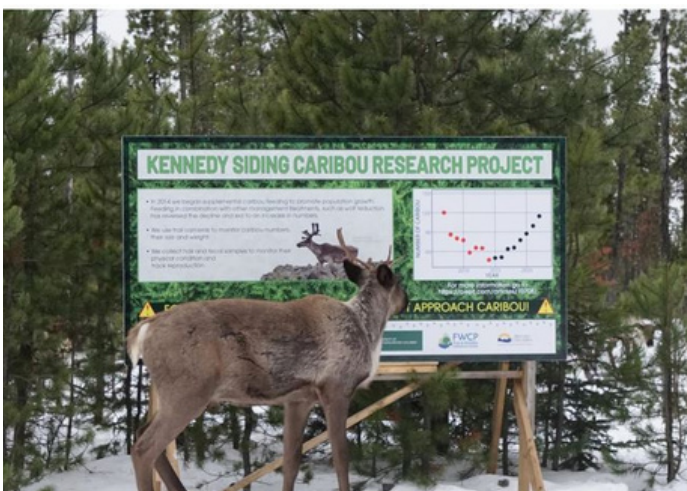
At the end of the season, Land Stewardship adds up all the caribou we have identified to get that year's herd count. Because caribou shed their antlers each year and the next year's new ones are not identical, Land Stewardship is required to repeat the counting process, starting from scratch again, every year.



During 9 years of feeding the herd increased from 49 to about 130 animals. Much of that increase was undoubtedly a result of a wolf removal program but feeding contributed to that increase.

In addition to counting animals, the department collects other information on these animals. When a caribou walks on an electronic platform scale, a camera takes its picture which includes a digital readout that displays its weight. From that picture, we can also calculate the caribou's height and antler length. Kennedy Siding caribou are among the heaviest caribou in the world. The biggest bulls weigh 260-270kg, 6kg of which is the weight of their antlers. Adult cows weigh about 130 kg.

Even with all the local and traditional knowledge and the new things we are learning from this supplemental feeding project, caribou still do things that surprise us. We have lots more to learn. What a dull world it would be if we knew all about caribou.



For live streaming visit the MLIB Wildlife website at
<https://mliwildlife.ca/live-cam/>

Forestry

Forest Licenses – Mackenzie and Prince George

MLIB's forest license holdings in Non-Treaty Provincial Lands are managed by Tse'Khene Timber Ltd., MLIB's timber operating company. Our current forest license holdings allow us to harvest 200,000 cubic meters of timber per year, which is enough to build more than 8000 homes! The band's forest license holdings are an asset that is managed in an ecologically responsible and sustainable manner, for the benefit of future generations.

Mackenzie Timber Supply Area

FL A96585 provides 100,000 m³ per year into perpetuity, and NRFL A98219 provides 500,000 m³ in a 5-year term. Dunkley Lumber Limited is working with the band on these licenses through a fibre management and purchase agreement, securing the harvesting rights for 750,000 cubic metres of timber. In exchange, Dunkley has agreed to pay MLIB \$18.75 Million Dollars (\$25 per cubic metre) for the use of this timber. Through the agreement, Dunkley is responsible for all pre and post-harvest activities on the licenses including silviculture. Harvesting on this license is continuing. To date, Dunkley has delivered approximately 500,000 cubic metres on this agreement, with another 250,000 metres to be harvested this coming Fall and Winter.

Prince George Timber Supply Area

FL A98534 will provide 100,000 m³ per year into perpetuity. A band council resolution was passed last year to accept the license, and we are still in talks with the province about the license operating conditions and geographic location.



Canfor Purchase

We are pleased to announce that MLIB's leadership has reached an agreement in principle with Canadian Forest Products (Canfor) to acquire half of their Replaceable Forest License in the Mackenzie Timber Supply Area.

This acquisition will secure a long-term and sustainable timber supply for the community, providing access to approximately 400,000 m³ of annual harvest volume within the Mackenzie Timber Supply Area.

There are still some steps to go through to finalize the transaction, such as a public review and comment process, and a consultation process with other First Nations who have asserted traditional rights and interests in the Mackenzie Timber Supply Area.

We expect to complete the purchase and transfer of the license by March 2024, barring any unforeseen delays or complications.

Forest Management Leadership:

The acquisition of Canfor, in addition to current forest license holdings, will make MLIB one of the biggest forest tenure holders in the interior. This leadership will enable our Nation to have more influence on how the forests within our traditional lands are managed, into the future.

Moreover, this leadership will create opportunities for our members, our band and member-owned businesses, and our partners to engage in forestry activities that are both environmentally sustainable and economically viable in the region.



Communications

MLIB APP Launch

We are thrilled to announce the upcoming launch of the MLIB mobile app. This user-friendly app is designed to streamline communication, providing our community members with quick access to important updates, events, and resources. We anticipate a launch date of mid-December, please stay tuned on our website and official social channels. The communications team will be hosting a training session the following day of the launch.

New Addition to the Team

In our commitment to making sure members are informed, we have welcomed Ken Solonas to our team. We are confident that his expertise will contribute significantly to our goal of effective and transparent communication within the MLIB community.

Social Media Engagement

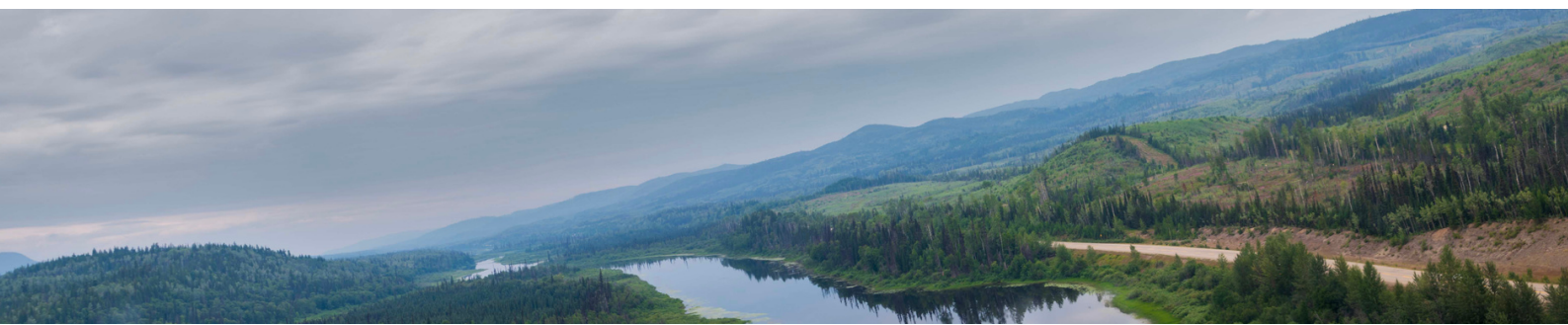
Our social media platforms continue to be vibrant spaces for community engagement. We have seen increased participation, with a particular focus on sharing department events.

Website Enhancement

The MLIB website has undergone updates for each department. Our goal is to ensure that all members can easily find the information they need. The website remains a main source of news, documents, and community updates.

Content

The communications team has partnered with each department and council to share quality images of the Nation. Councillor Jane Inyallie regularly contributes her photography. In this report, visuals were made possible thanks to a number of MLIB team members. If you would like to have your photography highlighted in our socials or upcoming reports, please contact communications@mllib.ca





MLIB FINANCIAL COMPETENCY

McLeod Lake Indian Band is striving to secure the First Nations Financial Management Board certification of band governance best practices and is seeking entry into Ingenious Services Canada's New Financial Relationship program which frees MLIB from Canada's oversight and control. In February 2021, the Council passed MLIB Financial Administration Law and has been developing governance policies that will improve the performance and integrity of MLIB Governance. Stemming from the Finance Administration Law are a number of policies that guide the Administration in following the Law in all of its financial dealings. These policies include:

Finance Policy and Procedures

In the final stages of development, this is a comprehensive policy that provides direction in every aspect of the operations of a finance department including the proper management, accounting of funds and transparency for members.

Financial Governance Policy and Procedures

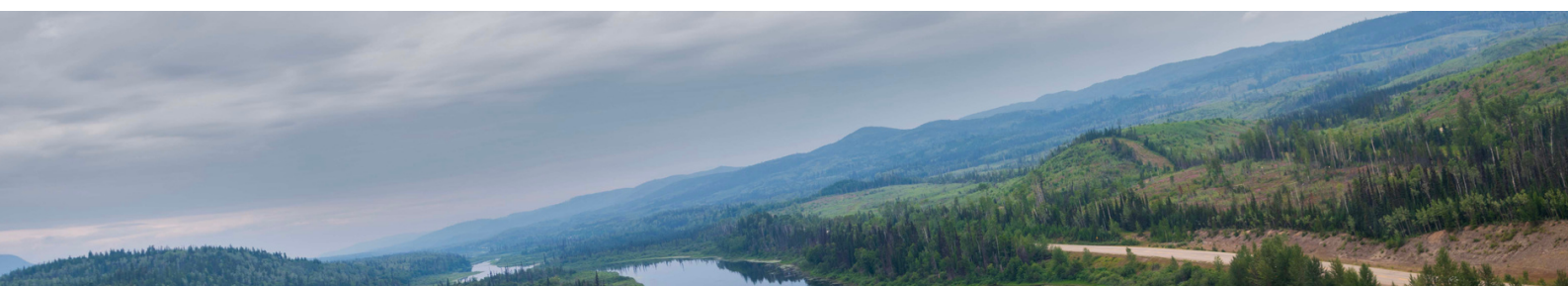
An approved policy that defines the responsibilities of the Chief, council and administration. This sets out the

delegation of authorities, defines code of conduct, conflict of interest, committee establishment, engaging auditors, and whistleblowing measures.

Information Management Policy and Guidelines

An approved policy that sets safeguards for technology, the management of information, and sets guidelines for privacy. Human Resources Policy and Guidelines This approved new policy outlines the roles of the Council and Administration in the hiring of staff. The existing Employee Policy guides the hire, compensation, hours of work, code of conduct and other personnel standards.

First Nations Financial Management Board has been working closely with the MLIB Council and Administration in the development and implementation of new policies. Administration staff will receive training and will be implementing the new measures. It is the goal of the Council to increase the effectiveness of our financial systems and qualify for Indigenous Services Canada's New Funding Relationship. We hope to be accepted in ISC's New Funding Relation starting in April 2024.



MEMBERSHIP AND ELECTION CODES

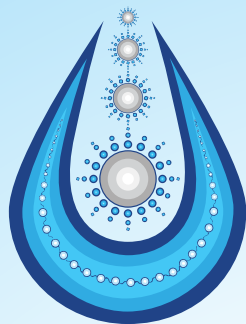
MLIB's Membership Code approved in 2004 has been suspended for the past 10 years pending amendment. The main issue is that persons who meet the eligibility set out in MLIB Custom Membership Code, 2004 may automatically become members of the band and enjoy all of its benefits without the acceptance of current MLIB membership. Referenda votes have been held on several occasions and all have failed.

While the majority of voters were in favour of the amendments, there were not enough voters to achieve the 50% voter turnout required. There are persons who should be allowed to join the Band but only with the blessing of the membership as a whole.

The MLIB Custom Election Code was approved by a simple majority in 2013. Times have changed and Code needs to keep up. An amendment is proposed that will entrench electronic voting in the code and correcting ambiguities including omissions from the current code.

The council has established two committees to finalize the proposed amendments by engaging with Membership. This will commence in January 2024. The date of the combined referendum is set for the AGA in the Annual General Assembly in August 2024.





**First Nations
Drinking Water**
SETTLEMENT

The Claims Period
has been extended to

March 7, 2024

Submit your claim at
FirstNationsDrinkingWater.ca

The claims process for individuals and Impacted First Nations in the First Nations Drinking Water Settlement is open. Impacted First Nations have until March 7, 2024 to accept the Settlement Agreement by submitting a Band Council Acceptance Resolution. The deadline for individuals to submit a claim is March 7, 2024.

This is the first drop in recognizing the communities impacted. See what claims process is right for you and access the online Claim Form at www.firstnationsdrinkingwater.ca

How do you know if you are eligible? You might be included in the settlement if you:

- are a member of a First Nation; and
 - were born before November 20, 1995 and lived on an Impacted First Nation that was under a drinking water advisory that lasted for a year or longer, between November 20, 2013, and June 20, 2021; or
- were born on or after November 20, 1995 and lived on an Impacted First Nation that was under a drinking water advisory that lasted for a year or longer, between November 20, 1995, and June 20, 2021.

The settlement also includes children, those under disabilities (someone who is unable to manage their affairs due to mental incapacity) and loved ones who passed away on or after November 20, 2017 (if they also meet the criteria above). Additional compensation may be available for those

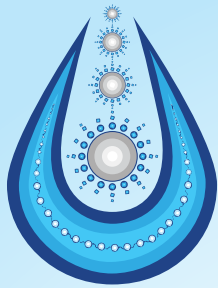
who

followed long-term drinking water advisories but still suffered Specified Injuries.

To learn more, visit www.firstnationsdrinkingwater.ca

If you would like to receive a paper copy of the Claim Form or have questions about making a claim, call the Administrator toll-free at **1-833-252-4220**.





First Nations Drinking Water SETTLEMENT

Wondering how much you might receive if you submit a claim to the **First Nations Drinking Water Settlement?**

Your individual compensation will be determined after the claim submission deadline. The possible ranges are based on the type of water advisory you experienced, the remoteness of your First Nation community (as outlined below), and the number of years you lived in the community.

Type of Water Advisory



Remote First Nations*



Non-Remote First Nations



Do not use



About \$2,000 per year



About \$2,000 per year



Do not consume



About \$2,000 per year



About \$1,650 per year



Boil water



About \$2,000 per year



About \$1,300 per year

**Remote First Nations are defined on the website*

Remember to submit your
claim by **March 7, 2024.**

For more information go to www.firstnationsdrinkingwater.ca
or call the Administrator toll-free at **1-833-252-4220.**

