



Media Release

Fort McKay First Nation hosts Treaty Days this weekend

Presenting and Entertainment Sponsor Bouchier celebrating 25th anniversary

For immediate release

FORT MCKAY, AB / June 14, 2023 — Fort McKay First Nation (FMFN) is hosting its annual Treaty Days this week beginning Friday, June 16. This year's presenting sponsor is local company Bouchier, which is marking its 25th year in business.

"It is with great pride that we once again welcome everyone to Fort McKay Treaty Days," said Chief Raymond Powder. "We are honored that our presenting sponsor is Bouchier, which since its launch 25 years ago has proudly supported our community."

Bouchier, owned and operated by David and Nicole Bouchier, has been located in Fort McKay since its inception. They are committed to supporting Indigenous communities and businesses in the areas of procurement, employment, community investment, and cultural support.

"We are delighted to present the 2023 Fort McKay First Nation Treaty Days to coincide with our 25th anniversary of operations," says Nicole Bouchier. "Our story began with a strong entrepreneurial spirit, and a used dozer. Built on the belief that we should always be a good neighbor, David and I had a dream to create something that would benefit the community and we believe that dream has been realized."

Other event sponsors are Fort McKay Group of Companies, Civeo, ESS, Landrex, Soogadin, Suncor, Boughton Law, Hammerstone, Petro China Canada and Culligan.

Everyone is welcome to attend Treaty Days, taking place from June 16 to 18. The event is being held outdoors at the Arbor across from the FMFN Band Hall. Registration opens at 9 am Friday June 16, with the merchandise, vendor, and craft areas also open. The first live event is the Kids Bike Parade at 9:45 am. Events continue throughout Friday and include a Kids Discovery Zone, Teen Wonder Zone, Cultural Village, and Dene Hand Games. The ever-popular Fort McKay Idol and jigging contest will feature music by the Nicely Put Together Band.



The fun continues on Saturday with a continuation of Friday events plus canoe races and the community tug of war. Bouchier is also the entertainment sponsor and is presenting the Saturday night musical acts, Stephanie Harpe Experience (SHE), Big Sugar, and Johnny Reid. The night ends with a drone show behind the amphitheatre.

On Sunday the community hosts the final rounds of the Lawrence “Bull” Powder Annual Memorial Slo-Pitch Tournament, which also takes place over the weekend.

All events are free admission. Please bring a nonperishable item or cash donation for the Wood Buffalo Food Bank or Fort McMurray SPCA. For more information about Treaty Days visit www.fortmckay.com.

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About FMFN:

Fort McKay First Nation has nearly 900 band members of Cree and Dene heritage, with approximately 450 living in the on-reserve section of the community of Fort McKay, located 60 kilometres north of Fort McMurray, on the shores of the Athabasca River. In addition to the Fort McKay community, FMFN has reserves 174A at Gardiner (Moose) Lake and 174B at Namur (Buffalo) Lake, approximately 65 kilometres northwest of Fort McKay. Moose Lake is the traditional home of what is now the Fort McKay First Nation.

A signatory to Treaty 8, Fort McKay First Nation’s mission is to assert Treaty rights, revitalize culture and language, promote education, build economic capacity, and support wellness to create opportunities for our Nation’s healthy and sustainable future.

The Nation also manages a business portfolio of 11 entities. Business revenues are invested in infrastructure, programs, services, and directly benefit both the community of Fort McKay and individual band members. Only five to 10 per cent of FMFN’s annual operating budget comes from federal or provincial governments.

For more information about Fort McKay First Nation, visit our website at www.fortmckay.com, or follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

For more information, contact:
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