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explore the possibility of engaging community members in a practical business training exercise, and more importantly, provide a constructive and productive past time. A community meeting was scheduled in order to meet with band members who are known in the community as artists and craftsman, but was also open to those band members who wish to learn how to do art. This initiative is still in the preliminary planning stages, however, we have secured the commitment from the Dog Hide River Gallery in Tisdale to host a show early in the new year. We applied for CDC funds to obtain some supplies, but we may have to wait until the next funding quarter to get approval.

The economic development program has “ an economic development fund policy and procedures” but it has been suggested that a community-based policy and procedures be developed specifically for the economic development committee, including terms of reference, and code of ethics. The fund policy does not really speak to committee structure and responsibilities.

The committee was provided with a copy of the Federal Framework for Aboriginal Economic Development to give committee members an idea of what kinds of things economic development involves and we will be exploring different possible approaches to grant funding, likely focusing on the lake front project.

The area of economic development will be challenging, but it is my intention to have activity within this portfolio area for the current fiscal year.

The other area that will require further discussion is the bison operation. The committee discussed this operation and will need further review. We did provide an update to the committee letting them know that this operation has been operating as a deficit for a few years now, and a decision will need to be made about whether to keep this operation going or look for an alternative business venture such as cattle. We will be inviting Joe Munroe of Heifer International to come to an economic development meeting to do a presentation on the organization he works for which involves community ventures such as cattle and bison. This is still work in progress and it has been challenging to find time with Joe Munroe, who is unable to schedule meetings during the day, but we hope this will happen very soon. This issue on Bison will be presented at the November community meetings.

We have worked diligently in trying to improve the road maintenance program at the community, and I am pleased to report that we have been able to purchase a road grader that has been much needed for the past several years. We also had an opportunity for a few of our band members to take training in heavy equipment operating, and it is our hope that with the skilled machine operators, our community roads will be improved.

## LANDS

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Since the signing of the Framework Agreement on First Nations Land management, twenty-seven First Nations have become operational under the First Nations Land Management Framework agreement, including Kinistin.

The Land Code, drafted and ratified by the community, is the basic land law of Kinistin and replaces the land management provisions of the *Indian Act*. The Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development is no longer involved in the management of the First Nation’s reserve lands.

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The Land Code provides for the following matters:

- Identifies the reserve lands to be managed by Kinistin;
- Sets out the general rules and procedures for the use and occupation of these lands by First Nation members and others,
- Provides financial accountability for revenues from the lands (except oil and gas revenues, which continue under federal law),
- Provides the procedures for making and publishing First Nation land laws,
- Provides conflict of interest rules,
- Provides a community process to develop rules and procedures applicable to land on the breakdown of a marriage,
- Identifies a dispute resolution process,
- Sets out procedures by which the First Nation can grant interests in land or acquire lands for community purposes,
- Allows the delegation of land management responsibilities,
- Sets out the procedure for amending the Land Code.

Recently, we participated in the First Nation Land Management benefits analysis study, conducted by KPMG of Ottawa as contracted by INAC. This study involved all First Nations operating under a Land Code and the purpose is to review the financial and operational requirements of these First Nations and hopefully we will get an extension of transitional funding. Through this process we also identified a need to obtain additional resources to enhance the current Lands Office, which is inadequately funded. We provided information on all components of Land Management including governance/regulations; environmental management; operational design, redesign and maintenance; relationship building; natural resources management; land use planning; negotiations; administration of transactions; financial management; monitoring, compliance and inspections; capacity building; and support services.

The Lands Committee had their first meeting under the new administration on August 19<sup>th</sup>. Information provided and discussed pertained to the Environmental Management Agreement, which is now in phase 2 and is work in progress. There was also a discussion on the Matrimonial Property law, which is in its final draft and can proceed for ratification. The committee will be reviewing this draft and will provide a request for ratification approval from council. The land code outlines all procedures and responsibilities for the administration of all land matters and the committee is currently studying the land code to ensure that they are knowledgeable about all the components of this law.

The Lands Advisory Board, which is the national organization for the First Nation Land Management Framework, will have their next regional meeting on September 28, 29, and 30<sup>th</sup> in Vancouver. The next national meeting will be held in November at Georgina Island in Ontario. The meeting for September 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup> has been postponed to a date likely in January 2010. The national meeting has also been postponed from October to an unknown date. The reason for the rescheduling is due to funding, according to the Lands Advisory Board.

Recently, the prairie regional representative seat became vacant for the Lands Advisory Board, and we have submitted a BCR nominating Chief Peter Nippi for this position. The National Meeting, where

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the election takes place, has been rescheduled to another date, but we haven't received the notice yet.

The committee was also provided with information on mapping and traditional territories. Although the Land Code deals specifically with land that is considered Kinistin reserve lands, there has always been an interest in traditional lands such as H-25, Pasquia/Porcupine, and Hudson Bay. There may be other areas as well, but at some point, we will need to do a traditional mapping exercise with Elders to ensure that we identify all areas that have been traditionally occupied by us for hunting, fishing, trapping, and gathering.

One issue that has been increasingly becoming problematic is the practice of SERM issuing permits to industries and corporations without meaningful consultation. Although letters have been written outlining our concerns to SERM, the practice continues. Industry and corporations have also been contacting us, likely to create the perception that they have provided us the opportunity to become informed about their projects. The strategy has been to ignore all correspondence and forward these to the legal counsel, who does respond by letter.

One alternative is to adopt the draft Protocol Agreement which would provide KSN and the Industry with a formal agreement to move forward on their plans, dealing directly with Industry and without SERM's involvement. This protocol was also presented to the Lands Committee for their review and subsequent adoption.

A generic response is being drafted which would outline and assert KSN's Treaty Rights as they pertain to hunting, fishing, and trapping, even on traditionally occupied lands. We have submitted several letters to different industries who have been issued permits by SERM, and we have notified them that any development on our traditional lands does have impacts on our hunting, fishing, trapping, and gathering rights. We have not received any responses to date, but we suspect they will take notice of our opposition to this development. We have begun working with other Treaty Four Bands on this initiative in the hopes of coming up with a joint strategy and unified approach to secure our interests on these traditional lands. The issue of Duty to Consult is very much a part of this process and continues to be a priority area. We have a Summit planned for November 30<sup>th</sup> in Kinistin and Chiefs from 13 other First Nations have been invited as well as technicians and advisors on this initiative.

Another file that we have begun working on is an Additions to Reserve file. This came to our attention when Saskatchewan Watershed Authority approached INAC for the use of water that is located on North West Section 08, Township 42, Range 15, W2M, a total of 158 acres. When INAC did the search for whether this was unoccupied Crown land, it discovered that Kinistin purchased this land in 1941. We have been in contact with INAC and are currently in the process of finding out whether a land exchange could be an option. The compensation offered by the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority in exchange for the water located on this parcel of land is \$100.00.

The land exchange option still requires further exploration as to whether we would be able to exchange for a parcel of land situated within or adjacent to an urban area. If this option is available, there could be potential benefits for KSN to have an urban land on reserve. We have held a meeting with the INAC technician for Additions to Reserve and found the requirements to have this addition

converted to reserve status. However, in light of the documented administrative oversight of INAC, we do not believe that this process applies to Kinistin since this parcel of land is already recognized as being a part of the reserve, according to the order in council.

## TIMBER CLAIM

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On August 15<sup>th</sup>, we contacted Monique Forget, the Senior Claims Analyst for specific claims in Ottawa. This was in response to correspondence we received notifying us of the lapse of the 6 month period in which to submit additional documentation for the timber claim. The claim was submitted and was quite thorough, so there is no real concern about this lapse. The letter also outlines the requirement to have a BCR in place identifying individuals to have access to this file. We informed Ms. Forget that the only individuals who should have access are Chief Peter Nippi, Bruce Slusar, and Jayme Benson from FSIN specific claims.

The timber claim is now in the assessment stage, which means that once the assessment is made, the file moves on to INAC Justice and by October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011, a decision will be made to either forward the claim for negotiation or it will be rejected. In discussions with Jayme Benson previously, the timber claim fits within all criteria as far as illegal surrender, so it will likely be accepted for negotiation. Ultimately, I guess we will have to wait and see what the decision will be. We will continue monitoring this file and will provide updates as received.

In closing, I look forward to continuing the important work ahead we have as council and it is my hope that we continue to foster the teamwork that is essential to our success as portfolio holder. I invite any council member to approach myself or Marlene on any of these initiatives for further discussion.

For your reference, I am including the committee member composition, upcoming meetings, and contact information for my portfolio areas.

We received additional correspondence from the Specific Claims Office but it is supplemental information for the claim and includes historical documentation on the timber claim.

In addition, the Ec Dev and Lands Committees have decided to combine the two portfolio areas and hold one meeting per month to deal with Economic Development and Lands Committees.

PORTFOLIO	Committee Members	STAFF AND CONTACT
<b>Economic Development</b>	Fred Lumberjack Ivan Severight Dennis Smokeyday Kyle Thomas Rodney Thomas Orvin Scott - Advisor	
<b>Lands</b>	Philip Cheekinev Dorrie Deaflad Angela Scott Delphine Smokeyday Earl Tom Randy Young Colin Smokeyday - Advisor	Marlene Lumberjack Office: (306) 878-8188 Ext. 229 Cell: (306) 886-7800 Email: <a href="mailto:mlumberjack@kinistin.sk.ca">mlumberjack@kinistin.sk.ca</a>
<b>Portfolio Holder Contact Info</b>	Rex Lumberjack Office: (306) 878-8188 Cell: (306) 873-1561 Email: <a href="mailto:rlumberjack@kinistin.sk.ca">rlumberjack@kinistin.sk.ca</a>	
UPCOMING MEETINGS		
<b>Economic Development</b>	September 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2009 – regular committee meeting October 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2009 – regular committee meeting November 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2009 – regular committee meeting December 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2009 – regular committee meeting January 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2010 – regular committee meeting February 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2010 – regular committee meeting March 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2010 – regular committee meeting	
<b>Lands Committee</b>	September 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2009 – regular committee meeting October 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2009 – regular committee meeting November 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2009 – regular committee meeting December 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2009 – regular committee meeting January 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2010 – regular committee meeting February 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2010 – regular committee meeting March 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2010 – regular committee meeting November 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2009 – Chiefs Summit on Duty to Consult/Traditional Lands	