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2001/2002 Year in Review Alberta Region



Canada



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Alberta First Nations Map

Treaty 8

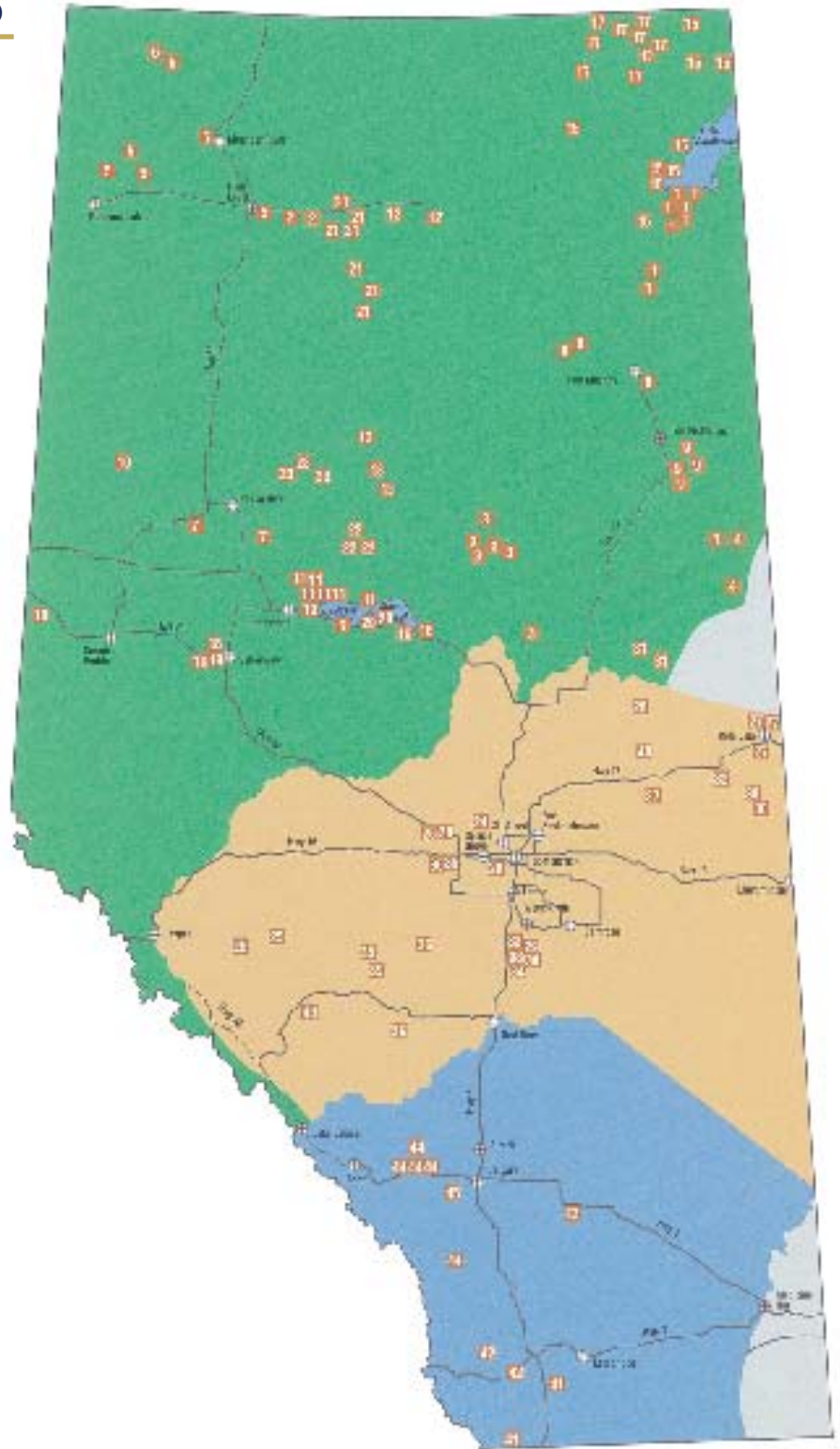
1. Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation
2. Beaver First Nation
3. Bigstone Cree Nation
4. Chipewyan Prairie First Nation
5. Dene Tha' First Nation
6. Driftpile First Nation
7. Duncan's First Nation
8. Fort McKay First Nation
9. Ft. McMurray First Nation
10. Horse Lake First Nation
11. Kapawe'no First Nation
12. Little Red River Cree Nation
13. Loon River First Nation
14. Lubicon Lake Indian Nation (No Reserve)
15. Mikisew Cree First Nation
16. Sawridge Band
17. Smith's Landing First Nation
18. Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation
19. Sucker Creek First Nation
20. Swan River First Nation
21. Tallcree First Nation
22. Whitefish Lake First Nation (Atikameg)
23. Woodland Cree First Nation

Treaty 6

24. Alexander First Nation
25. Alexis Band
26. Beaver Lake Cree Nation
27. Cold Lake First Nations
28. Enoch Cree Nation
29. Ermineskin Tribe
30. Frog Lake First Nation
31. Heart Lake First Nation
32. Kehewin Cree Nation
33. Louis Bull Tribe
34. Montana Cree Nation
35. O'Chiese First Nation
36. Paul First Nation
37. Saddle Lake First Nation
38. Samson Cree Nation
39. Sunchild First Nation
40. Whitefish Lake First Nation #128 (Goodfish)

Treaty 7

41. Blood Tribe
42. Piikani Nation
43. Siksika Nation
44. Stoney Tribe
 - Bearspaw
 - Chiniki
 - Wesley
45. Tsuu T'ina Nation





Message from the Minister

I welcome you to the Alberta Region of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada's **2001/2002 Year in Review**.

It is always a distinct pleasure for me to visit First Nations in the Alberta Region. In fact, it was at the Siksika Nation in April of 2001 that I launched the department's consultations on First Nations governance.

I chose Siksika Nation because it, like a number of other First Nations in Alberta, demonstrates good policies and practices in governance.

Across this country, there are other First Nations working just as hard towards the same goal: self-government. That is the intent of my proposed legislative changes - to give First Nations the tools so they can achieve the goals of self-government and self-sufficiency.

Alberta First Nations have also shown tremendous foresight in the area of economic development, through partnerships with Alberta's resource industries and through innovative projects.

I have great respect for Alberta's First Nations. They clearly demonstrate what can be achieved when all levels of government and the private sector work together for the good of First Nations people.

Robert D. Nault, P.C., M.P.
Minister, Indian Affairs and Northern Development

Message from the Regional Director General

As Regional Director General for the Alberta Region of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), it is again my pleasure to present the annual **Alberta Region Year in Review**.

The year 2001/2002 was again a very successful year in the Alberta Region. The region pursued its goal of working together with our partners to help create positive change in the lives of First Nations peoples.

As I have said on many occasions, I view my mandate on behalf of INAC as supporting strong First Nations communities and people.

As you read through this report, you will see that we have made significant progress in a number of areas this year and our collective efforts have created a solid foundation on which to build for the future.

The creation of the First Nations Relations directorates to serve First Nations in each of the three Treaty areas has improved our ability to work with each First Nation in a more comprehensive manner. However, we still have a lot of work to do and achieving our goals will continue to be a challenging, but rewarding, task.

The department has set out its eight priorities of First Nations governance, economic development, education,

social programs, claims and self-government, business line review, communications and northern development which, when taken together, will assist in achieving our goals.

This year, the former Strategic Planning, Policy and Intergovernmental Relations directorate (SPPIR) was divided into two new directorates - Claims and Indian Government (CIG) and Operational Program and Policy (OP2). We feel that this fine-tuning of the regional organizational structure has placed us in even a stronger position to support the departmental priorities and work in a more efficient and positive manner with our First Nations partners.

On behalf of the Alberta Region, I would like to thank all of you whose hard work contributed to making 2001/2002 noteworthy and whose day-to-day activities help support the goals and objectives of the region together with the departmental priorities.

Barrie Robb
Regional Director General



Claims and Indian Government

The new directorate of Claims and Indian Government (CIG) was especially busy this year, overseeing the completion and ratification of two major land claim settlements - the Cold Lake Air Weapons Range and Alexander Surrender Claims, which you will read about in more detail later.

In addition to these two major settlements, there are 14 other Alberta claims in negotiation. There are another 29 either under research review at the Specific Claims Branch or legal review at the Department of Justice.

The department's consultation initiatives on First Nations Governance also kept the directorate busy this year. A total of 78 consultation sessions and 16 information sessions were held with approximately 2,100 First Nation members. This amounted to approximately one quarter of the total number of participants in the consultation process across the country.

First Nations' involvement in the consultation initiative took many forms. Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta entered into a



First Nations Governance information booth

Get the facts on the proposed Governance legislation

- The proposed legislation will provide a framework for the development of First Nations governance structures.
- It will allow First Nations to develop their own governance structures, subject to approval by the federal government.
- It will provide a framework for the development of First Nations governance structures.
- It will provide a framework for the development of First Nations governance structures.
- It will provide a framework for the development of First Nations governance structures.
- It will provide a framework for the development of First Nations governance structures.

See for yourself.

The new representative proposed legislation and an information package are available at the following website: www150.ccg.ca or by calling 1-800-953-1543. For more information, contact the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development at indian@nrc.gc.ca.

Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development

First Nations Governance information

joint partnership with the regional office early in 2001 for consultation sessions focussed around the tribal councils. All five First Nations in Treaty 7 held consultation sessions with their members. Although no formal consultation sessions took place in Treaty 6, many information sessions were held.

Another major initiative involving the CIG directorate was the Alberta/Canada Partnership Forum. This forum was created to facilitate effective partnerships involving Aboriginal companies and communities, industry and relevant federal and provincial departments. The goal is to build and strengthen Aboriginal capacity, both individual and community, to participate in the mainstream economy.

The CIG directorate also oversees the Executive Directors Forum, where representatives of INAC talk directly to the executive directors of the three Treaty areas. This is a more efficient process, enabling INAC to deal directly with representatives of Alberta's Chiefs.

In addition, CIG was actively involved in self-government negotiations with the Blood Tribe. Initially, these self-government negotiations revolved primarily around the delivery of child welfare services and social assistance.

This fiscal year also saw the Estates and Trusts section of INAC Alberta come under the administrative jurisdiction of CIG. The Estates and Trusts section manages the estates of deceased status Indians on-reserve, as well as the trust accounts of minors and those on-reserve band members unable to manage their own accounts.



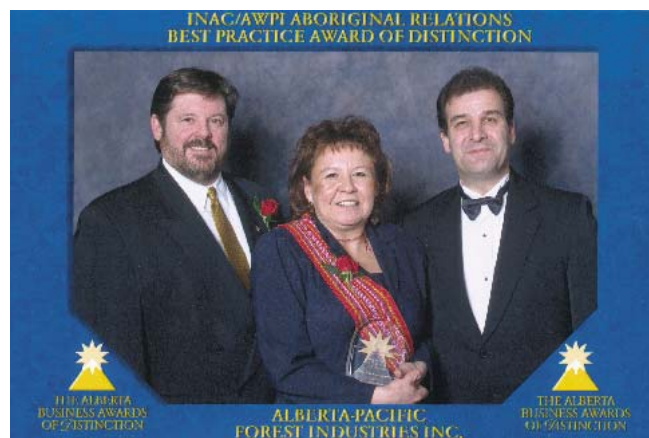
Operational Program and Policy

May 3, 2001 marked the beginning of an exciting year for a new directorate within INAC Alberta named Operational Program and Policy (OP2). It is responsible for coordinating the development and implementation of program and policy in the areas of social development, education, capital management and regional initiatives. OP2 is also responsible for the delivery of INAC Alberta's child welfare and economic development programs. The directorate facilitates and leads the region's implementation of many federal initiatives, providing analysis, advice and evaluation to support its relations with INAC headquarters, First Nations, other government departments and the private sector.

Social Development

INAC Alberta continued to strengthen its partnerships in social development. In 2001/2002, the joint INAC/First Nation Steering Committee allocated over \$1.6 million in Income Security Reform (ISR) funding for demonstration projects, testing innovative approaches to welfare reform. INAC Alberta and Alberta First Nations participated in regional and national workshops in ISR, providing input which will guide the design of an anticipated new policy framework for on-reserve income support in 2003.

In child welfare, Piikani Nation signed its trilateral child welfare agreement in September 2001 and later received its delegation in March 2002. In collaboration with the Province of Alberta, INAC Alberta also developed and presented a board governance training package for First Nation agencies in Treaty 8 administering child and family services programs.



Business Awards of Distinction gala winners

Education Review

2001/2002 was a busy year for the joint INAC/Treaty First Nation Education Review. Several steering committee and working group meetings were held. The Treaty area education review coordinators and researchers also met frequently to share and exchange information on the review and its progress. As well, each Treaty area concluded its community consultations and focus group meetings, analyzed the information gathered and identified preliminary recommendations.



ECAT 6 rig commemoration



Economic Development

First Nation business was stimulated with the work in OP2's economic development program in 2001/2002. Alberta Region had 22 economic development projects approved, many of which you will read about later, leading the country in support of large-scale First Nation business projects. INAC provided \$11 million in funding to leverage an additional \$35 million in dedicated funding to big business projects in the Alberta Region. Oil, gas and forestry negotiations were supported with the approval of 61 Resource Access Negotiation projects, along with the approval of 14 Resource Partnership Programs.

The economic development program continued to foster the promotion and recognition of First Nation businesses. The Aboriginal Workforce Participation Initiative (AWPI), in partnership with the Alberta Chambers of Commerce and INAC Alberta Communications, produced a two-page insert in the *Calgary Herald* highlighting the five nominees for the two economic development awards sponsored by INAC Alberta at the Alberta Business Awards of Distinction gala.

Tribal Council Review

In June 2001, Minister Nault announced a review of the tribal council funding policy. To ensure the accountability of tribal councils to its member First Nations, the review will look at the role, mandate and responsibilities of tribal councils. OP2 will lead this ongoing review in cooperation with the three Treaty directorates within INAC Alberta, tribal councils and First Nation organizations.

First Nation Water Management Strategy

Contributing to and promoting healthy and safe First Nation communities is a priority through the work of the Alberta Region First Nation Water Management Strategy. This strategy involves a risk assessment of all communal water and waste water systems in all applicable First Nations in the region. Follow-up has included ongoing discussions with First Nations on the assessment findings.

Implementing the strategy will include the preparation of a discussion paper, the establishment of a water management strategy team and a plan to address high and medium risk issues facing First Nation communities in Alberta.

Housing

OP2 continued to play a role in the "building" of First Nation communities in Alberta. This year, 265 new on-reserve housing units were constructed or purchased, with an additional 351 units receiving renovation. INAC Alberta also participated in the initial phase of the On-Reserve Housing Program Audit, conducted by the Office of the Auditor General.

First Nations Emergency Preparedness

The directorate coordinated a contract with Alberta Disaster Services to provide training and emergency disaster support services among First Nations in Alberta. Alberta Disaster Services officers assisted First Nations in dealing with numerous emergencies and disasters, helped prepare and train them through eight basic emergency preparedness courses and assisted them in updating emergency operation plans.

Looking Towards the Next Year in OP2

OP2 looks forward to providing continued policy and program advice and direction in many areas in the Alberta Region. The 2002/2003 fiscal year will see many new and ongoing opportunities in social development, education, capital, housing and economic development, for which OP2 hopes to achieve tangible results that contribute to improving the lives of First Nations people.



Communications and Executive Services

A major focus of Communications and Executive Services this year was the promotion of many Alberta First Nations' economic development success stories.

The directorate issued almost 20 news releases to Alberta media highlighting First Nation economic development projects that benefited from INAC funding.



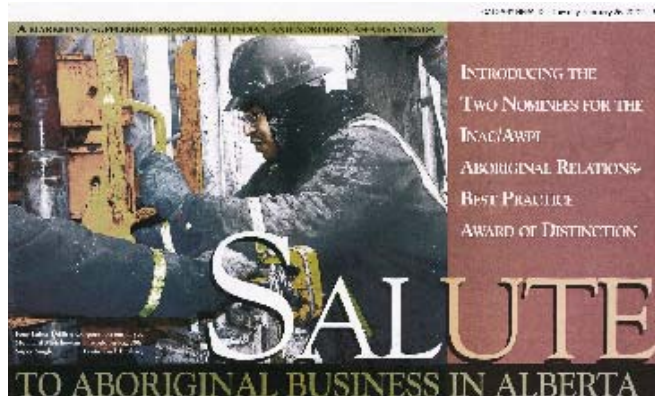
**Susan Aglukark,
National Aboriginal Day**

Communications also helped organize a "strategic outreach" session at the Palliser Hotel in Calgary, where private and Aboriginal business representatives were updated on INAC initiatives by senior management. INAC Minister Robert Nault was the keynote speaker at this function.

The directorate was also responsible for securing funding for an Aboriginal showcase in Edmonton during the World Track and Field Championships in July 2001.

Communications also continued to produce a number of publications, including a much-in-demand First Nations in Alberta directory, a 30-page annual report for the region delivered to First Nations, a special Alberta cut-out "Treaty Map" for use in classrooms, a newspaper insert promoting First Nations economic development success stories, the internal newsletter "RADAR" and a variety of advertisements promoting First Nations Governance legislation and other INAC initiatives.

In the area of public education, Communications and Executive Services continued to organize an INAC presence at a number of major fairs and conferences, including assisting in the organization of National Aboriginal Day activities at Canada Place in Edmonton. Aboriginal Awareness workshops for federal government employees in Edmonton were



Economic development newspaper insert

also organized by the directorate. Three outside Aboriginal contractors were hired to deliver INAC material to teachers and students in Alberta First Nation and non-First Nation schools.

On the Executive Services side, over 1,000 pieces of correspondence, signed by the Regional Director General, Associate Regional Director General and Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, were edited, processed and tracked. In addition, the unit also handled over 100 briefing notes and all of the logistics for each of the Minister's three trips to the region.

On the Communications side, over 100 media calls were handled. Over 60 speeches and presentations were prepared for senior management and the Minister. In addition, the Communications and Executive Services directorate also prepared numerous QP cards and communications issue sheets for use by the Minister and INAC senior management at headquarters.



National Aboriginal Day



Corporate Services



Margaret So with Carey Matthews, Director, Corporate Services, at employee appreciation luncheon

Building on previous pilot activities, fiscal year 2001/2002 completed the first operational year of the department's integrated financial system called OASIS. Benefiting from our dedicated and skilled staff, INAC Alberta overcame significant implementation issues to be nationally recognized for best practices in the provision of support services and resource management.

In addition, two employees were presented with awards for their achievements. Margaret So received the regional 2001/2002 Forbes/Warkentin Memorial Award, recognizing quality of service, dedication and growth. Parminder Gill received the Deputy Minister's Outstanding Achievement Award 2001/2002, along with four other Alberta region staff, for her role on the Persons with Disabilities Committee.

The Corporate Services team was also recognized with "best theme" and "best presentation", which highlighted the support services and operations of the directorate, at the regional staff Leadership & Learning Fair.

High levels of activity were maintained in each of the directorate's units including: Financial Allocation & Transfer Payments; Accounting Operations; Data Collection, Processing & Analysis; Records Services; Internal Services; Process & Methods; Informatics; Band Audits & Allegations Management and Administration & Reception Services.

Human Resources

The Human Resources directorate continued to be very active in all aspects of human resources management within the Alberta Region. The directorate, while responsible for a full range of human resource services to management and employees within the regional office, also provides compensation services to Indian Oil and Gas Canada.

This past year included significant resources devoted to labour relations with respect to the Public Service Alliance strike during the summer.

As well, the Pay Equity project, which demanded a significant and cooperative effort on the part of the Compensation unit for some years, continued to demand resources to handle residual pay equity issues such as interest payments. Compensation staff were recognized nationally, earning a Deputy Minister's Outstanding Achievement Award for their efforts.

The regional Leadership and Learning initiatives, co-ordinated within Human Resources, assisted staff in developing the department's six leadership competencies and observing the eight departmental core values. The initiatives support the evolution of a continuous learning environment.

The region's human resource planning efforts continue to address issues of recruitment and retention, as well as achieving and maintaining employment equity goals.



Leadership and Learning Guide



Message from Treaty 6 Grand Chief

Tansi. It is my pleasure to include a few words in the **Alberta Region Year in Review** on behalf of the Confederacy of Treaty 6 First Nations Chiefs & Councils.

In this past year, we have developed a good working relationship with INAC, particularly First Nations Relations. I would like to commend Treaty 6 Director Victor Houle, primarily, in the area of communication that is a basic element in building relationships and is key to gaining trust from First Nations peoples. I am confident that my successor, Grand Chief Danny Bradshaw, will continue the productive partnership developed over the years with INAC staff.

This past year marked the 125th commemoration of the signing of Treaty No. 6 between Her Most Gracious Queen Victoria of Great Britain and Ireland and the Chiefs and Headmen of Treaty No. 6 territory. The honourable event took place at the Fort Pitt historical site and allowed us to reflect on the importance of Treaties to First Nations peoples and to view what the future may hold for generations to come.

The commemoration of the signing of Treaty No. 6 is the premise and foundation on which the Treaty 6 bilateral process is built and we continue to utilize this main table to engage in exploratory discussions relating to the Treaty. The bilateral team, both First Nations representatives and federal representatives, have worked very hard on coordinating the 125th commemorative activities and I commend them on their hard work to make it a success.

We were pleased to see Minister Robert Nault visit Treaty 6 territory on two separate occasions this past year and commend him on his dedication and commitment in the area of economic development so that First Nations in Alberta

play an important role in Alberta's strong economy. This past year has seen many successes and economic development was certainly at the forefront for many of the Treaty 6 First Nations, with successful individual ventures and partnerships with Alberta's private business sector.

We remain committed to developing and maintaining a strong relationship with INAC Alberta Region and other levels of government. The efforts of the Alberta Region of INAC to develop open and clear lines of communication are beginning to show tangible results that could only enhance the link between Treaty 6 First Nations leaders and the Government of Canada.

It is my desire that we continue down this road together as we tackle many of the challenges facing Treaty 6 First Nations and the leaders of Treaty 6 First Nations continuously pursue a degree of excellence in all areas in order to fully enhance the quality of life of First Nations peoples – for it is they that we serve as well as future generations to come.

Grand Chief Eric Gadwa



Treaty 6 Highlights



Treaty 6 125th Commemoration, Fort Pitt

Treaty 6 members commemorated the 125th anniversary of the signing of Treaty 6 this year. Ceremonies were held at Fort Pitt and Onion Lake, Saskatchewan in September 2001.

In his address at the closing ceremonies on September 9, INAC Alberta Associate Regional Director General George Arcand Jr. said: "Honouring the signatories of Treaty 6 allows us to see our common origins and to more clearly see a future of equality, understanding and respect. I would encourage you to continue coming to these kinds of celebrations for you will begin to see how the Treaty is not just an old piece of parchment. It is a living, breathing part of our people and always will be."

Minister's Visits

Minister Nault made two visits to Treaty 6 territory during fiscal year 2001/2002. In August 2001, the Minister visited the Kehewin Cree Nation, where he cut a ribbon for the Kehewin Greenhouse and visited the community. The greenhouse produces high quality tomatoes that are sold to major grocery chains. He also used the occasion to announce federal funding of \$1.1 million for the ECAT 6 project that assisted the Kehewin, Frog Lake, Cold and Heart Lake Nations in purchasing and operating a natural gas and oil drilling rig in partnership with Precision Drilling Corporation and the former Alberta Energy Company.

The Minister visited the Ermineskin Tribe as part of the August trip, where he participated in a traditional sweat

lodge with the Chief and Elders. He also visited the Samson Cree Nation where he had lunch with Samson Chief and Council, toured the community and visited the Nipishkopahk Secondary School.

A short visit to the Alexis Band also occurred in March 2002, where the Minister announced his support for the Treaty 6 Education Review.

Economic Development

Treaty 6 territory was the most active Treaty area in terms of economic development projects in 2001/2002. INAC Alberta issued 14 news releases this year highlighting economic development projects in Treaty 6 which benefited from the department's economic opportunity fund. These projects included:

Alexis Band - joint venture with Auburn Energy Ltd. of Calgary in a 50/50 Band/private sector venture to drill and produce oil and gas on the Alexis Reserve.

Saddle Lake and Whitefish (Goodfish Lake) First Nations - partnered with Auburn Energy Ltd. of Calgary in a First Nation/private sector venture to drill and produce natural gas on their reserves.



Minister's visit, Kehewin Cree Nation



Heart Lake First Nation - this First Nation, along with five others (Beaver Lake, Goodfish Lake, Kehewin, Cold Lake and Frog Lake), entered the bison industry, acquiring a herd of 100 wood bison from Elk Island National Park. This venture included a bull breeding operation, cow/calf operation and meat marketing.

Ermineskin Tribe - with the assistance of \$100,000 in federal funding, the Tribe is developing and operating an arts and crafts gallery in the town of Hobbema.

Sunchild First Nation - Sunchild Bison Company Ltd. purchased a herd of approximately 200 plains bison with plans to equip two sections of land with handling facilities and fencing to operate a combined breeding/cow-calf ranch. Federal funding also assisted the First Nation in constructing and operating a 1,500 square foot, community-owned convenience store and gas bar on-reserve.

Cold Lake First Nations - Primco Dene Catering Ltd., wholly owned by Cold Lake First Nations, is expanding services provided to the former Alberta Energy Company at the Foster Creek Steam Assisted Gravity Drainage Project. In addition to the camp and catering services presently provided, Primco Dene Catering Ltd. negotiated contracts to add emergency medical transport units, courier, fuel supply and to provide security services.

Blue Quills Reserve - federal funding of \$1 million was announced to assist Blue Quills Reserve in expanding its long-term economic development opportunities.

Land Claims

Two major land claims were ratified by band membership in Treaty 6 this year. Members of the Cold Lake First Nations overwhelmingly ratified an agreement that saw \$25.5 million in cash compensation, additional reserve land and access agreements to the Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range, which straddles the Alberta/Saskatchewan border. This agreement compensated members for their lack of access to traditional territory, as a result of the establishment of the Air Weapons Range.

Members of the Alexander First Nation also ratified a land claim agreement. The federal government compensated the First Nation \$63 million for the illegal surrender of land adjacent to the reserve in 1905.

Frog Lake School Opening

One of the major capital projects completed this year was the Chief Napawewaw Comprehensive School at Frog Lake First Nation. At the opening ceremonies held on November 2, 2001, INAC Regional Director General Barrie Robb said: "This beautiful building will serve the community for many years. Integrating a traditional Cree symbolic design with modern and functional architecture, it will surely leave a lasting impression on each student that comes through the doors."

Treaty 6 Education Review

Chiefs in Treaty 6 are leading a technical team reviewing education programs. Recommendations from the review will support the establishment of an improved policy, funding and accountability framework for education programs. The critical recommendation is a need to establish broad-based education systems.



Message from Treaty 7 Chief

On behalf of the Treaty 7 Chiefs, it is my pleasure to report on the continuing progress each tribe has made in the 2001/2002 fiscal year.

This fiscal year was very busy, interesting and challenging to say the least. On April 30, 2001, Minister Nault announced the new First Nations Governance process at the Siksika Nation in Treaty 7 territory. In addition, each tribe continued to move forward in the areas of economic development, social issues, day-to-day tribal government and more.

Throughout all of our activities, transparency and accountability to membership continues to be more and more important. Our people's expectations, not only to be informed by leadership, but to provide input into decisions affecting their communities, is growing rapidly. I believe the key to transparency and accountability is communication. Therefore, each tribe must strive to communicate with its members in every possible way available to us as well as strive to develop new, innovate means of communication.

Minister Nault also made a further commitment in 2001/2002 to assist First Nations through increased economic development programs on-reserve to improve living conditions for our membership. This was evident through several announcements on different projects within First

Nations reserves. We thank Minister Nault for his commitment to improving the lives of First Nation people across Canada.

We are also very proud of St. Mary's Projects Ltd., wholly owned by Blood Tribe, for winning the *Eagle Feather Business Award of Distinction* presented at this year's Alberta Business Awards of Distinction gala, hosted by the Alberta Chambers of Commerce. This award recognizes a First Nation-owned business that demonstrates outstanding achievement and incorporates entrepreneurial and cultural concepts into its operations.

On behalf of the Treaty 7 First Nations, I thank Barrie Robb and Sandi Williams and their staff for their continued support and excellent service to our people. I look forward to continue working with INAC on all of the issues affecting First Nations.

Chief Chris Shade





Treaty 7 Highlights

First Nations Governance

On April 30, 2001, INAC Minister Robert Nault launched the First Nations Governance initiative at Siksika Nation in Treaty 7 territory. Every First Nation in Treaty 7 went on to host numerous consultation meetings, as did neighbouring colleges, universities and Friendship Centres.

With the completion of the pre-legislation phase, 50 consultation meetings were hosted by the seven bands of Treaty 7. Approximately 1,500 people participated in the consultation process, which represented approximately 75 per cent of the entire number of participants throughout Alberta.

Land Manager Excels

In February 2002, Yvonne Provost, the Land Manager for the Piikani (formerly Peigan) Nation, was honoured in Toronto at the 1st Annual National Aboriginal Lands Managers Association Achievement Awards. Of a possible seven awards presented, Yvonne received three.

Chiniki Community Action Centre

In December 2001, Chief Aaron Young of the Chiniki Band officiated at the Grand Opening of the Chiniki Community Action Centre.

The Chiniki Centre will serve as the site for delivery of the Chiniki Community Action Plan (CAP). The primary goal of CAP is to aggressively assist band members develop personal career paths and then assist them achieve their goals through planning and motivation.



St. Mary's Projects



Piikani Weather Dancer I

Piikani Weather Dancer I

On October 11, 2001, approximately 200 people gathered on a very windy hill, atop the Piikani Reserve, to witness the ribbon cutting for Weather Dancer I. After 20 years of research, hard work and determination, the Piikani Nation finally saw their vision become reality - an abundant renewable resource, wind, being used to benefit Piikani residents environmentally, socially and economically.

Weather Dancer I, which can literally be seen for miles, consists of a single 900 KW turbine and can generate 2,960 megawatt hours of electricity each year. Not only will this project meet the electrical needs of 450 households, but this low impact generation program will offset the equivalent greenhouse gas emissions of 17,500 cars per year.

Alberta's biggest wind turbine consists of three blades with a rotor diameter exceeding 150 feet and a tower well exceeding 200 feet. When standing beside the giant wind turbine, it is truly an impressive structure.



1ST Annual Kainaiikiiks Women's Conference

In 2001, the Kainaiikiiks Secretariat was created because of a concern that women were not actively involved in the planning process of the Blood Tribe. Another significant step was realized when Chief and Council agreed to support the secretariat to organize and host the 1st Annual Kainaiikiiks Women's Conference.

In February 2002, an extremely successful two-day conference was held at the University of Lethbridge. An average of 350 participants attended the conference each day with topics including the **First Nations Governance Act**, education and public relations, among others.

Blood Tribe Transparency Initiatives

The following summarizes two more good governance practices implemented by Blood Tribe:

Treaty 7 Communications Workshop

During the 2001/2002 fiscal year, Blood Tribe co-ordinated and hosted the first ever Treaty 7 Communications Workshop. In attendance were representatives of the seven bands of Treaty 7 who are involved in on-reserve newspaper/radio activities. As a direct result of this workshop, ongoing networking of Treaty 7 communicators continues, enhancing awareness among all First Nation members throughout Treaty 7.

Matrix Information System

Through the efforts of Public Affairs Officer Rick Tailfeathers, Blood Tribe now boasts an internal communications system perhaps unique to all First Nations throughout Canada.

Television monitors are located throughout the Blood Tribe administrative buildings to update members of community bulletins or play video tapes of present/past Council meetings. It is very impressive to enter Blood's Shot Both Sides Administrative Building and see a gathering of Elders watching a Council meeting or community event on one of the many monitors. Not only does it make information sharing more accessible, but it also increases the sense of community and provides many networking opportunities.

1ST Annual Blackfoot Confederacy Conference

The Blackfoot Confederacy was officially reunited on May 25, 2000 when the Chiefs from Blood Tribe, Piikani Nation, Siksika Nation and South Peigan of Browning, Montana, U.S.A. signed a Declaration of Siksikatsiitapi. Subsequent to this signing, the 1st Annual Blackfoot Confederacy Conference took place in Calgary from June 18-20, 2001.

With 300 delegates in attendance, topics of discussion included border crossing, cultural repatriation, economic development and the need to create a stronger, more united Blackfoot voice. George Arcand Jr., Associate Regional Director General, Alberta Region, provided opening comments, while Premier Ralph Klein was the keynote speaker on the final day.



Economic Development

Alberta Region Economic Development helped fund a number of projects in Treaty 7 territory in 2001/2002. In addition, the *Eagle Feather Business Award of Distinction*, that recognizes a First Nations-owned business that demonstrates outstanding achievement and incorporates entrepreneurial and cultural concepts into its operation, was awarded to St. Mary's Projects Ltd. (SMP), wholly owned by the Blood Tribe. The award was presented by Minister Nault at the Alberta Business Awards of Distinction gala in Calgary on February 28, 2002.

Since 1997, SMP has undertaken 15 major projects worth approximately \$56 million, with about \$6 million in contracts flowing directly to the company. In the process, they have employed 375 Blood Tribe members who have collectively earned more than \$3 million in wages.

Capital Projects

The following capital projects were completed in Treaty 7 territory in the 2001/2002 fiscal year:

- Blood Tribe completed construction of the new Whoop Up Water Treatment Plant. This plant uses a slow sand filtration process to provide treated water to a rural water distribution system and truck fill station;
- The Piikani Nation completed construction of the Brocket Water Treatment Plant. This plant uses a full treatment process to provide treated water to the Brocket townsite, a rural distribution system and truck fill station. The Nation also completed an update of their Waste Transfer Station Feasibility Study, a vital planning document that identifies alternate landfill operations as the current landfill nears capacity;
- The Siksika Nation completed design and tendering for the new West Siksika Regional Water Treatment Plant;
- In August 2001, Siksika Nation also celebrated the completion of the upgrade to its sewage system. This \$1.4 million INAC/Siksika cost-shared project involved the construction of aeration cells, a new sewage lift station at South Siksika, a new utility building to house aeration equipment, upgrading of the drainage outfall ditch and construction of an emergency power generator;
- The Stoney Tribe completed construction of the new Morley Water Treatment Plant. This plant uses a full treatment process to provide treated water to the Morley townsite and truck fill station. Major repairs and renovations were also completed to the Morley Community School gymnasium and the Eden Valley Arena; and
- The Tsuu T'ina Nation completed the replacement of the Chula Elementary School's roof.



Message from Treaty 8 Grand Chief

As the Grand Chief for Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta, I am pleased to offer a few words on behalf of the Treaty 8 (Alberta) Chiefs.

First, I'd like to welcome Mel Beaver as the new Director of Treaty 8 First Nations Relations for the Alberta Region. It's great to see a Treaty 8 citizen fulfilling that position.

This year has proven to be yet another extremely busy year. We carried on the vision of our forefathers in ensuring that the "true spirit and intent" of Treaty No. 8 was kept. We continued to identify issues that affect our Treaty and, in doing so, worked in partnership with the Alberta Region office of INAC on a number of initiatives – new and continuing.

Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta monitored the developments of the First Nations Governance (FNG) Process – Phase I. A number of discussion sessions were held with community members and organizations.

The Treaty 8 Bilateral Process was strengthened through the establishment of an Executive Chief's Committee. They will

oversee a review and revamping of the organizational framework as it is related to the Treaty 8 Bilateral Process. There have been various meetings with Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta and INAC that have resulted in the development of jointly drafted working agreements.

Work was also jointly undertaken between Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta and the Alberta Region in hosting a Treaty 8 (Alberta) Band Administrator's Workshop, Elder's Gathering and Income Security Reform Workshop.

We are looking forward to another great year and hope to continue to strengthen our working relationship with the Alberta Region office of INAC for the betterment of our citizens.

Grand Chief Clyde Goodswimmer





Treaty 8 Highlights

Treaty 8 territory was a hub of activity throughout 2001/2002. INAC Alberta and Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta continued to work closely with one another and adjusted quickly to leadership changes within both organizations. Within Treaty 8, Chief Clyde Goodswimmer, from Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, was elected Grand Chief and Theresa Campiou became the new Executive Director. As



First Nations Governance discussion meeting

well, Treaty 8 appointed Harold Cardinal as the lead negotiator in the bilateral process. Within INAC Alberta, Melvin Beaver, from Bigstone Cree Nation, was appointed Director of Treaty 8 First Nation Relations.

First Nations Governance Joint Initiative

INAC Alberta and Treaty 8 collaborated on a FNG workplan throughout the summer during Phase I of the FNG initiative. As a result, approximately 26 FNG discussion meetings were held throughout Treaty 8 territory.

Band Administrator's Workshop

In December 2001, INAC Alberta and Treaty 8 jointly hosted a two-day Treaty 8 Band Administrator's Workshop. The workshop was an opportunity to update administrators on the various activities of the federal government and Treaty 8. Topics included tendering policy, contract/employment law, economic development, education review and proposal writing. Another workshop is being planned for 2002/2003.

Bilateral Process

This year, there was a renewed commitment to the Treaty 8 bilateral process. Treaty 8 established an Executive Chief's Committee to oversee and promote the process. The com-

mittee, comprised of Grand Chief Frank Halcrow, Chief Archie Cyprien and Grand Chief Bernie Meneen, represent Treaty 8 on a Joint Senior Official's Committee (JSOC), organized to address the bilateral process. Associate Deputy Minister Marie Fortier, Assistant Deputy Minister Michel Roy and Alberta Regional Director General Barrie Robb were appointed to represent INAC on the committee.

In addition, both INAC and Treaty 8 met frequently to work on concepts and agreement requirements for the bilateral. A "visioning" workshop was held in February 2002 with Elders, Chiefs and senior INAC officials in an effort to revitalize and share the vision for the process. By year end, substantial progress had been made toward negotiating framework agreements.

Elder's Gathering

For the second year, Kapawe'no First Nation co-hosted a gathering of Elders from Treaties 6, 7 and 8. The Seventh Generation Elder's Gathering, sponsored in part by INAC Alberta, dealt with a number of issues facing Elders and their communities in Alberta. Issues discussed included FNG, firearms legislation, Treaty rights, protection of land and resources, health and policing.



Elder's Gathering



Deputy Minister's Visit

Deputy Minister Marc Lafrenière made his first official visit to Alberta in November to meet with industry representatives and Athabasca Tribal Council Chiefs in Fort McMurray. His visit included a helicopter fly-over tour of various oil and gas sites in the area.

Education Policy Review

INAC Alberta worked with the Treaty 8 Tribal Council Education Director's Committee on the Joint First Nations/INAC Education Policy Review. Activities included identifying the review process and reviewing and approving a workplan.

Income Security Reform Workshop

Treaty 8, with funding from INAC Alberta, organized an Income Security Reform (ISR) workshop in March 2002 for all three Treaty areas. Participants reviewed the draft INAC/AFN/ISR National Policy Framework to provide feedback to INAC and AFN officials. Representatives from other First Nations in Canada made presentations on successful ISR projects in their communities.

Economic Development

Business was booming in Treaty 8 this year with a number of economic development projects receiving funding from INAC Alberta. Projects worth note included:

Mikisew Cree First Nation - \$400,000 in federal funding for an expansion of their Super 8 Motel. The project totalled more than \$2.6 million.

Smith's Landing First Nation - a federal investment of \$100,000 to assist them in investigating alternative energy sources from water turbines in the Slave River. The First Nation hopes to eventually provide electricity to industry players in the area.

In addition, a Treaty 8 Aboriginal business was honoured with a nomination for the *Eagle Feather Business Award of Distinction* by the Alberta Business Awards of Distinction nominating committee. The nominee, Fort McKay Enterprises Ltd., located in Fort McMurray, is a provider of emergency medical services and emergency response services.

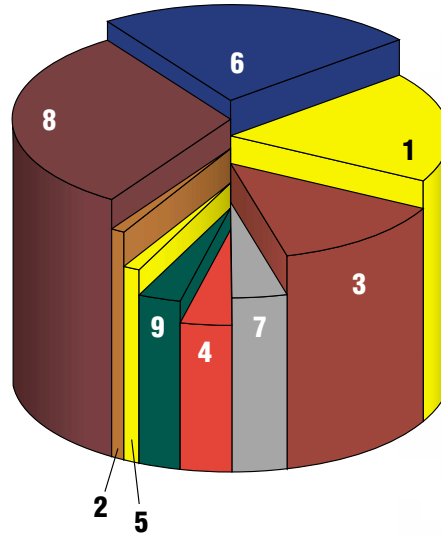




2001/2002 Year in Review – Financial Reports

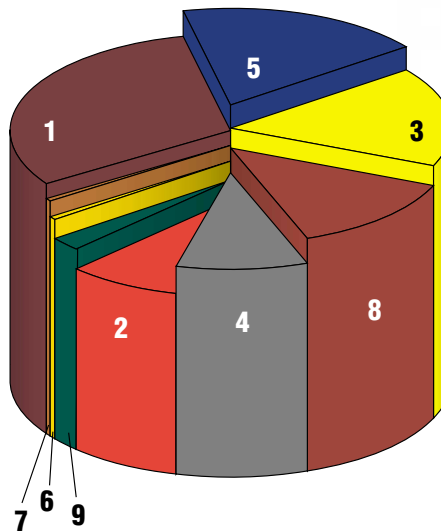
Regional Expenditure Breakdown

1. Education	\$105,623,200
2. Economic Development	5,873,159
3. Capital & Facilities Maintenance	73,394,674
4. Indian Government Support	21,425,139
5. Lands & Trust Services	6,985,103
6. Social Development	132,880,777
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Total Regional Expenditures	\$346,182,052
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7. Gathering Strength	22,914,472
8. Financial Transfer Agreements	176,399,746
9. Administration	17,886,918
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Total	\$563,383,188



Gathering Strength Regional Expenditure Breakdown

1. Education Reform	\$7,062,000
2. Welfare Reform	1,917,931
3. Water & Sewer	3,823,067
4. Housing	2,208,550
5. Economic Development	4,154,077
6. Reorientation of Self Government	130,000
7. Aboriginal Representative Organizations	112,500
8. Professional Development	2,971,352
9. Resource Access Negotiations	534,995
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Total	\$22,914,472





INAC Facts & Figures

Indian Registration 2001

BAND	SEX	Total Population	Total on Reserve	Total on Crown Land	Off Reserve
TOTAL	M & F	87,703	55,361	2,685	29,657
	Male	43,160	28,100	1,341	13,719
	Female	44,543	27,261	1,344	15,938
Treaty 6 Central Alberta	M & F	34,172	23,995	210	9,967
	Male	16,788	12,079	94	4,615
	Female	17,384	11,916	116	5,352
Treaty 7 Southern Alberta	M & F	23,223	17,869	4	5,350
	Male	11,413	9,013	1	2,399
	Female	11,810	8,856	3	2,951
Treaty 8 Northern Alberta	M & F	30,308	13,497	2,417	14,340
	Male	14,959	7,008	1,246	6,705
	Female	15,349	6,489	1,225	7,635

2000

BAND	SEX	Total Population	Total on Reserve	Total on Crown Land	Off Reserve
TOTAL	M & F	85,373	53,641	2,904	28,828
	Male	41,982	27,177	1,477	13,328
	Female	43,391	26,464	1,427	15,500
Treaty 6 Central Alberta	M & F	33,139	23,323	210	9,606
	Male	16,257	11,711	93	4,453
	Female	16,882	11,612	117	5,153
Treaty 7 Southern Alberta	M & F	22,666	17,770	4	4,892
	Male	11,131	8,966	1	2,164
	Female	11,535	8,804	3	2,728
Treaty 8 Northern Alberta	M & F	29,568	12,548	2,690	14,330
	Male	14,594	6,500	1,383	6,711
	Female	14,974	6,048	1,307	7,619

1999

BAND	SEX	Total Population	Total on Reserve	Total on Crown Land	Off Reserve
TOTAL	M & F	82,699	52,079	2,709	27,911
	Male	40,618	26,428	1,356	12,834
	Female	42,081	25,651	1,353	15,077
Treaty 6 Central Alberta	M & F	32,201	22,696	202	9,303
	Male	15,794	11,409	86	4,299
	Female	16,407	11,287	116	5,004
Treaty 7 Southern Alberta	M & F	22,075	17,357	4	4,714
	Male	10,841	8,772	1	2,068
	Female	11,234	8,585	3	2,646
Treaty 8 Northern Alberta	M & F	28,423	12,026	2,503	13,894
	Male	13,983	6,247	1,269	6,467
	Female	14,440	5,779	1,234	7,427



Grade 12 – Enrollment & Graduates Summary

Treaty 6	1998/1999	1999/2000	2000/2001	2001/2002
Enrollments:	232	241	319	353
Graduates:	38	43	37	47
(%):	16%	18%	12%	13%
Treaty 7	1998/1999	1999/2000	2000/2001	2001/2002
Enrollments:	286	323	331	371
Graduates:	54	70	66	77
(%):	19%	22%	20%	21%
Treaty 8	1998/1999	1999/2000	2000/2001	2001/2002
Enrollments:	128	116	115	116
Graduates:	23	17	35	34
(%):	18%	15%	30%	29%

Post Secondary – Enrollment & Graduates Summary

Treaty 6	1996/1997*	1997/1998*	1998/1999	1999/2000	2000/2001
Enrollments:	1,348	1,414	1,237	945	1,119
Graduates:	145	152	143	117	148

*includes Inuit students supported by Alberta Region Post-Secondary Program

Treaty 7	1996/1997	1997/1998	1998/1999	1999/2000	2000/2001
Enrollments:	997	842	1129	795	872
Graduates:	97	68	71	48	64

Treaty 8	1996/1997	1997/1998	1998/1999	1999/2000	2000/2001
Enrollments:	667	662	811	771	847
Graduates:	60	73	67	62	110

Out of Province	1996/1997	1997/1998	1998/1999	1999/2000	2000/2001
Enrollments:	--	--	78	66	75
Graduates:	--	--	12	8	16



Number of Social Assistance Recipients On-Reserve (Monthly)

1999/2000	2000/2001	2001/2002
26,002 (44.9%)	25,025 (41.9%)	23,733 (38.7%)

For the last three years, the number of social assistance recipients located on-reserve has decreased. The total for 2001/2002 was approximately 23,733 individuals on-reserve who received social assistance benefits, which represents a 38.7% dependency rate.

The lower numbers can be attributed to a variety of factors, including the Income Security Reform project, the increased National Child Benefit and increased employment opportunities for First Nations.

Children In Care On-Reserve, as of March 31 (Agencies)

	1999/2000	2000/2001	2001/2002
Foster Care	1,118	1,139	1,183
Group Homes	27	50	40
Institutions	158	192	272
Total:	1,303	1,381	1,494
% of Children in Care:	5.71%	5.92%	6.27%

These numbers represent the number of children in care on-reserve. The trend appears to be on the rise and could be due to many variables including an increase in the number of band members who are under 18, higher number of apprehensions to ensure safety, changes in provincial and on-reserve apprehension policies and heightened awareness and communication about issues that may require apprehension.

17 Child Welfare offices are fully operational.

Only five First Nations are not affiliated with a Child Welfare agency on-reserve.

Work Opportunity Projects (WOP)

	1999/2000	2000/2001	2001/2002
# of Projects:	263	317	412
Person Months of Employment Created:	6,884	6,863	5,883
\$ Transferred to WOP (in millions):	\$5,331.2	\$4,409.5	\$2,825.7

These funds represent the number of employment opportunities created by funds transferred from social assistance. This project has been very successful and we will continue to be committed to this very worthwhile alternative to social assistance.

Housing Activity

	1999	2000	2001
Total Houses	12,117	12,433	12,380
Total Renovations	208	506	351
Total New Houses	282	279	265

Note: In 2000, 13 First Nations did not submit an annual housing report. Renovations and new houses do not reflect the total activities funded.

Note: The total number of houses is influenced by deletions and adjustments as well as renovations and new construction.



Salaries and Travel Expenses – INAC Senior Officials

TITLE	LEVEL	TRAVEL EXPENSES
SALARY RANGE (EX-03) - 103,700 TO 122,000		
Regional Director General	EX-03	\$71,328.30
SALARY RANGE (EX-02) - 92,700 TO 109,100		
Associate Regional Director General	EX-02	\$60,643.44
Director Operational Program and Policy	EX-02	\$22,209.05
SALARY RANGE (EX-01) - 82,700 TO 97,400		
Director First Nations Relations - Treaty 8*	EX-01	\$881.00
Director First Nations Relations - Treaty 6	EX-01	\$17,124.49
Director Corporate Services	EX-01	\$21,902.24
Director Claims and Indian Government	EX-01	\$21,214.82
Director First Nations Relations - Treaty 7	EX-01	\$31,379.09

*Director Appointed Effective February 4, 2002.

Travel expenses include airfare and other expenses incurred by employees (accommodation, meals, taxis, etc.) which are reimbursed in accordance with the provisions of the Treasury Board Travel Directive.



For further information on INAC Alberta's programs and services, please contact us at:

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Website: www.inac.gc.ca