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Hon. Bill McKnight, PC  
Treaty Commissioner

## Message from the Treaty Commissioner

This past year has been one of transition and new developments for the Office of the Treaty Commissioner. I am excited to report that since I was appointed Treaty Commissioner on June 27, 2007 the Office has worked hard to build on the strengths of the past and to forge new directions based on a new mandate.

I am pleased to acknowledge the good work done by my predecessors the Honorable Cliff Wright and Judge David Arnot. It is my intention to build on their close working relationships with Elders, First Nations communities and the Government of Canada. I hope to achieve the kind of success demonstrated by their work on Treaty Land Entitlement and the Education program, to name only two of their significant accomplishments.

In the following pages you will read of the detailed work that has been accomplished with respect to the establishment of the new Office on the English River First Nation just outside of Saskatoon. I am particularly pleased the new location is on First Nation land.

The new mandate of the Office has been extended for three years until March 31, 2011. More importantly, the mandate moves beyond the exploratory work of the past to establish a full-fledged Treaty Table.

This report outlines our continuation of the education work begun under the previous commissioner. Our efforts have focused on completing the K – 6 Treaty Resource materials and development of the Treaty Essential Learnings document. We are hopeful that this will support the provincial Ministry of Education as it goes about implementing their commitment to mandatory treaty education in Saskatchewan.

I plan to extend the Office's education program into the skills development and economic independence area. Through education, skills development and employment practical steps can be taken toward improving the quality of life for First Nations people, and thereby progressing toward the original treaty objective of Pimâcihowin – “making a living.” This will provide benefits for all of Saskatchewan.

If one hundred and thirty years ago the Government of the day felt it was important to treat with First Nations to build a new economy, then it is equally important for our continued economic growth to implement treaties today.

I am pleased to present the 2007-2008 Annual Report of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner.



Painting by Simone McLeod

# THE OFFICE OF THE TREATY COMMISSIONER

## TREATY COMMISSIONER FOR SASKATCHEWAN

### ENTER A NEW ERA

The Office of the Treaty Commissioner (OTC) has been renewed in Saskatchewan and the third Treaty Commissioner has been appointed.

During the first quarter of the 2007- 2008 fiscal year, the partners in the establishment of the OTC, FSIN and Canada, concluded a search for a new Treaty Commissioner by proposing that Bill McKnight fill this role in Saskatchewan. After formal concurrence by The Hon. Bill McKnight, P.C., then by INAC Minister Jim Prentice, and FSIN Chief Lawrence Joseph, the appointment was confirmed by Orders-in-Council #2007-1086 on June 27, 2007 and #2008-458 on March 22, 2008.

On June 25, FSIN and Canada held a ceremony at the Delta Bessborough in Saskatoon recognizing and celebrating the past ten years of the Office, and marking the transition to a new OTC and a new era.

### The Office: Operations

In the second quarter of the fiscal year, Bill McKnight rented an office in the new complex at English River First Nation near Saskatoon, and began the search for staff members for the new operation. An Executive Director, a Receptionist, an Administrative Coordinator, a Director of Education Programs, and a Bookkeeper were hired. Once the Office was set up for operations, and staff began to address the material placed in storage by the previous Commissioner, David Arnot, and his staff.

Managing and decision-making regarding the ten-year collection of materials was required. Plans to deal appropriately with the contents of the 1997-2007 OTC were developed and the new OTC put its plan into action. Materials in storage ranged from educational resources and computers to artwork and historical records.



Painting by Kevin Pee Ace



Painting by Kevin Pee Ace

## Moving Forward:

The new Office commenced its work under the same mandate held by the previous Office, in place since 1996. One of the first undertakings of the new OTC was to articulate several fundamental statements that would guide the Office in its operations.

Additional workspace was acquired in October for the on-going production and collation of student and teacher materials for the *OTC Treaty Resource Kits* that are distributed to schools throughout the Province. The additional office space was also used for the continuing work of sorting through materials and files inherited by the current Office.

During 2007-2008, several workshops and gatherings were either held by OTC or participated in by OTC. At an internal workshop in October, the OTC vision, mission and values were considered. The workshop results included development of a *vision statement* and a *mission statement*, *strategic imperatives* (goals) and a commitment to a set of *values*. These statements underpinning the OTC operations are reproduced on pages 7 to 8.

With a new Commissioner, vision, logo and office, plans were rolled out by staff to introduce the new OTC to the people of Saskatchewan.

Throughout the fall of 2007, the OTC met with organizations and associations that had previously established strategic alliances with the OTC, as well as potential new partners.

With the basics in place, an external workshop to further develop the short, mid, and long term workplans of the OTC was held with Federal, FSIN and OTC representatives. Once the workplans were in place, there was an internal session to set out the budget process for the fiscal year.

By the third quarter, a process to identify and take appropriate action on files, research reports and historical material placed in storage by the prior administration was undertaken. Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and the National Library and Archives Canada (LAC) were consulted concerning processes for proper disposition and archival storage of records and reports. Work in this area is progressing, files are being reviewed and organized, and documentation prepared to accompany the records to be archived with LAC. Once the records are housed with LAC, they will be held for about 25 years, and then will become open for research by the public.



FSIN Powwow - 2007



FSIN Powwow - 2007



FSIN Powwow - 2007



FSIN Powwow - 2007



FSIN Powwow - 2007

As 2007 came to a close the Office hosted an ‘open house’ for all its partners and potential partners in late December. In the spirit of the season, this provided an informal opportunity to talk with friends and supporters from various institutions.

To the delight of the 20th Street *White Buffalo Youth Centre*, the OTC shared some holiday treats from the gathering with the youth support organization.

In the New Year, and throughout the final quarter of the fiscal year, Treaty Commissioner Bill McKnight continued to introduce the new OTC to Members of the Legislative Assembly and officials of the newly elected Provincial Government. These introductory meetings provided an opportunity for the Treaty Commissioner to vet a number of ideas for projects with current and potential partners.

With the 2007-2008 fiscal year ending, the internal work during this final quarter included weekly progress reviews on projects, communications, financial allocations, the budget finalization process and a workshop on administration of the OTC website, which can be seen at [www.otc.ca](http://www.otc.ca)

Forward planning for 2008-2009 includes OTC intentions to create an internal digital library of select archival materials.

Discussions are underway with FSIN Treaty Governance to partner in the establishment of a permanent collection of records of mutual assistance to both parties. Not only will the digital approach be “green,” it will be an efficient and effective electronic repository for documents for both parties to use in relation to their discussions.

Throughout the year, the OTC provided guidance and support to Canada and the FSIN as they concluded a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to establish a new mandate, the third in the history of the Office.

During the winter FSIN Chiefs Assembly, *The Memorandum of Agreement between Her Majesty in Right of Canada and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations* was introduced for the ratification. The resolution was passed by the Chiefs-in-Assembly and recorded as FSIN Resolution #1554.

The Memorandum of Agreement was signed by both Chief Lawrence Joseph and Minister Chuck Strahl on February 26, 2008. A federal Treasury Board submission enabling the Office and Commissioner McKnight to operate a further three years was approved February 28, 2008. The three-year term will run until March 31, 2011. At that time, the mandate can be extended further by the mutual agreement of both the parties.

## Setting the Context

### Roles and Functions of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner

The *Memorandum of Agreement* states, in Section 5.1:

“The primary mandate of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner is to analyze Treaty-related issues, develop options, and report to and provide advice to the Parties regarding courses of action that will achieve practical results that reflect the Treaty relationship.”

The Memorandum of Agreement also provides in section 6, that the OTC “may facilitate discussions at the Treaty Table.” This fiscal year, OTC did facilitate and coordinate bilateral discussion meetings that included the Province when appropriate.

The initial discussions held were with the Treaty Policy Directorate, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and the Treaty Governance Office, Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations. The first talks held gave the parties (FSIN and Canada) an opportunity to consider the future directions of the OTC and the role of the Treaty Commissioner.

The respective views of the parties were provided to the OTC regarding activities, which FSIN and Canada considered appropriate for the OTC. With an understanding of the parties’ expectations and the functions set out in the MOA, the Commissioner and staff developed statements that express the vision and the mission that will guide the Office. For greater clarity, the staff worked together to articulate the values that the OTC will adhere to in all of its endeavours.

The accountabilities of the OTC to the Parties (FSIN and Canada) are set out for the next three years in the MOA. At the end of each fiscal year a report to the Minister of INAC and the FSIN Chief is required regarding progress on fulfilling the OTC mandate and workplans. The Commissioner is to address the Chiefs-in-Assembly once a year, or as requested. In addition, a joint forum comprised of the Chief of FSIN and the INAC Minister will provide direction, evaluation and monitoring of progress of the OTC on issues identified in sections 5.0 and 6.0 of the MOA: Economic Independence, Including: Lands and Resources; Hunting, Trapping, Fishing and Gathering; Shelter; First Nations Citizenship; Justice, Education, Child Welfare, and Health.

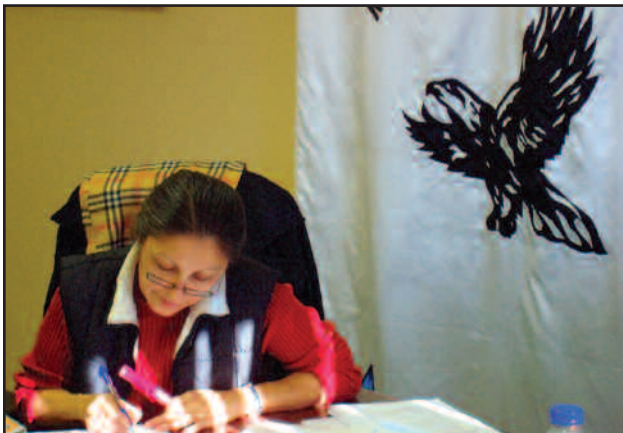




Ministry of Education/Ministry of FNMR



Susan Beaudin, Resource Development



K-6 Treaty Kit

The Treaty Commissioner expressed both the challenges faced and the vision of the OTC, saying:

“First, let us be clear, the number of successes with respect to Treaty implementation in the way that either party originally conceived it – are few and far in between. In fact, the lack of Treaty implementation is a tragic injustice to First Nations peoples and, in fact, to all Canadians.

Second, the likelihood of fundamental success in the near term is remote.

Third, we cannot let this challenge prevent us from continuing to work towards true Treaty Implementation. Nor, can it prevent us from building on and learning from the successes that have been achieved.

So, with that context I now want to describe a few of the opportunities, which I think are before us: In Saskatchewan we have—

- An Office of the Treaty Commissioner, an independent, neutral, impartial body to, broadly speaking, facilitate Treaty implementation discussions;
- A good understanding of and the support of the wisdom of the Elders as a foundation;
- The support, because we exist at the pleasure of the two Parties, the FSIN and Canada;

- First Nations in Saskatchewan, through the FSIN, are united, organized, strong, and focused on Treaty implementation;
- We have a Treaty Table – not an Exploratory Treaty Table – at which the parties come together to advance Treaty implementation;
- The Province comes to that table enthusiastically and seriously; and
- The attitude of the parties is realistic, but not fatalistic, and they are deeply committed to making progress incrementally and systemically, both short term and long term, but in the end with tenacity and determination.

...On the one hand we have the Treaties. These are sacred understandings undertaken with the three Parties – the Creator, The First Nations and the Crown. Even with the most basic understanding of the Treaties one should realize that they are fundamentally about three things, as was told to us in Treaty Elders in Saskatchewan, 2000.

- Getting Along with others.
- Living Together on the Land, and
- Making a living

Three pretty basic and reasonable objectives.

On the other hand, we have the *Indian Act*, which is fundamentally about assimilation, and subjugation.

When these two things are present, we are faced with a dilemma, a paradox, a fundamentally irreconcilable conflict. Thus, the challenge and impediment to Treaty implementation, to be more precise is—*The Indian Act*. From my perspective true Treaty implementation cannot be achieved while the *Indian Act* exists.

I understand there are great fears on both sides of the Table about getting rid of the *Indian Act*. But until we turn our minds to that challenge, we will only be working around the edges; we will only be tinkering with failure.

I suggest we look to incremental ways of taking on this challenge ...

The Elders said Treaty is about “Getting along with others”

■ Therefore it is my intention to continue the previous efforts aimed at public education.

The Elders said Treaty implementation is about “living together on the land”

■ Therefore it is my intention to continue efforts to have the parties come together to discuss items of mutual interest – to make progress where ever we find it – Education and Child Welfare seem to be potential priorities for the Parties.

The Elders said Treaty implementation is about “making a living”

■ Therefore I intend to focus on self-sufficiency and economic well-being for First Nation peoples...”



FSIN Powwow - 2007



Elder Danny Musqua



Lester Lafond

## OTC Mission Statement

The Office of the Treaty Commissioner (OTC), an independent body, will serve as the primary mechanism to coordinate and facilitate a bilateral process between Government of Canada and the Federation of Saskatchewan Nations to achieve a common understanding on Treaties No. 4, 5, 6, 8, and 10 in Saskatchewan.

- The OTC will assist the Parties in understanding the relationship building process inherent in the Treaties and promoting that relationship amongst all Canadians.
- The OTC is committed to coordinating the research, initiating, facilitating and supporting of initiatives aimed at achieving First Nations economic independence in the context of Treaty in a modern environment.
- The OTC is committed to coordinating independent and focused research on Treaty issues to assist the Parties.
- The OTC is committed to engaging in public information and public awareness programming to educate and advance good relations among all the peoples of Saskatchewan on Treaty issues.

## OTC Vision

The Government of Canada and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations will have a common understanding on Treaties No. 4, 5, 6, 8, and 10 in the Province of Saskatchewan.

## OTC Values Commitment

The Office of the Treaty Commissioner is committed to the values of

- Neutrality
- Integrity
- Fairness
- Open Communication
- Honesty
- Respect
- Accountability

## OTC Logo

The logo designed for the OTC depicts the Circle and feather in motion giving witness to the life in the Treaty Relationship.



**Office of the  
Treaty Commissioner**

The logo features a stylized feather with a circular motion trail behind it, symbolizing the 'Circle and feather in motion' mentioned in the text.

## OTC Strategic Imperatives

There are many areas in which the Office of the Treaty Commissioner must excel in order to achieve a common understanding between the Government of Canada and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations on Treaty rights issues.

These areas of excellence or strategic imperatives are key to the Office of the Treaty Commissioner's role as the coordinator and facilitator of the bilateral discussions at the Treaty Table and are fundamental to the realization of the Vision. The OTC has defined as its core directional statements the following goals and objectives:

**Independence**—To steadfastly maintain the independence and accountability of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner.

**Financial Management**—To provide efficient and effective allocation of financial resources and containment of operational expenses.

**Service Excellence**—To provide timely, effective, efficient and value added services to the Parties.

**Communication**—To ensure that all employees of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner communicate clearly, openly and fairly.

**Economic Independence**—To provide timely, well researched information to the Parties and to facilitate discussions and activities with appropriate agencies towards stated goals and objectives.

**Research**—To provide timely, well researched, balanced, objective information to the Parties.

**Education**—To provide balanced, objective information to the people of Saskatchewan on Treaty issues.

**Facilitation**—To facilitate the discussions of the Parties, so that they move toward achieving the Vision of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner by creating an environment which demonstrates mutual respect, mutual recognition, responsibility and reciprocity.



Treaty Table - March, 2008



Treaty Table - March, 2008



Treaty Table - March, 2008



Treaty Table - March, 2008



Treaty Table - March, 2008



Treaty Table - March, 2008

## THE TREATY TABLE

One of the undertakings of the new OTC was to renew the meetings of the Treaty Table. The parties agreed that the meetings would no longer be 'exploratory. Instead, the participants would commit to working toward specific targets in achieving common understandings and establishing tangible goals supporting the well-being of Treaty First Nations people in Saskatchewan. The first Treaty Table meeting to be facilitated by Commissioner McKnight was held in October 2007. At the time, the parties were finalizing a new mandate, so the meetings were held under the 1996 mandate. Treaty Table workplans were developed for the fiscal year, since a new mandate to carry the office beyond March 31, 2008 was still in progress.

### Treaty Table Meetings

#### October 2007

At the end of October 2007, FSIN and Canada's representatives met with the Treaty Commissioner. The objective was to discuss the nature of the work to be accomplished during the current term of Office. The Treaty Commissioner spoke on the importance of economic independence.

At the initial Treaty Table meeting, the FSIN Treaty Governance representatives presented their response to the OTC publication *Treaty Implementation: Fulfilling the Covenant.*<sup>1</sup> FSIN also detailed their Treaty Principles statement and provided an overview of the FSIN organizational structures.

#### December 2007

When the December meeting of the Treaty Table was called, the OTC extended an invitation to the newly elected Premier of Saskatchewan and the Minister of First Nations and Métis Relations (FNMR) to attend and observe the discussions. Although they were unable to attend the Treaty Table meeting, an FMNR representative brought greetings to delegates on behalf of the Premier and Minister and spoke about the importance of having a Provincial presence in the process.

Canada provided its preliminary review of several Context Papers to the FSIN and the OTC in advance of the Treaty Table meeting. At the meeting the FSIN presented its plan to establish small working groups to review the topics to be discussed by the Treaty Table.

<sup>1</sup> Distributed by Purich Publishing, purich@sasktel.net or (306) 373-9311

## Treaty Table January 2008

In accordance with the OTC mandate, which allows provincial participation in bilateral discussions as observers, OTC invited the new Saskatchewan Government to observe the January Treaty Table Meeting. The Minister of First Nations and Métis Relations, Hon. June Draude attended.

During the meeting a representative from Treaty 4 raised concerns about the need for increased Provincial engagement at the Treaty Table, and the Parties considered a future increased role for the Province at the Table.

## Treaty Table March 2008

The FSIN provided insights into their review of the Context Papers, focusing on the economic indicators and adherence to the FSIN implementation principles.

The Federal government provided their review of the Context Papers to the FSIN in advance of the Treaty Table meeting. The Context Papers under discussion were written by FSIN and Canada officials following Treaty Table discussions between the parties. The Papers on education, child welfare,

shelter, annuities, and health were prepared between 1997 and 2005. In addition, initial work in the areas of justice, lands and resources, and hunting, fishing, trapping, and gathering will be continued under the new mandate. A draft report on Acts of Renewal had also been prepared by the parties, and is subject to review and further work.



Muskeg Lake Urban Reserve - 20 Years



Treaty Table - March, 2008



Treaty Table - March, 2008



FSIN Powwow - 2007



FSIN Powwow - 2007

## GATHERINGS & CONFERENCES

During the year, the Office of the Treaty Commissioner participated in several formal gatherings related to Treaty awareness, economic development and well-being in the context of Treaty. Such functions included the following:

### Gathering of Numbered Treaties

*Treaties 1- 11 Gathering* at Fort Carlton the end of July 2007 included Elders Ceremonies and an Elders' Forum on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Conference was co-hosted by the Prince Albert Grand Council and the Saskatoon Tribal Council.

### Muskeg Lake Medical Centre

In July 2007, the Treaty Commissioner was amongst dignitaries at the Sod Turning Ceremony for the Muskeg Lake Medical Centre. The \$5.5 million dollar Wellness Centre is being developed on-reserve at Muskeg's Asimakaneesikan Aski reserve in Saskatoon.

The Office of the Treaty Commissioner also participated in the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of Muskeg Lake Cree Nation's first urban reserve in Saskatchewan.

### FSIN Annual Powwow

In October 2007, Treaty Commissioner McKnight was honoured to be included in the Grand Entry of the *FSIN Annual Cultural Celebration & Powwow*. Two special ceremonies honouring Residential School Survivors and recognizing the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Saskatchewan Indian Cultural Centre were held in conjunction with the Powwow.

### FSIN Fall Assembly

On October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2007, Treaty Commissioner Bill McKnight made his inaugural address to the Chiefs-in-Assembly. In his presentation focused on the implications of economic independence and skill development on future Treaty relationships, he said:

“My vision is that First Nations peoples will become part of the economy and participate fully in it. Many First Nations are already doing that, but many have not had the opportunity and support to enable this to happen. For me, this is what the Treaties were all about and this is what we need for the betterment of First Nations people and all of us in this province. Each component of this initiative is critical to success. OTC can play a role facilitating employment opportunities, it can broker training new opportunities, and OTC can arrange for supports for these employees to increase their chance of success.”

I see this support as essential. We often forget that as we move from one opportunity to the other, often it is not the job or the training, often it is the new environment, the implicit culture and the change in community that creates the challenge for people.”

### **Treaty Commissioner and FNMR Minister Meet**

In December the Commissioner met with the Hon. June Draude, Minister of First Nations and Métis Relations, the Minister of Advanced Education, Employment and Labour/Apprenticeship, and the Minister of Education.

### **OTC Guests of Legislature**

In the company of Chiefs from throughout the Province, FSIN Chief Lawrence Joseph, Premier Brad Wall, Cabinet Ministers and MLAs, the Treaty Commissioner participated in the First Nations Feast at the Saskatchewan Legislature held in December. Minister June Draude’s FNMR Department initiated traditional feast in cooperation with the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations.

### **Meeting in Treaty 2 Territory**

In January 2008, the Commissioner met with the White Bear First Nation and the Pheasant Rump First Nation. Both nations are adherents to Treaty 4, but occupy their traditional territory within the boundaries of Treaty 2.

### **Aboriginal Learning Knowledge Council**

#### **Annual Conference - Vancouver**

In February, 2008, OTCs Executive Director Harry Lafond, Debra Laliberte, and Ken Horsman presented at the *Seeing Ourselves in the Mirror: Giving Life to Learning Conference* held in Vancouver and hosted by the Canadian Council on Learning.

### **National Treaty Conference - Saskatoon**

The Elders’ Forum at Wanuskewin was co-chaired by Harry Lafond and Dorothy Myo (SICC).

Commissioner McKnight spoke on a panel about the challenges of Treaty Implementation. He spoke about the opportunities in the current context to advance the growth of Treaty Relationship in Saskatchewan and in Canada.



Treaty Kit Development



Treaty Table - March, 2008



Treaty Learning Network - St. Walburg



### **As Long as the Sun Shines**

March 2008: The Hon. Chuck Strahl took the opportunity to congratulate Treaty Commissioner McKnight on his reappointment when the two were speaking at the first ever *National Treaty Conference*.

The Treaty Commissioner participated in a panel presentation during the *AFN-Canada National Treaty Conference* in March 2008. The Treaty Commissioner's presentation on the history and the future directions of OTC focused on the implications of current legislation on Treaty implementation in Canada

### **Journey Through Teachings**

In March the *Saskatchewan Aboriginal Literacy Network* held its 2008 gathering, Harry Lafond and Ken Horsman provided delegates with an introduction to the public education strategies of the OTC and the *OTC Treaty Resources Kit*, which the Office has distributed widely throughout the Province. (See Appendix 2 for further detail.)



## RESEARCH

In accordance with MOA subsection 6.1.4, with the agreement of the Parties, the OTC may “conduct focused research and analysis and prepare reports on specific topics as well as reports which would contribute to the resolution of an issue and promote solutions.”

Research and analysis may be triggered by a joint request for reports on specific topics, with potential to contribute to resolution of an issue and promote solutions.

In addition, the OTC may prepare independent reports on their Treaty relationship.

During the fall of 2007 OTC contracted a researcher to prepare a preliminary plan for future work in youth employment. The Treaty Commissioner spoke about the research at the Treaty Table meeting.

In February, OTC determined that independent research on the *The Duty Consult and the Constitution* would prove helpful in relation to Treaty Table discussions. The Rawson Group was contracted to do the work. The completed research report was presented for discussion at the March 2008, Treaty Table meeting in Saskatoon.

### External Research Proposals to OTC

Opportunities to engage in research were presented to the OTC when two Saskatchewan Universities each approached the OTC, each with a research proposal. The First Nations University of Canada and the College of Engineering, University of Saskatchewan both expressed interest in establishing a research partnership with the OTC:

Dean Janusz A. Kozinski of **College of Engineering, University of Saskatchewan** proposed jointly researching with the OTC, the potential for First Nation students pursuing science and math related careers. The College is currently working with the Saskatoon Tribal Council Super Saturday Program and with the OTC to formalize a partnership.

**First Nations University of Canada**, proposed the study of the impact of urban reserve creation on the economic well-being of First Nations. The research began in the final quarter of the 2007-2008 fiscal year. As the research continues, regular progress reports are being provided to the OTC. Research was still continuing when this fiscal year ended.



Treaty Table - March, 2008



Treaty Table - March, 2008



Treaty Table - March, 2008



FSIN Powwow - 2007



FSIN Powwow - 2007

## GOOD RELATIONS

The OTC workplan for 2007-2008 included a series of initiatives aimed at building good relations between First Nations and newcomers, including:

- Good relations activities to promote awareness of the Treaty and the Treaty - Relationship;
- Creating displays or exhibits;
- Developing and distributing the OTC Treaty Resource Kit;
- Public education such as expanding materials and awareness of the Teaching Treaties in the Classroom programs;
- Activities to promote economic well-being in the areas on the Treaty Table agenda;
- Education programs of the former OTC were reviewed and decisions were made with respect to their future status.

### CTV-OTC Alliance

General plans were put in place with CTV Saskatchewan to continue to develop and televise short historical vignettes related to Treaty. Arrangements were made to shoot the Treaty awareness messages remaining from the earlier workplan. The OTC and CTV

determined that they would extend their commitment to develop additional *Treaty Message Minutes* that would be televised before the end of the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

### First Nations Directors of Education, OTC, Ministry of Education and FSIN

In the fall of 2007, Treaty Commissioner McKnight initiated discussions with the FSIN, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Education and the First Nations Directors of Education with a view to recommencing the education program. During 2007-08 priorities included:

- To complete the K-6 supplement for the *OTC Treaty Resource Kit*
- To complete the *Treaty Essential Learning* resource package for K-12 teachers.

## Treaty Learning Network

Work has progressed well in conjunction with our partners providing support and advice regarding revisions and expansion of K-6 materials. Advisory groups including Elders, a Development Team and teachers have generously contributed their time and knowledge to help improve the materials.

■ Shared goals continue to bring together the *Treaty Learning Network*, which is an ever-expanding group of Elders and Teachers who are committed to supporting others in teaching and implementing use of the *OTC Treaty Resource Kit* in schools.

■ Following workshops in St. Walberg and Meadow Lake with teachers invited from each school in the Meadow Lake Tribal Council and the North West School Division, the *OTC Treaty Learning Network* expanded to 24 Elders and 143 teachers.





FSIN Powwow - 2007



FSIN Powwow - 2007

## DAKOTA LAKOTA NATIONS TREATY ADHESION CLAIM

The Treaty Commissioner has contributed to the facilitation and coordination of other meetings between Canada and the First Nations. In this regard facilitation efforts in relation to the Treaty adhesion claim of the Dakota and Lakota Nations recommenced in the first quarter of 2007-2008.

The Commissioner proposed the first step of this process include meetings with the Chiefs and officials from both Saskatchewan and Manitoba. The objective was to continue discussions and to formulate a plan of action to recommence the process.

The initial meeting with the three Dakota and one Lakota Nation in Saskatchewan was held in Regina to consider the workplan revisions in light of the Federal decisions on the claims process. A follow-up meeting between Commissioner McKnight and five Manitoba Dakota Nations considered the revised plan. Proposals and timeframes in relation to the objectives established earlier were reviewed and considered by the parties.

In the fall, a further all-party meeting was held, as well as a conference call, followed by numerous meetings with the various representatives regarding the federal proposal. By December 1<sup>st</sup> the Dakota and Lakota First Nations concluded they would reject the Federal proposal for resolution. The Commissioner recommended a meeting of the Dakota and Lakota First Nations with the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, the Hon. Chuck Strahl.

In the New Year several meetings and conference calls were organized and facilitated concerning the Dakota Lakota Treaty Adhesion Claim. Treaty Commissioner McKnight met with Louis Dion, INAC Manitoba Regional Office to discuss the claim in March. At the request of a member of the Senate of Canada and a Member of Parliament, the Treaty Commissioner provided them with a review of the Dakota Lakota Treaty Adhesion Claim.

## What's Next for the OTC

**Examining** — further exploration of *OTC Treaty Learning Network* initiative is included in the OTC workplans for the next fiscal year, 2008-2009.

**Supporting** the renewal of relationships on education initiatives.

**Contributing** — An OTC representative was invited to participate in the *Shared Standards and Capacity Building Council* established by FSIN, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, and the Province of Saskatchewan pursuant to a *Memorandum of Understanding*.

**Exploring** with the Prince Albert Grand Council, Saskatoon Tribal Council, University of Regina, and Saskatchewan School Boards Association about implementing a Good Relations Program with OTC.

**Collaborating** with the Saskatoon Airport Authority to develop the Good Relations Display in the departure-arrival area of the Diefenbaker Airport



## THE OFFICE OF THE TREATY COMMISSIONER

In 2007, **Bill McKnight** was appointed as the third Treaty Commissioner for Saskatchewan by Order-in-Council.

The position of Treaty Commissioner was established in 1989 in Saskatchewan, the Treaty Commissioner acts as a mediator between federal and First Nations' governments to deal with Treaty issues.

The mandate of the OTC includes facilitating a common understanding between the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and Canada on a number of Treaty issues including child welfare, education, housing, health, harvesting, lands and resources.

Commissioner McKnight was born in Elrose, Saskatchewan. He served in the Parliament of Canada as Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Minister of the Western Diversification Office, Minister of National Defence (during the first Gulf War), Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources and Minister of Labour and also served as the Minister responsible for the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. He is Honourary Chief of the Muskeg Lake Cree Nation.



Hon. Bill McKnight, P.C.  
**Treaty Commissioner**



**Harry J. Lafond**, B.A., B.Ed.,  
M.Ed.  
Executive Director

**Harry J. Lafond** is the Executive Director of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner. He has a wide range of experience in the community, in politics, and in academics, which he brings to the OTC. He has been Chairperson for the Board of Trustees First Nations Trust since 2003. Previously, he served his Nation as Chief (1990-2000).

Harry has worked extensively in the area of education including as the Director of Education, and earlier as principal of the kiihiw waciston School at Muskeg Lake. Harry's academic education includes three degrees: B.A., B.Ed. and an M.Ed. He was appointed to serve on the Senate of the University of Saskatchewan (1995-2002), and was also appointed to the national Federal Task Force on Education (2003).

Family is a priority and Harry spends many hours with his children and grandchildren teaching them about being Cree.



**Deb Laliberte**, Bus. Admin.  
Speakers' Bureau and  
Director of Office Administration

**Debra** Laliberte is from the Red Pheasant First Nation. Debra has three daughters, Erin, Danielle, and Chelsey and three grandsons, Carson, Cayden and Joseph. Debra's family left the Red Pheasant area and her family moved to the community of Asquith, Saskatchewan, just west of Saskatoon and completed high school there.

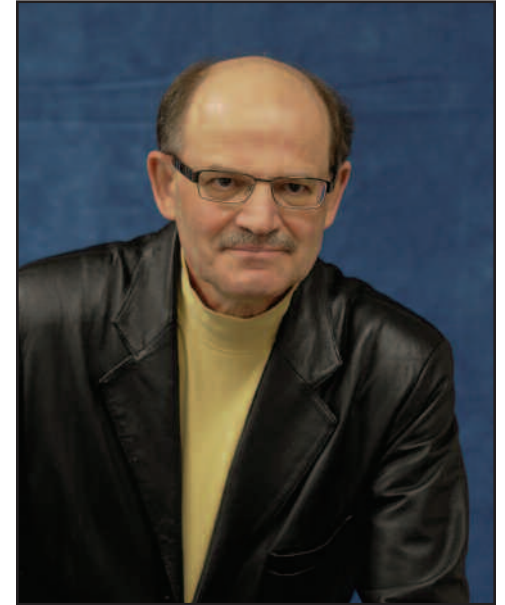
Debra has worked in various First Nations governments since 1990 and was employed at the First Nations University of Canada for 11 years as the Executive Assistant to the Dean and the Assistant Registrar. Debra took classes part time at the FNUC and the College of Commerce and graduated in 2003 in Business Administration. Since then she has held various positions with the Indigenous Gaming Regulators, Stats Canada and most recently First Nations Agricultural Council of Saskatchewan (FNACS). In August of 2007, the OTC seconded Debra from her position at FNACS.

Debra enjoys gardening, golfing and spending time with her children and grandchildren.

**Ken** has supported a number of projects including the implementation of the Teaching Treaties in the Classroom Program, development of the K- 6 component of the Teaching Treaties program and the *Treaty Essential Learnings* document.

Ken has been a teacher and a central office administrator in Saskatchewan. He also held several positions in the Ministry of Education, including Associate Deputy Minister.

Ken attended the University of Regina and received a B.A., B.Ed. (With Distinction) and an M.Ed. Ken has also taken additional courses at the University of Saskatchewan and Washington State University.



**Ken Horsman**, B.A., B.Ed., M.Ed.  
Director of Educational Programs

**Marcella** is the mother three young children Jacqueline, Joshua, and Julia Greyeyes-Pechawis. She and her family live at Muskeg Lake Cree Nation in Treaty 6 Territory.

Marcella began her journey with the Office of the Treaty Commissioner in August, 2007. Her previous work experience includes as an Educational Assistant, Transportation Clerk, and as the Administrative Assistant at kiihw waciston School at Muskeg Lake Cree Nation.

Marcella is a graduate of kiihw waciston High School, Early Childhood Development Program at Kelsey Institute. She also attended the University of Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technology to obtain her Certificate in Office Administration.



**Marcella Marie Greyeyes**,  
Administrative Assistant



**Jennifer Heimbecker,**  
B.A. (Hons.)

**Jennifer Heimbecker**  
**OTC Summer Intern**

**Jennifer** joined the OTC as a Research and Policy Analyst. Her summer's work focused on the *Treaty Essential Learnings* initiative.

Jennifer attended the University of Saskatchewan and obtained her B.A. (Hons.) majoring in Aboriginal Public Administration. She received the University of Saskatchewan award for the Most Outstanding Graduate in this interdisciplinary program.

Prior to studying at the University, Jennifer worked in a various capacities with the Saskatoon Tribal Council Urban First Nations Services Inc., the White Buffalo Youth Lodge and the Saskatoon Tribal Council Safe House.

Jennifer is from the Muskoday First Nation in Treaty 6 Territory.

**Appendix 1: OTC 2007-2008 Annual Report:**

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
HER MAJESTY IN THE RIGHT OF CANADA  
of the First Part represented by the  
Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development  
(hereinafter the “Minister”)  
AND  
THE FEDERATION OF SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN NATIONS  
of the Second Part represented by the  
Chief of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations  
(hereinafter the “FSIN”)**

**WHEREAS** the *Constitution Act, 1982* states that the existing aboriginal and treaty rights of the aboriginal peoples of Canada are hereby recognized and affirmed;

**AND WHEREAS** the “aboriginal peoples of Canada” includes the Indian, Inuit, and Métis peoples of Canada;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government of Canada recognizes the inherent right of self-government as an existing Aboriginal right under section 35 of the *Constitution Act 1982*, and recognizes as well that the inherent right may find expression in treaty and in the context of the Crown’s relationship with treaty First Nations;

**AND WHEREAS** the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations asserts that the First Nations in Saskatchewan entered into treaty as sovereign nations pursuant to international law;

**AND WHEREAS** at the time of treaty signing the Crown and First Nations recognized that an on-going treaty relationship would be established for as long as the sun shines, the grass grows and the rivers flow;

**AND WHEREAS** all residents of Saskatchewan are intended to benefit from Treaty;

**AND WHEREAS** as part of the treaty relationship, the Parties established a forum for dialogue through the establishment of an Office of the Treaty Commissioner in Saskatchewan in 1989, and again in 1996, and wish to continue this dialogue;

**AND WHEREAS** during the 1996 mandate of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner, the release of the *Statement of Treaty Issues: Treaties as a Bridge to the Future* (1998), represented a start in achieving a common understanding of the treaty relationship and its practical meaning for a better future for all residents of Saskatchewan;

**AND WHEREAS** there are differences of views over the content and meaning of treaty. Treaty First Nations assert that treaty has not been implemented according to their spirit and intent, including oral promises. The Government of Canada asserts that it relies primarily on the written text of treaty as the embodiment of the Crown’s obligations, which it asserts have been and continue to be met;

**AND WHEREAS** the Parties intend to address these differences of views through mutual discussion and decision, sharing a common commitment to the treaty relationship, and to building on a partnership that can address the well-being of both Parties in a respectful, meaningful and supportive way;

**AND WHEREAS** Canada and Treaty First Nations recognize that discussions regarding the treaty relationship may require the involvement of Saskatchewan.

**NOW THEREFORE IT IS AGREED** that the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and the Government of Canada wish to renew the operation of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner and continue the work of the Treaty Table according to the principles and provisions contained in this Memorandum of Agreement.

## 1.0 Definitions

In this Memorandum of Agreement:

- 1.1 “Advice” means an opinion or recommendation offered as a guide to action or conduct;
- 1.2 “Authority” means authority other than law making power;
- 1.3 “Canada” refers to Canada as represented by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and other government departments as required;
- 1.4 “Context Papers” refers to Context Papers jointly written by the Parties, with the participation of Saskatchewan, as appropriate, including child welfare, education, shelter, health, justice, treaty annuities, hunting, trapping, fishing and gathering, and lands and resources and any other papers that may be jointly developed by the Parties from time to time;
- 1.5 The “Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations” or “FSIN” refers to the political organisation that represents, subject to the FSIN’s Convention or Convention Act, First Nations in Saskatchewan;
- 1.6 “Jurisdiction” means law making power;
- 1.7 “Parties” refers to the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and Canada;
- 1.8 “Saskatchewan” means the Government of Saskatchewan;
- 1.9 “Treaty” refers to Treaties 4, 5, 6, 8, and 10 in Saskatchewan;
- 1.10 “Treaty First Nations” refers to those Treaty First Nations in Saskatchewan represented by FSIN;
- 1.11 “Treaty Table” refers to the discussion table set out in section 7;
- 1.12 The “Office of the Treaty Commissioner” refers to the Office established as the Office of the Treaty Commissioner in this Agreement;
- 1.13 “Treaty Commissioner” refers to the individual appointed pursuant to section 4 of this Memorandum of Agreement.

## 2.0 Principles

The Parties and the Office of the Treaty Commissioner shall be guided by the following principles:

- 2.1.1 The Parties acknowledge the significant role of the elders and agree to ensure that ceremonial and oral traditions are respected and are adhered to within the context and work of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner;
- 2.1.2 Treaty is a fundamental part of the relationship between Treaty First Nations in Saskatchewan and the Crown. It is a foundational document, creating and committing the Parties to an enduring relationship based on solemn promises exchanged, and respect acknowledged,

at the time of treaty-making;

- 2.1.3 Integral in the treaty relationship between the Crown and First Nations is the principle of maintaining the honour of the Crown, which includes the role of the Crown in Right of Canada as successor to the British Crown, and the honour of Treaty First Nations in upholding Treaty;
- 2.1.4 The Parties desire a process through which issues which affect the treaty relationship may be addressed in a non-confrontational and non-adversarial manner which is respectful of First Nation cultures, languages, and traditions.

### **3.0 Renewal of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner**

- 3.1 Upon execution of the Agreement the Parties agree to renew the Office of the Treaty Commissioner for three years.
- 3.2 The term of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner may be extended beyond the three year period provided for in section 3.1 by agreement of the Parties.

### **4.0 Appointment of Treaty Commissioner**

- 4.1 There shall be a Treaty Commissioner appointed pursuant to written authority from the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and by an Order in Council of the Government of Canada.
- 4.2 The Treaty Commissioner shall be an individual appointed by agreement of the Parties for a term mutually agreed upon by the Parties.
- 4.3 The Treaty Commissioner may be removed prior to the expiry of his or her term by mutual agreement of the Parties.

### **5.0 Mandate of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner**

- 5.1 The primary mandate of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner is to analyze treaty-related issues, develop options, and report to and provide Advice to the Parties regarding courses of action that will achieve practical results that reflect the treaty relationship;
  - 5.1.1 In their efforts to foster a strong and continuing treaty relationship;
  - 5.1.2 In an attempt to resolve outstanding issues between the Parties regarding the treaty relationship, including priority areas identified in section 5.3;
  - 5.1.3 In overcoming obstacles that may affect treaty relations among all residents and interests in Saskatchewan;
  - 5.1.4 In celebrating the treaty relationship, and enhancing awareness and understanding that all residents of Saskatchewan are part of and beneficiaries of the treaty relationship, through public education and commemorative activities.
- 5.2 The activities described in section 5.3 may include discussion of Jurisdiction and treaty rights, the outcomes of which may be directed to appropriate forums for further consideration.
- 5.3 The Office of the Treaty Commissioner will work with the Treaty Table, to identify options and make recommendations to assist in resolving issues that affect the treaty relationship, in priority areas, which include, but are not limited to:
  - 5.3.1 Economic independence, including:
    - Lands and Resources;
    - Hunting, Fishing, Trapping and Gathering;
    - Shelter (Housing);
  - 5.3.2 First Nations citizenship and its relationship to First Nations governance;

- 5.3.3 Justice;
- 5.3.4 Education and Child Welfare; and
- 5.3.5 Health.

5.4 In carrying out any activities described in section 5.3, the Parties agree to identify future opportunities that would enhance governance, achieve economic independence, and improve the well-being of First Nations communities.

## **6.0 Role and Functions of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner**

- 6.1 In order to carry out the mandate set out in section 5.0, the Office of the Treaty Commissioner may carry out the following roles and functions:
- 6.1.1 The Office of the Treaty Commissioner is an advocate for the treaty relationship and as such may:
    - 6.1.1.1 Prepare independent reports/evaluations concerning the honouring of the treaty relationship by the Parties;
    - 6.1.1.2 Conduct other activities authorized pursuant to this agreement.
  - 6.1.2 The Office of the Treaty Commissioner may facilitate discussions at the Treaty Table. Alternatively, the Office of the Treaty Commissioner may participate in discussions at the Treaty Table. Where the Office of the Treaty Commissioner participates in discussions at the Treaty Table, the Parties may appoint a neutral facilitator to facilitate discussions;
  - 6.1.3 The Office of the Treaty Commissioner shall provide administrative support to the Treaty Table;
  - 6.1.4 The Office of the Treaty Commissioner, with the agreement of the Parties, may initiate any of the following activities:
    - 6.1.4.1 Conduct public education and awareness programs concerning treaty, the treaty relationship, and the contributions of First Nations to Saskatchewan society, in consultation with First Nations elders;
    - 6.1.4.2 Review and evaluate agreements between the Parties, including the implementation of these agreements in accordance with frameworks agreed to by the Parties;
    - 6.1.4.3 Conduct focussed research and analysis and prepare reports on specific topics as well as reports which would contribute to the resolution of an issue and promote solutions;
    - 6.1.4.4 Arrange meetings of the Treaty Table;
    - 6.1.4.5 Arrange for and employ Treaty First Nations' consensus based dispute resolution mechanisms to resolve issues which affect the treaty relationship;
    - 6.1.4.6 Seek the advice of the Treaty Table on treaty-related issues.
- 6.2 In addition to the activities contained in section 6.1, the Office of the Treaty Commissioner may independently:
- 6.2.1 Promote the ceremonial recognition of treaty and treaty protocols, by officiating or participating at treaty celebrations and commemorations, and other acts of renewal;
  - 6.2.2 Make recommendations and report to the Parties on how to move forward on specific topics and issues, concerning the treaty relationship.
- 6.3 The Treaty Commissioner is responsible for implementing the mandate of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner.
- 6.4 Where appropriate the Office of the Treaty Commissioner may invite members of the Treaty Table to participate in any activities described in section 6.
- 6.5 The functions assigned to the Office of the Treaty Commissioner may be further defined, determined and prioritized on an annual basis, as set out in a work plan as agreed to by the Parties.

## **7.0 Role and Functions of the Treaty Table**

- 7.1 The participants at the Treaty Table shall include the Parties, the Office of the Treaty Commissioner, and representatives of Saskatchewan as

observers, unless otherwise agreed to pursuant to section 10.0.

7.2 The Parties are committed through consensus building to achieve results.

7.3 The role of the Treat Table is to:

7.3.1 Discuss Treaty and the treaty relationship;

7.3.2 Address follow-up to the Context Papers;

7.3.3 Where agreed, discuss and develop a work plan on treaty implementation, including but not limited to, consideration of any recommendations set out in the Office of the Treaty Commissioner Report *Treaty Implementation; Fulfilling the Covenant* and any response to this report released by the Parties. Canada's ability to deal with issues related to the definition and implementation of treaty rights and obligations is dependent on authorities in place from time to time; and

7.3.4 Work with the Office of the Treaty Commissioner on priority areas identified in section 5.3.

## 8.0 Accountability

8.1 The FSIN and the Government of Canada will establish a joint forum, consisting of the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Chief of the FSIN, to provide direction to the Treaty Commissioner and to participate and provide direction related to monitoring, evaluation, and progress on the issues identified in sections 5.0 and 6.0 of this Agreement:

8.1.1 This forum will meet thrice a year or as otherwise agreed upon by the Parties;

8.1.2 Authority to represent the Minister and the Chief in the forum described in section 8.1 may be delegated by the Minister and Chief to a technical committee if necessary.

8.2 The operations of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner shall be the direct responsibility of the Treaty Commissioner, including the manner in which the Treaty Commissioner is to deliver his/her role and functions. The Commissioner is accountable to the Parties for the outputs of the operations, role, and functions of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner.

8.3 The Treaty Commissioner shall be responsible for the overall operation of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner, including the development of internal policies and guidelines and implementation of agreed upon work plans.

8.4 The Office of the Treaty Commissioner shall provide, simultaneously to both Parties, an annual report, detailing the progress on fulfilling the mandate of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner and agreed upon work plans.

8.5 The Office of the Treaty Commissioner shall address the FSIN Chiefs-in-Assembly on an annual basis and/or as otherwise invited.

## 9.0 Linkages to Other Processes

9.1 The Parties acknowledge the potential for negotiations or discussions to be (re)initiated, including in relation to self-government and treaty implementation, and agree that from time to time and when appropriate, the processes established by this Agreement may be used to inform or assist other processes in the province of Saskatchewan.

## 10.0 Provincial Involvement

10.1 Notwithstanding the bilateral nature of this Agreement, the Parties recognize that Saskatchewan has certain obligations and interests that require Saskatchewan's involvement.

10.2 The Parties, therefore, support the continued involvement of Saskatchewan with the Treaty Table, as an observer.

## **11.0 Involvement of Other Federal Government Departments**

- 11.1 Where appropriate, Canada agrees to involve other government departments in the processes set out in this Agreement, where such involvement would contribute to the resolution of an issue.

## **12.0 Evaluation and Reporting**

- 12.1 The Parties, on an annual basis, pursuant to section 8.1, will jointly assess the progress being made on matters set out in this Agreement.
- 12.2 There shall be an evaluation in the second year following the execution of this Agreement of the effectiveness of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner and the Treaty Table. Both Parties agree to participate fully in such an evaluation. The Treaty Commissioner will be invited to participate in appropriate aspects of the evaluation.
- 12.3 The Office of the Treaty Commissioner shall submit a report annually at the end of the fiscal year to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and the Chief of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, as Identified in section 8.4.
- 12.4 The annual report shall, as identified in section 8.4 and pursuant to section 5.0, assess the results achieved for the issues identified in section 5.

## **13.0 Financing**

- 13.1 Funding to support the Office of the Treaty Commissioner shall be tied to work plans developed by the Treaty Commissioner and agreed to by the Parties.
- 13.2 The Office of the Treaty Commissioner, in consultation with the Parties, may seek sponsors for any activities identified in this Memorandum of Agreement.

## **14.0 Other Issues**

- 14.1 The FSIN shall review their activities, including follow-up on the Context Papers, in a manner that is consistent with FSIN Treaty Implementation Principles.
- 14.2 Nothing in this Agreement shall prejudice any treaty or Aboriginal rights as currently defined or which may be further defined through litigation, agreements or settlements of claims between the Government of Canada and the Treaty First Nations.
- 14.3 This Agreement is not a treaty and does not create any legal obligations.
- 14.4 The Parties intend that the processes set out in this Agreement will be the principal mechanisms for facilitating common understandings on treaty issues.
- 14.5 Nothing in this Agreement is intended to restrict individual Treaty First Nations or Tribal Councils from engaging in discussions with the Government of Canada.
- 14.6 Nothing in this Agreement will preclude or limit in any way, individual First Nations or Tribal Councils from continuing or completing negotiations already underway on subjects included in this Agreement.
- 14.7 The Parties at any time may, by agreement, revise, update and/or otherwise amend the mandate of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner.

Signed this 26<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2008  
at Ottawa in the Province of Ontario

[original signed by Chuck Strahl]  
Her Majesty in the Right of Canada  
as represented by the Minister of  
Indian Affairs and Northern Development

witness signed original  
Witness

Signed this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2008  
at Saskatoon in the Province of Saskatchewan.

[original signed by Lawrence Joseph]  
The Federation of Saskatchewan  
Indian Nations as represented by the Chief

witness signed original  
Witness

## Appendix 2: OTC Annual Report 2007-2008

### Annotated Bibliography of the Office of the Treaty Commissioner Treaty Resources Kit

From their offices in the English River Office Complex, on Grasswood Road, the OTC assembles and distributes a *Treaty Resource Kit*. What is referred to as a “kit” includes extensive resources and reference items, teaching aids, including textbooks and DVDs. The Kit is provided to assist with teaching about Treaty and the Treaty relationship in the classroom, especially for grades 7 through 12. Many individuals and institutions contributed to the development of these materials including *Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations*, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada; Saskatchewan Learning, Government of Saskatchewan; *First Nations University of Canada* (formerly Saskatchewan Indian Federated College), *Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies* (SIIT), and the *Saskatchewan Indian Cultural Centre* (SICC).

#### Books

Campbell, Maria. *People of the Buffalo: How the Plains Indians Lived*. Vancouver: Douglas & McIntyre Ltd. (1983, revised edition). ISBN 13-978-0-88894-089-0

Illustrations by Douglas Tait and Shannon Twofeathers, the revised edition will help dispel some myths, provide an explanation about certain beliefs and ceremonies, and counter the romanticizing and stereotyping that has been perpetuated over the years. “It was not possible for Indians to separate their life as people do today into different categories such as work, play, religion, law and art. To them, every part of life and all forms of life made up ‘the whole’. To ignore one part was to lessen, even destroy one’s self.”

Cardinal, Harold and Walter Hildebrandt. *Treaty Elders of Saskatchewan: Our Dream is that Our Peoples Will One Day Be Clearly Recognized as Nations*. Calgary: University of Calgary Press. (2000).

ISBN: 1552380432

A seminal piece of research and presentation about the fundamental underpinnings and cultural framework in which the people came to Treaty. University of Calgary Press states, “This book examines the treaty relationship in Saskatchewan from past, present and future perspectives. Over 160 Elders contributed their understandings of the treaty relationship during the research process. Some of the Elders comments appear in print for the first time in this book.”

Dodson, Peter and Elders of Canoe Lake, Clear Lake and English River. *In Their Own Land: Treaty Ten and the Canoe Lake, Clear Lake, and English River Bands*. Saskatoon: Office of the Treaty Commissioner (2006). No ISBN.

An easy read, published by the Office of the Treaty Commissioner. Author, Peter Dodson, a professor of Native Studies, worked with the Elders of Treaty 10 to provide a First Nations’ perspective on the events preceding, during and following the concluding of Treaty 10 in 1906. This is an addition to a relatively new genre of writing that combines oral history and documentary history.

Dodson, Peter. *Little Pine and Lucky Man: A History 1866-1885*. Saskatoon: Office of the Treaty Commissioner. (November 2003). No ISBN.

The booklet “documents the struggles [Chief Little Pine and his brother-in-law Chief Lucky Man] had to overcome as the buffalo began to disappear from the prairies and the Dominion Government of Canada began to pressure the Cree [peoples] to settle down and begin farming. The story of the Chiefs Little Pine and Lucky Man portrays the hardships that many plains First Nations had to endure during a time of great change and sacrifices they had to make to get their people through those times. ...”

Funk, Jack, and Gordon Lobe (editors). *And They Told Us Their Stories. A Book of Indian Stories*. Saskatoon: Saskatoon Tribal Council (1991), reprinted with permission, Saskatoon: The Office of the Treaty Commissioner (2008). No ISBN.

The introduction by Chief Harry Lafond sets the context for the stories collected from community members by Shirley Bear, George

Sutherland, Carol Lafond, Carol Machiskinic, Marina Smokeyday, Christine Baldhead, Peter PeeAce, Gordon Royal and Leona Daniels. Very readable and informative, this is a resource of personal reflections that will contribute significantly to learning.

Turpel-Lafond, ME. *maskeko-sakahikanihk: 100 years for a Saskatchewan First Nation*. Saskatoon: Printers Houghton-Boston. (2005). ISBN 0-9737019-0-0

“...Chronicles the events of the past century or more for the families of the Muskeg Lake Cree Nation. The perseverance of these families, their commitment to a community and to developing friendships with their neighbours and others has placed them in the forefront of community development progress. ... By telling stories of these families we can learn a great deal about the Saskatchewan character and what is important for the future. ...”

LeRat, Harold and Linda Ungar. *Treaty Promises: Indian Reality: Life on a Reserve*. Saskatoon: Purich Publishing Ltd. (XXXX). Includes 31 photographs. ISBN 1-895830-26-5.

Written and researched by Linda Ungar, this book provides personal narratives of Harold Lerat, a member of Cowessess First Nation in Treaty 4, stories of his life, his work and his recollections. Provides a personal approach to the effects of government policy, *Indian Act* legislation, the absolute power of Indian Agents over First Nation's people. The editorial statement explains how storyteller and writer combined efforts: “The book contains stories as told by Harold LeRat and recorded by the writer; including facts found in archival records and footnoted accordingly. Historical documentation recorded by government officials, priests and settlers is incorporated; includes information collected by Harold LeRat... the commentary is opinion based and may differ from fact. ...”

Price, Richard T. *Legacy: Indian Treaty Relationships*. Saskatoon: Office of the Treaty Commissioner (Reprinted, 2008), first published in Edmonton: Plains Publishing (1991). ISBN 978-0-920985-31-1

”The approach used in this book seeks a balance between written and oral tradition, recognizing and respecting the validity of both. The cover of this book symbolizes these different traditions. The spiritual and oral traditions are represented by the pipe and the

sweetgrass. The formal and written traditions are represented by the written document and the official seal.” Divided into units for easy teaching use, the chapters include Treaty Relationships, Northern Treaties—Treaty Eight Case Study, Historical Overview. The second section of the book includes more contemporary developments and background about law and policy change including events contributing to change.

Tough, Frank, Arthur J. Ray, Jim Miller. *Bounty and Benevolence: A Documentary History of Saskatchewan Treaties*, Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press (2000). [www.mcgill.ca/mqup](http://www.mcgill.ca/mqup) ISBN-13: 9780773520233

Described by the publishers as a “book that details the foundation of the Treaty relationship in Saskatchewan based upon archival, documentary, and historical records. The book explores the pressures and rationale that led to the Treaties ...”

## Maps

Location of Treaty Boundaries in Canada. Based on maps from Natural Resources Canada, Geo Access Division (1998), Office of the Treaty Commissioner. Depicts approximate boundaries of Treaty 1 to 11, Robinson Treaties, Manitoulin Treaty, Williams Treaty, and Upper Canada Treaty.

Treaty Boundaries Map for Saskatchewan. Depicts the boundaries of Treaty 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, and 10. A compilation map illustrates the variation in several boundary maps produced during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Boundaries were taken from maps published in 1877, 1888, 1908, 1978, 1981 and 1991. Cartographers' determination of boundary locations were based on reading the descriptions of the geographic boundary locations. These descriptions are found in the Crown's text of these Treaties. Historical reproductions of the text of Treaty 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10 are contained in the *Treaty Resource Kit*.

## Other Publications and Manuals

*Statement of Treaty Issues: Treaties as a Bridge to the Future.* Report presented to Jane Stewart, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Perry Bellegarde, Chief of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (October 1998). Saskatoon. Office of the Treaty Commissioner. The 1998 Report is now online at [www.otc.ca](http://www.otc.ca)

Provides an overview of the preliminary discussions between representatives of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) and Canada, (with the Province as observer). It recounts the views and perspectives that the parties brought to the exploratory Treaty Table during meetings in 1997-1998. Quotes from the oral historians of Treaty and the Treaty relationship are included courtesy of many Saskatchewan Elders who contributed their knowledge and understandings to the meeting process.

Canada. Office of the Treaty Commissioner, Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Saskatchewan Learning, Elders and Advisory Groups. *Teaching Treaties in the Classroom: Treaty Resource Guide* Saskatoon: Office of the Treaty Commissioner (2002).

This is a looseleaf binder of about 500 pages, the contents include teaching aids, reading, and reference materials designed to supplement Saskatchewan curricula for grades 7-12.

## Age-related Learning Resources and Activity Guides

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. Researched and written by Harvey McCue and Associates for INAC. *The Learning Circle: Classroom Activities on First Nations in Canada—ages 4 to 7.* Ottawa: Indian Affairs and Northern Development (2006). ISBN 0-662-42196-5

“Produced to help meet Canadian educators’ growing needs for elementary level learning exercises on First Nations.” Not all communities are represented in the activities suggested in the booklet. However, the introduction encourages teachers to network with local communities and organizations, which can provide

opportunities to learn about the customs and traditions of First Nations in their own region.

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. Researched and written by Harvey McCue and Associates for INAC. *The Learning Circle: Classroom Activities on First Nations in Canada: A Learning Resource—Ages 8 – 11.* Ottawa: Indian Affairs and Northern Development (2006). ISBN 0-662-42198-1

An easy to use activity guide, includes units about First Nations issues, including transportation, housing, water, reserves, family, Elders, heroes from First Nations, resource suggestions and additional readings, as well as contact information.

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. Researched and written by Harvey McCue and Associates for INAC *The Learning Circle: Classroom Activities on First Nations in Canada—Ages 12 – 14.* Ottawa: Indian Affairs and Northern Development (2006). ISBN 0-662-42200-7

Includes themes of urban First Nations, names, organizations, hunting and trapping, residential schools, Treaties, self-government, as well as additional resource suggestions and a network of contacts.

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. Researched and written by Harvey McCue and Associates for INAC. *The Learning Circle: Five Voices of Aboriginal Youth in Canada, Ages 14 – 16.* Ottawa: Indian Affairs and Northern Development Canada (2007). ISBN 978-0-662-46167-8.

Includes narratives of five youths from different communities, provides suggestions for classroom activities to create understanding; media comparisons, artistic expressions, surveying experts. Resources and additional readings are included as well as online sites, and an appendix of questions to assist students’ undertaking interviews.

## Photocopies Historical Reproductions of the Crown’s Text of Treaty

Canada. Treaty 4 between Her Majesty the Queen and the Cree and Saulteaux Tribes of Indians at the Qu’Appelle and Fort Ellice, September

1874. Ottawa: Queen's Printer and Controller of Stationary. Transcription (1966).

The *OTC Treaty Resource Kit* contains a photocopy/historical reproduction of the Crown's text of Treaty. This particular printing of the Treaty was transcribed in 1966 by the Queen's Printer. The original of Treaty 4 was handwritten and is held by the Library and Archives Canada (LAC) in Ottawa. Microfilm reproduction of the handwritten text of the Treaty 4 document may be found in the RG10 Black Series. The RG10 Black series is available through LAC, FNUC, U of R and U of S, and various other libraries and archives.

This historical reproduction booklet in the *OTC Treaty Resource Kit* includes the Orders-in-Council establishing the Treaty Commission the 1876, Approval of Treaty 4 by Alexander McKenzie, and the printed version of the 1874 Articles of Treaty are reproduce including adhesions to 1876.

Canada. Treaty 5 between Her Majesty the Queen and the Saulteaux and Swampy Cree Tribes of Indians at Beren's River and Norway House with Adhesions. Copy of document: Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1969

This is a photocopy reproduction of the Articles of Treaty 5, published by the Queen's Printer in 1969. The booklet includes adhesions to Treaty 5 up to and including 1909. Microfilm reproduction of the handwritten text of the Treaty 5 document may be found in the RG10 Black Series. The RG10 Black series is available through LAC, FNUC, U of R and U of S, and various other libraries and archives.

Canada. Treaty 6 between Her Majesty the Queen and the Plain and Wood Cree Indians and other Tribes of Indians at Fort Carlton, Fort Pitt and Battle River with Adhesions (1876). Ottawa: Queen's Printer edition 1964.

The reproduction photocopy of the 1964 printed version of Treaty 6 provides the Articles of Treaty as well as the Adhesions up to and including 1956. Microfilm reproduction of the handwritten text of the Treaty 6 document may be found in the RG10 Black Series. More recent adhesions were typewritten. The

RG10 Black series is available through LAC, FNUC, U of R and U of S, and various other libraries and archives.

Canada. Treaty 8 made June 21, 1899 and adhesions, reports, etc. Ottawa: Queens Printer (1966)

The historical reproduction copy provides the Articles of Treaty 8, the Order-in-Council Setting up the Commission for Treaty 8 (OCPC 2749) as well as the Report of Commissioners for Treaty No. 8 to Clifford Sifton, Indian Affairs from David Laird, J.H. Ross, J.A.J. McKenna (Indian Treaty Commissioners) Winnipeg (1899); also included are Treaty Adhesions up to and including 1956, Reports relating to the Adhesions and a copy of the 1901 Order-in-Council ratifying adhesions to Treaty 8.

Canada. Treaty 10 and Reports of Commissioners. Ottawa: Queen's Printer (1966).

The historical reproduction copy includes the Orders-in-Council setting up Commission for Treaty No. 10 (OCPC 1459), Ratification of Treaty No. 10 (PC 2490); Report of First Commissioner for Treaty 10; the Articles of Treaty, and the Report of Second Commission for Treaty No. 10

## DVDs

Office of the Treaty Commissioner & Allen Sapp Gallery: The Honor Collection. *Allen Sapp's Art: through the Eyes of the Cree and Beyond*. DVD and Teacher Resource Guide. Saskatoon: Office of the Treaty Commissioner (2005).

The 19 minute DVD and "companion resource guide, Allen Sapp's Art" Through the Eyes of the Cree and Beyond, celebrate Allen Sapp's portrayals of the richness of the Plains Cree worldview.

Office of the Treaty Commissioner. OTC Video Library; Saskatoon: Office of the Treaty Commissioner (2008).

Contents of the DVD include:

*A Solemn Undertaking of the Five Treaties of Saskatchewan*  
14 minutes.

<i>As Long as the Sun Shines</i>	10
<i>Treaties as a Bridge to the Future</i>	12
<i>We are All Part of Treaty</i>	6:34
<i>A Wisahkecahk Story</i>	11:11
<i>Building Harmony</i>	10:49

Office of the Treaty Commissioner. OTC Video Library II. Saskatoon:  
Office of the Treaty Commissioner (2007).

Contents of the DVD include:

<i>Treaties and the Law</i>	32:51 minutes
<i>Socio-Economic Impact of Treaty</i>	17:48
<i>Role of the Elders</i>	15:06
<i>Legislative Mace Runner Ceremony</i>	14:02
<i>Treaty Implementation: Fulfilling the Covenant and Lecture</i>	64:19

## Posters

Office of the Treaty Commissioner. Five 11”x17” posters with a brief narrative, quotation, and photographs related to five of the Treaties in Saskatchewan: 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10 (c. 2006)

<sup>1</sup> Distributed by Purich Publishing, [purich@sasktel.net](mailto:purich@sasktel.net) or (306): 373-9311;



