



FORT MCKAY

FIRST NATION

Press Release

Fort McKay First Nation Hosts Special Treaty Days Celebration

Next week's event marks 125th anniversary of signing of Treaty 8

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fort McKay, AB / June 13, 2024 — This year the annual Fort McKay First Nation (FMFN) Treaty Days celebration takes on special significance. The gathering, to be held from June 20 to 23, marks the 125th anniversary of the signing of Treaty 8, a pivotal moment in the history of the Nation.

“Treaty Days has always been the most significant cultural event of the year for us,” said Chief Raymond Powder. “This year, however, it is more important than ever, representing 125 years since the Treaty was signed. The celebrations will be more meaningful and emotional.”

Activities commence on Thursday, June 20, with a golf tournament, bingo games, kids' bike decorating, and the perennially popular Fort McKay Idol Youth Competition. The next morning, celebrations shift into high gear with the Opening Parade and Opening Ceremonies. What follows is an exciting weekend of traditional music, dance, games, food, and cultural activities. All are offered free of charge to everyone who attends.

Chief Powder is quick to recognize one of the driving forces behind the success of Treaty Days. “Once again, we are proud to have Bouchier as our presenting sponsor,” he said. “They have been a tremendous supporter of the community in general, and to Treaty Days in particular, ever since the company was founded.”

Speaking on behalf of Bouchier, co-owner and CEO Nicole Bourque-Bouchier said, “Bouchier is proud to be part of Treaty Days again this year. We are particularly excited to celebrate this milestone anniversary with our team members, families and the community. We hope everyone enjoys all of the fun events planned, especially the entertainment line-up which is composed entirely of Indigenous bands and musicians, in honour of the 125th anniversary.”

To find out more details about this year's special Treaty Days celebrations, please visit fortmckay.com/community/treaty-days-2024/.



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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 15 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.

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