



Treaty Land Entitlement Committee
of Manitoba Inc.

Nekanootāwinēk

("Progress" in Cree)



Annual Report 2009/2010



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Treaty Land Entitlement Committee Of Manitoba Inc. Member Entitlement First Nations

Barren Lands First Nation TREATY NO. 10

Brokenhead Ojibway Nation..... TREATY NO. 1

Buffalo Point First Nation TREATY NO. 3

Bunibonibee Cree Nation TREATY NO. 5

Fox Lake First Nation..... TREATY NO. 5

God’s Lake First Nation TREATY NO. 5

Manto Sipi Cree Nation TREATY NO. 5

Marcel Colomb First Nation TREATY NO. 6

Mathias Colomb Cree Nation..... TREATY NO. 6

Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation TREATY NO. 5

Northlands Dene First Nation..... TREATY NO. 10

Norway House Cree Nation TREATY NO. 5

Opaskwayak Cree Nation..... TREATY NO. 5

O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree Nation TREATY NO. 5

Rolling River First Nation TREATY NO. 4

Sapotaweyak Cree Nation TREATY NO. 4

Sayisi Dene First Nation TREATY NO. 5

Shamattawa First Nation TREATY NO. 5

War Lake First Nation TREATY NO. 5

Wuskwi Sipihk First Nation TREATY NO. 4

York Factory First Nation TREATY NO. 5

Cover Photo Captions and Credits:

- Image 1:** Indians (Black and White). Credit: Manitoba Archives c.1895
- Image 2:** Treaty Land Entitlement Chiefs’ Committee, February 1983
- Image 3:** The Manitoba Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement Signing Ceremony
at the Opaskwayak Cree Nation, May 29, 1997
- Image 4:** Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation TLE agreement signing ceremony, July 30, 1998
- Image 5:** TLEC Board of Directors 2010

Message from Chief Nelson Genaille
President - Board of Directors
Treaty Land Entitlement Committee of Manitoba Inc.



Tansi!
Greetings!

I am Chief Nelson Genaille from the Sapotaweyak Cree Nation and I first became the President for TLEC in 2008

and was recently re-elected by our Member Entitlement First Nations in June 2010 for another 2 year-term.

I was involved with Treaty Implementation when I first served as a Councillor for the Sapotaweyak Cree Nation. The road for me to implement this Treaty obligation is very challenging and ambiguous as the Parties involved – Canada and Manitoba - are continuously changing leadership and technicians.

Recently, Canada and Manitoba were reviewed by their respective Auditor Generals. The reports stated that Reserve creation under the Manitoba Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement is slow and time consuming. Both Auditor Generals

also recognized that First Nations, along with TLEC, lack adequate human and financial resources to fully implement their TLE agreements.

The need for speedy TLE implementation is warranted, as this will be beneficial in raising the value of First Nations lands in the area of economic development. The desire is there for First Nations to complete their TLE agreements, but greater cooperation of all parties involved in TLE implementation is needed, including the private sector.

The commitment I give to our Member Entitlement First Nations is that I have the experience in land conversion and the desire to fulfill this outstanding Treaty obligation for the benefit of all our future generations.

Megwetch!

Chief Nelson Genaille
Sapotaweyak Cree Nation
President
TLEC Board of Directors

Message from The Government of Canada



On behalf of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, I wish to extend greetings to the Treaty Land Entitlement Committee of Manitoba and all the Entitlement First Nations in Manitoba. I would also like to thank everyone involved for your hard work and dedication over the past year in meeting our common goals.

We share a vision of the future in which First Nations are healthy, safe, self-sufficient and prosperous communities. By implementing the Manitoba Treaty Land Entitlement Framework, we are bringing that vision closer to reality.

Fulfilling Treaty Land Entitlement obligations is not only about reconciling the past, but also about creating a stronger future. New reserve lands are a valuable tool providing opportunities to improve

economic and social well-being of First Nations communities. They can provide access to natural resources in northern parts of the province and urban services and consumer markets in the south.

The Treaty Land Entitlement Committee plays an integral role in working with First Nations, the Province of Manitoba and the Government of Canada as we undertake the complex work of continuing to add Treaty Entitlement Lands to reserve.

I wish you continued success, and look forward to working together with you in the future.

Sincerely,

***The Honourable John Duncan, PC, MP
Minister of Indian Affairs and
Northern Development
And Federal Interlocutor for Metis
and Non-Status Indians***

Canada



On behalf of the Province of Manitoba, I am honoured to provide greetings to the Member Entitlement First Nations of the Treaty Land

Entitlement Committee of Manitoba for this Annual Report.

As a Treaty Indian and a Minister of the Crown, I have the sacred responsibility and obligation of not only representing the views and interests of my constituents, but also ensuring that the views and interests of all First Nations peoples are equally considered and respected when it comes to governing the province.

Since 1999, our government has a proven track record in working with First Nations on a government-to-government level on a variety of issues that includes economic development, employment and training, education, health care, co-management of natural resources and fulfilling Treaty Land Entitlement obligations.

As you may be aware, my predecessor, the late Honourable Oscar Lathlin, prioritized Manitoba's commitment in satisfying its role in the Treaty Land Entitlement process through the provision of available Crown

lands to those First Nations who possess TLE agreements, whether they be independent agreements or under the terms of the Manitoba Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement. I am honoured to inherit, fulfill and further my late colleague's commitment.

As a gesture of that commitment, this year, our government, in partnership with the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba, hosted a historic and symbolic event in the Manitoba Legislature. On May 12, 2010, "Treaty Day" was held in the Manitoba Legislative Assembly to honour, respect and pay tribute to the Numbered Treaties that were signed by the Crown and the First Nations beginning in 1871 to 1910 throughout what is now known as the Province of Manitoba.

I am proud that our government respects First Nations' Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and remains committed to meeting our TLE obligations.

Ekosi! Meegwetch! Thank you!

Honourable Eric Robinson
Deputy Premier
Minister of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs



Introduction: The Manitoba Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement

On May 29, 1997, the Manitoba Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement was signed between Canada, Manitoba and the Treaty Land Entitlement Committee of Manitoba Inc., on behalf of 19 Entitlement First Nations (EFNs) at the time, at the Opaskwayak Cree Nation, Manitoba.

Since the TLE Framework Agreement signing, Canada recognized the O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree Nation and the Marcel Colomb Cree Nation as separate First Nations under the Indian Act.

The TLE Framework Agreement outlines how the parties have agreed to fulfill the outstanding TLE obligations in Manitoba arising from the Numbered Treaties and it sets out the principles, responsibilities and dispute resolution processes associated with the land selection and acquisition process to be undertaken by the EFNs.

The TLE Framework Agreement provides for up to a total of 1,100,626 acres of land and \$76 million towards the process of selecting and acquiring lands to be set apart as reserve for the EFNs. Of the 1,100,626 acres, 985,949 is the Crown Land Amount to be selected and 114,677 is the acreage amount to be purchased, or acquired, by those six (6) EFNs who do not have an abundance of Crown land to select from within their territory.

On May 29, 2010, the thirteenth anniversary of the signing of the TLE Framework Agreement occurred. Since that time, 15 EFNs have executed their individual Treaty Entitlement Agreements (“TEAs”) under the TLE Framework Agreement and are currently engaged in the land selection and acquisition process.

As of August 2010, Canada has set aside a total of 426,893 acres of land as reserve for these 15 EFNs under the TLE Framework Agreement.

Treaty Land Entitlement (“TLE”) refers to land owed to certain First Nations under the Numbered Treaties in Manitoba signed by the First Nations and the British Crown between 1871 and 1910. Treaties 1 to 10 provided that the Crown would set aside a certain amount of land as reserve land based on the populations of the “Indian bands” at the time of the original surveys for reserve lands. Not all Indian bands received their land entitlement as promised in the Numbered Treaties and this is what is referred to as “Treaty Land Entitlement”.



Northlands Dene First Nation
TLE Signing Ceremony - November 1999

Amount of Crown Land and Other Land Chart

Entitlement First Nations	Treaty Number	Crown Land (Acres)	Other land (Acres)	Total (Acres)
Barren Lands	10	66,420		66,420
Brokenhead	1	4,344	10,137	14,481
Buffalo Point	3	3,432	607	4,039
Bunibonibee	5	35,434		35,434
*Fox Lake	5	26,391		26,391
God's Lake	5	42,600		42,600
Manto Sipi	5	8,725		8,725
*Marcel Colomb	6	17,007		17,007
Mathias Colomb	6	217,364		217,364
Nisichawayasihik	5	61,761		61,761
Northlands Dene	10	94,084		94,084
Norway House	5	104,784		104,784
Opaskwayak	5	47,658	8,410	56,068
*O-pipon-Na-Piwin	5	17,674		17,674
Rolling River	4	2,356	44,756	47,112
Sapotaweyak	4	108,134	36,045	144,179
*Sayisi Dene	5	22,372		22,372
*Shamattawa	5	24,912		24,912
War Lake	5	7,156		7,156
Wuskwi Sipi	4	44,168	14,722	58,890
*York Factory	5	29,173		29,173
Total		985,949	114,677	1,100,626
* To date, these six First Nations have not signed their individual Treaty Entitlement Agreements under the Manitoba Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement.				

Implementation Secretariat

Under the terms of the Manitoba Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement, the TLEC's Implementation Secretariat provides its Member Entitlement First Nations with both technical and advisory support in accordance with its implementation responsibilities outlined in Article 33 of the TLE Framework Agreement.

In addition, TLEC's Implementation Secretariat is also expected to use its best efforts in creating a positive working relationship with both Canada and Manitoba in the implementation of the TLE Framework Agreement.



Standing, L-R: Myles Courchene, Marion Wilson, Chris Henderson, Laren Bill
Seated, L-R: Terri Grasby, Linda Reimer, Margaret Mentuck

Standing, L-R: Brian Cromarty, Garth Flett, Conway Arthurson
Seated, L-R: Chief Nelson Genaille, Paul Chief

Board of Directors

TLEC is governed by a Board of Directors, comprised of five (5) elected individuals from the TLEC's Member Entitlement First Nations.

As of June 2010, the TLEC Board of Directors consists of the following individuals:

- **Chief Nelson Genaille**, President - Sapotaweyak Cree Nation;
- **Councillor Paul Chief**, Vice-President - Brokenhead Ojibway Nation.
- **Mr. Conway Arthurson**, Secretary/Treasurer - Fox Lake Cree Nation;
- **Councillor Garth Flett**, Board Director - Opaskwayak Cree Nation; and,
- **Councillor Brian Cromarty**, Board Director – Norway House Cree Nation.

Directors are voted in by TLEC's Member Entitlement First Nations every two years at TLEC's Annual General Meetings, which TLEC is required to hold annually by June 30 of each calendar year.



Under Article 33 of the Manitoba Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement, the Treaty Land Entitlement Committee ("TLEC") of Manitoba Inc. is mandated to provide its Member Entitlement First Nations ("EFNs") with technical and professional support services in the implementation of their individual Treaty Entitlement Agreements ("TEAs") signed under the terms of the Framework Agreement.

In addition to providing technical and professional support, TLEC is also required to use its best efforts in creating a positive working relationship with both Canada and Manitoba (commonly referred to as the "Parties") in the implementation of the Framework Agreement.

On May 29, 2010, the thirteenth anniversary of the signing of the Framework Agreement occurred. Since that time, 15 EFNs have executed their individual TEAs and are currently engaged in the land selection and acquisition process.

As of August 2010, Canada has set aside a total of 426,893 acres of land as Reserve for these 15 EFNs under the Framework Agreement.

In this past fiscal year of 2009-2010, TLEC has played a critical role, in collaboration with Canada and Manitoba, in achieving the following accomplishments:

- All the Parties (Canada, Manitoba and TLEC) have agreed upon "Dashboards" for Years 5 to 8;
- The Parties agreed to reinstitute the use of Tracking Charts for 2010/2011;
- Securing a new Independent Chairperson for the Implementation Monitoring Committee and ensuring the continued operation of the Implementation Monitoring Committee's independent office. On May 1, 2010, Mr. Lloyd Graham was appointed as the Independent Chairperson by the Parties; and,
- Continuing to assist EFNs in building community capacity to resolve Third Party Interests on acquired and selected lands under their individual TEAs.

In recognition of improving communications and coordination in the on-going implementation of the TLE Framework Agreement, staff from Canada, Manitoba and TLEC initiated a three-party strategic planning initiative on March 3, 2009. At that time, the Parties asked the then Assistant Chairperson of the Implementation Monitoring Committee ("IMC"), Mr. Lloyd Graham, to facilitate these planning sessions.

On June 17 and 18, 2009, the Parties met as they began to consider common goals and principles that should be adopted to guide the

proposed strategic planning process. As reported by the IMC in its Annual Report for 2009/2010, these “common goals” expressed by the Parties at the meeting were:

- To reach consensus on next steps with respect to the lands to be transferred; to develop a common plan;
- To show respect for the perspectives and views of each other; to respect the First Nation objectives while developing the plan;
- To learn from the past, and not repeat the mistakes or the learning curve;
- To work together towards common goals;
- To satisfy Treaty obligations;
- To stick to schedules and timelines;
- To develop joint work plans for each parcel, and ensure that each party understands what they need to do and when that needs to be done relative to the other steps;
- To quickly come to ways and means to resolve third party interests; to conduct parcel review meetings with the Entitlement First Nations

(“EFNs”) with a united front, and not use it as a forum to present different views on how to proceed, which only serves to have EFNs hesitate and pull back;

- To share information;
- To have a strategic plan up and running quickly, not a year from now;
- To define common goals; and,
- To ensure the plan is practical and concrete and translates into what needs to be done to transfer each specific parcel.

As of June 2009, the Parties have been regularly meeting in relation to the implementation of the TLE Framework Agreement under this Strategic Planning Process.

Over the last three fiscal years, TLEC has operated under annual Contribution Funding Arrangement (“CFA”) agreements with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (“INAC”) – Manitoba Region. This funding relationship has allowed and enabled TLEC to continue fulfilling its implementation responsibilities under the Framework Agreement, as well as continuing to serve and represent its Member EFNs.

Chris Henderson
TLEC Executive Director's Report
Reporting Period: April 19, 2010 - December 2010



Introduction:

Tansi! Boozhoo!
Greetings!

I want to take this opportunity to formally introduce myself as the Executive Director of the Treaty Land

Entitlement Committee ("TLEC") of Manitoba Inc., effective April 19, 2010.

My name is Chris Henderson and I am Anishinaabe and a First Nations member of my father's home community, the Black River First Nation (signatory to Treaty No.5), and a former band member of the Sapotaweyak Cree Nation (signatory to Treaty No.4), a Member Entitlement First Nation ("EFN") of the TLEC.

As a former employee of the TLEC, I am acutely aware of the terms of the Manitoba Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement and the current challenges that exist in the implementation of the reserve creation process. During my term as Southern Grand Chief of the Southern Chiefs' Organization (2004-2007), we commissioned a comparative analysis of the TLE implementation processes in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. The intent was to draw attention to the slow-pace of the reserve creation process in Manitoba under the TLE Framework Agreement. As a result of this report, I believe we accomplished

our objective which resulted in Canada and Manitoba to both declare that they were committed to accelerating the TLE land conversion process.

Prior to accepting the Executive Director role with TLEC, I was employed with the Government of Manitoba's Aboriginal Issues Committee of Cabinet as a Project Manager, providing policy analysis and political advice to various provincial Cabinet Ministers. I intend on making use of this internal knowledge for the benefit of the TLEC Member First Nations in the successful implementation of the TLE Framework Agreement.

Since my start date with TLEC on April 19, 2010, I have been reacquainting and familiarizing myself with the internal operations of the organization by working with the TLEC Board of Directors ("BOD") and the TLEC Implementation Secretariat staff, as well as orienting myself to some of the major issues confronting TLEC and its Member EFNs.

The two major issues that required my immediate attention were the TLEC Organization Review (December 18, 2009) and the preparation of a new proposal and work plan for 2010/2011 to be submitted to Indian and Northern Affairs Canada – Manitoba Region, now a core funder for TLEC.

I will now provide a brief summary of my activities since assuming the role of TLEC Executive Director.

Internal Operations:

Staffing:

As a result of the TLEC BOD accepting the recommendations of the TLEC Organization Review conducted by the Legacy Bowes Group, two positions within TLEC were eliminated:

1. TLEC Associate Director position; and,
2. TLEC Administrative and Implementation Assistant.

With the elimination of these two positions, TLEC created a third Implementation Officer position, whose primary focus will be on managing TLEC's Third-Party Interest Pilot Project.

In addition to the elimination of the Associate Director position, TLEC also eliminated the position of Administrative and Implementation Assistant on May 25, 2010. TLEC reinstated the old position of "Receptionist" and this full-time position was filled in October 2010.

In response to some of the findings within the Organization Review, I have instituted weekly staff meetings with TLEC Staff to review current issues and required follow-up actions resulting from TLEC BOD meetings and other TLEC gatherings. Other recommended changes continue to be addressed and implemented on an on-going basis.

Implementation Activities:

TLEC's Implementation Officers have been tending to their regular day-to-day tasks briefing me on their EFN files, as they deem appropriate. The Implementation Officers were also utilized for their expertise and first-hand knowledge of implementation matters under the Framework Agreement in the preparation of the 2010/2011 Work Plan for the Implementation Monitoring Committee ("IMC").

Priority issues that will be addressed in the 2010/2011 fiscal year include:

- Working with the Schedule B EFNs to identify barriers and options to acquire their "Other" land amounts, in light of the time period for land acquisitions under the MFA nearing;
- TLEC will continue to work with the EFNs in identifying and attempting to resolve Third Party Interests on TLE selections and acquisitions;
- TLEC will continue working with the EFNs in identifying and confirming their Priority Parcels with outstanding encumbrances or issues, and attempt to address these outstanding issues;
- Working with the affected EFNs on the development of a "Hydro Easement" agreement, to their satisfaction and comfort; and,
- Continuing to provide technical support to TLEC's Representatives on the IMC. TLEC's appointed

representatives on the IMC are Councillor Paul Chief of the Brokenhead Ojibway Nation and Ms. Merrell Ann Phare, Executive Director of the nationally renowned Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources.

Communications/Outreach:

TLEC participated in the Vision Quest Conference and Trade Show on May 19 and 20, 2010, at the Winnipeg Convention Centre. TLEC staff distributed an "Update" Newsletter on the implementation status of TLE land selections, acquisitions and conversion to Reserve status under the Framework Agreement and "The Long Journey Home" DVDs.

TLEC also had a presence at the "Honouring First Nations Treaties" event at the Manitoba Legislature on May 12, 2010, by setting up its display unit and answering questions about the implementation status of the Framework Agreement.

TLEC participated in the Assembly of First Nations 31st Annual General Assembly trade show in Winnipeg and distributed its informational materials to assembly delegates from across Canada.

TLEC Annual General Meeting 2010:

TLEC staff worked extremely hard in planning and preparing for TLEC's Annual General Meeting in Opaskwayak Cree Nation from June 15 – 18, 2010. The TLEC BOD approved of a special honouring ceremony for Mr. Dennis White Bird at this year's AGM, for his work as past Chief Negotiator of TLEC and former Commissioner of the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba. In addition, the Member EFNs of TLEC elected their Board of Directors for a two-year period, pursuant to TLEC's Bylaw.

Conclusion:

My first eight months on the job with TLEC has been extremely positive, educational and enlightening.

In closing, I want to say Giichii-Miigwech to Chief Nelson Genaille, President of the TLEC Board of Directors, and Mr. Conway Arthurson, Secretary/Treasurer of the TLEC BOD, for giving me this second opportunity to serve the Member Entitlement First Nations of TLEC as Executive Director.

Miigwech!/Ekosi!/Thank you!

Chris Henderson
Executive Director

Finance Officer's Message



Anin, Tansi, Wotziye

Greetings to all members of the Treaty Land Entitlement Committee of Manitoba Inc.

I am originally from Sagkeeng First Nation.

I am a member of the Aboriginal Finance Officers Association of Canada and a Board member of the Manitoba Chapter. I currently hold the designation of a Certified Financial Manager.

I joined the TLEC team in September of 2002 and it certainly has been a privilege and an honour to serve the Entitlement First Nations (EFN's) for the past eight years. I serve the Treaty Land Entitlement Committee (TLEC) in the capacity of Finance Officer and Office Manager.

It is my role to assist TLEC by providing overall sound financial management. This financial management includes the preparation of all financial documentation and budget /analysis for TLEC and to assist and advise on short and long term strategic financial planning for the organization.

Over the years, I have witnessed EFN's struggle to overcome barriers which have impeded their ability to complete the process of converting land to reserve status. I have also witnessed the successes of other communities whose determination to overcome those impediments has resulted in their arriving at a stage where the majority of their lands have been converted. These EFN's are now prepared to develop those lands for economic ventures to enhance prosperity of their people.

To quote Frank Lloyd Wright, "I know the price of success: dedication, hard work, and an unremitting devotion to the things you want to see happen." We all want to see the successful completion of converting the outstanding land debt owed to the First Nations. We are all dedicated to the same cause and if we all work together, we will achieve success.

Meegwetch, Ekosi, Mushi!

***Terri Grasby,
Finance Officer***

Implementation Officer's Message



Tansi! My name is Laren Bill. I am of Cree ancestry and a member of the Pelican Lake First Nation in Saskatchewan. I joined the team of the Treaty Land Entitlement Committee of Manitoba, Inc. in November 2007.

Since 1996, I have been working for First Nations in the protection of First Nations' consultation protocols, cultural landscapes, research and natural resources management.

Through my career, I have had the opportunity to work closely with the Cree (Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta), Ojibway (Manitoba and Ontario), and the Blackfoot Nations (Alberta). Previously, I have worked as: Aboriginal Consultation Advisor with the Historic Resources Management branch of the Government of Alberta; Research Associate with the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources (CIER); and Co-Management Coordinator with the Agency Chiefs Tribal Council (ACTC).

I bring to my career a balance of teachings. Having been raised practicing our spiritual traditions, I maintain a strong connection to them. I have also pursued post-secondary

education, successfully completing a Master's degree in Natural Resources Management, a Bachelor of Arts (Adv.) in Native Studies and Geography, and a Certificate in Environmental Assessment, Protection and Education.

I believe that the land is sacred, as are the treaties that were signed by our ancestors. I feel honored to be implementing these treaties and contributing to the efforts to have lands returned to the Entitlement First Nations (EFNs). Despite the challenges that this work presents, I strongly believe that the First Nations need to remain focused on seeing their lands become reserve status; the land is integral to maintaining, strengthening and protecting our cultures and ways of life. I have enjoyed working with all of the EFNs to date, and look forward to continuing this work with Buffalo Point First Nation, Brokenhead Ojibway Nation, Manto Sipi Cree Nation, Norway House Cree Nation, Rolling River First Nation and Wuskwi Sipiik Cree Nation.

Personally, my wife (Reegan) and I have shared our lives with each other for 14 years. In 2008, we were blessed with the birth of our son, Alex.

Ekosi! Miigwech! Thank you!

Laren Bill,
Implementation Officer

Implementation Officer's Message



Greetings!

This is my first annual report to the Entitlement First Nation members. I was hired in early November 2009 as an Implementation Officer. I had resigned from INAC in March 2007 as a Project Manager from the Lands Directorate.

I came to TLEC as I wanted to continue to work with the Manitoba Framework Agreement as Treaties require special principles of interpretation and are sacred in nature to the Aboriginal People.

I am working with both Schedule A and Schedule B Entitlement First Nations under the Framework Agreement. My duties include attending First Nation community meetings, to participate in the implementation obligations by all parties. I have also participated in the Strategic Planning Sessions in order to prepare a four-party joint-work plan and to discuss the "Dashboards", an INAC survey planning and environmental tool. I have populated the Tracking Charts, which shows process and next steps, which will be distributed to the EFNs at a future date.

I have participated in orientation sessions of the First Nation Treaty Land Entitlement Coordinators and I am continuing to assist them in their efforts to resolve Third Party Interests. I also prepare briefing materials for the Executive Director for recommendation to the Board of Directors. I am currently

working on an issue dealing with the interpretation of the Minimum Entitlement Acres for the Schedule B EFNs as the parties have their respective positions on the interpretation of the Trust Account.

I work with Bunibonibee Cree Nation, and I would like to extend my congratulations to BCN as 89% of their TLE land selections have been converted to reserve.

Other First Nations continue to make progress as well. The Opaskwayak Cree Nation recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Thompson on their acquisition parcel and will work with the city to negotiate a Municipal Development and Services Agreement when required.

God's Lake is dealing with difficult mining issues. The Nisichawayashik Cree Nation has many parcels that have TPI's in the form of Water Interests in Developed Waterways and are in current negotiations with Manitoba Hydro. The Northlands Dene First Nation is engaged in negotiating with lodge owners in an effort to resolve the Third Party Interests on their TLE parcels.

The EFNs face many challenges like consultation and accommodation and must find ways to mutually resolve TPIs and other encumbrances to the satisfaction of all parties.

Miigwech/Thank you!

Linda Reimer,
Implementation Officer

Implementation Officer's Message



Aiiniii!

My name is Myles Courchene, a recent staff addition to the Treaty Land Entitlement Committee of Manitoba's Implementation Secretariat.

I am a proud member of the Fort Alexander Indian Band, Treaty #1, located within Sagkeeng traditional territory.

My primary task is the monitoring and evaluation of the Third Party Interest (TPI) Pilot Project that began in 2008. The project was designed to assist the Entitlement First Nation (EFN) members in addressing Third-Party Interests on their priority parcel selections and acquisitions. There are currently 15 EFNs accessing TPI funds. The pilot project is currently in its third year of operation. Recommendations regarding this pilot-project are being formulated for consideration of the TLEC Board of Directors.

I have been recently assigned as the Implementation Officer for three Entitlement First Nations: Sapotaweyak Cree Nation, Mathias Colomb Cree Nation and Barren Lands First Nation.

In addition to the above, I am also a member of the Portage Working Group which is expected to provide viable options/methods of resolving the portage issue encumbering various Entitlement First Nation's land selections and acquisitions. The Working Group membership also includes Mr. Laren Bill, TLEC Implementation Officer, and representatives from Canada, Manitoba and the Implementation Monitoring Committee.

I look forward to meeting and assisting other EFNs with their treaty land entitlement selections and acquisitions.

Miigwech/Thank you!

Myles Courchene,
Implementation Officer

Executive Assistant's Message



I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Marion Wilson; I am from the Peguis First Nation. I currently reside in Winnipeg with my family. I was employed as Executive Assistant with the Treaty Land Entitlement Committee of Manitoba (TLEC) from 2003 to 2007 until I assumed the full time position as Executive Assistant to the independent Chairperson of the Manitoba TLE Framework Agreement (MFA) Implementation Monitoring Committee. In May 2010, I re-joined the TLEC team to continue on to be part of the MFA Treaty Land Entitlement process.

I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. Chris Henderson, the newly appointed Executive Director, for giving me the opportunity to serve as his Executive Assistant; it's a pleasure. Since my last appointment with TLEC, there are new employees and Board Members with TLEC, I look forward to working with you and also to the Board and Staff who have long served with TLEC.

My duties here at TLEC are to provide administrative support to the TLEC Board of Directors and Secretariat Staff at all levels. I am responsible for all aspects of meeting preparation and communication for Board meetings, Annual General Meetings and all other meetings as required. I provide technical and administrative support to the Board of Directors, Entitlement First Nation members and the TLEC Secretariat Staff members in any way as required.

It has been 13 years since the Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement has been signed. A lot of work has been done throughout the years, but yet there is still a lot of work to be done to accomplish the mandate of the Agreement. I would like to encourage all Entitlement First Nations, the Treaty Land Entitlement Committee of Manitoba, the Government of Manitoba and the Government of Canada to continue on implementing the agreement in good faith and determination to continue on and stride with transferring selected lands to reserve status.

Ekosi!

***Marion Wilson,
Executive Assistant***

The Implementation Monitoring Committee

With the assistance of an Independent Chairperson, representatives from Canada, Manitoba and TLEC who are appointed to the IMC, address issues of concern in the implementation of the Manitoba Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement (“MFA”) and develop consensus on how to resolve issues.

- (1) The Implementation Monitoring Committee shall be generally responsible for facilitating the implementation of the MFA and any Treaty Entitlement Agreements, including:
 - (a) establishing a budget of the reasonable estimated costs of its operation in each fiscal year, being the period from April 1 to March 31 in any year, or any part of a fiscal year in which it operates;
 - (b) monitoring of the progress of implementation;
 - (c) making recommendations to the parties for the resolution of any issue or matter in dispute relating to the implementation of this Agreement or any Treaty Entitlement Agreement;
 - (d) resolving any issue or matter in dispute relating to the implementation of this Agreement or any Treaty Entitlement Agreement which is referred to it by a party or an Entitlement First Nation under this Agreement or that Treaty Entitlement Agreement; and
 - (e) considering the appropriate method of resolution of an issue or matter in dispute relating to the implementation of this Agreement or any Treaty Entitlement Agreement in accordance with Article 35.
- (2) Subject to Subsections 34.03(1) and 34.05(1) of the MFA, the Implementation Monitoring Committee shall meet upon the call of the

Chairperson in accordance with Subsections 34.09(2) and (3) of the MFA.

- (3) The Implementation Monitoring Committee shall operate within the budget established in accordance with (1) (a), unless the parties agree otherwise.

Where the IMC is unable to resolve an issue, they may refer it to the Senior Advisory Committee (SAC) with recommendations on how to resolve the issue. The SAC consists of the Regional Director General of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (Manitoba Region), the Deputy Minister of Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs, and the TLE Committee of Manitoba Inc. Board President.

The IMC’s dispute resolution methods are progressive. The IMC may recommend fact-finding, mediation services, non-binding arbitration and arbitration to resolve disputes.

As of December 2010, the IMC Representatives are:

- Merrell-Ann Phare**, TLEC Representative
- Paul Chief**, TLEC Representative
- Rick Kosmick**, Manitoba Representative
- Winona Embuldeniya**, Canada Representative
- Lloyd Grahame**, Independent Chairperson



Merrell-Ann Phare



Paul Chief



Lloyd Grahame

Treaty Land Entitlement Committee of Manitoba Inc.

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For More Information on the MB TLE Framework Agreement and the TLEC,
please visit our **Website @: www.tlec.ca**