



Treaty Land Entitlement Committee of Manitoba Inc.

Progress Report 2021/2022



A Treaty Promise made.
A Treaty Promise to be kept.



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- Image 1:** Signing of the Manitoba Framework Agreement on Treaty Land Entitlement, May 29, 1997 at the Opaskwayak Cree Nation, MB.
- Image 2:** (Standing left-right): Councillor Modeste Tsessaze (Northlands Dene First Nation), Chief Elwood Zastre (Wuskwi Sipihk First Nation), & Councillor Willie Moore (Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation); (Seated left-right) Chief Nelson Genaille (Sapotaweyak Cree Nation), Elder Joe Hyslop (Northlands Dene First Nation), & Councillor Roger Ross (Manto Sipi Cree Nation).
- Image 3:** Brokenhead Ojibway Nation’s then-Chief & Council accepting a gift at the TLEC’s 2021 Annual General Meeting.
- Image 4:** Left-right: Chief Nelson Genaille, TLEC President, & Canada’s Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations Marc Miller.

Glossary of Abbreviations used in this Progress Report

“**ATR**” means Canada’s Additions to Reserve Policy

“**AGM**” means Annual General Meeting

“**DISC**” means Department of Indigenous Services Canada

“**EFN**” means Entitlement First Nation

“**IMC**” means the Implementation Monitoring Committee

“**MFA**” or “**Framework Agreement**” means the 1997 Manitoba Framework Agreement on Treaty Land Entitlement

“**MDSA**” means a Municipal Development and Services Agreement

“**RSM**” means Regional Survey Map

“**SAC**” means Senior Advisory Committee

“**TEA**” means a Treaty Entitlement Agreement or a “**TLE**” agreement

“**TLEC**” means the Treaty Land Entitlement Committee of Manitoba Inc.

“**TLE**” means Treaty Land Entitlement

“**TPI**” means Third Party Interest

Message From Chief Nelson Genaille - TLEC President



Tansi! On behalf of the Treaty Land Entitlement Committee (TLEC) of Manitoba's Board of Directors, I am honoured to provide greetings for this Progress Report.

I hope this message finds you, your families and your communities safe during these extraordinary times.

On behalf of the TLEC, we offer our sincere condolences to those families who have lost their loved ones to the COVID-19 virus.

Since my last written message, the Federal Court of Canada released its decision on April 23, 2021 regarding TLEC's on-going dispute with Canada under the 1997 Manitoba Framework Agreement (MFA) on Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE).

In this case, TLEC sought a declaration that the Releases provided by each of TLEC's Member Entitlement First Nation (EFNs) in favour of Canada, as was required under the MFA, are void and ineffective, and that Canada is barred from relying on these Releases.

This court action was filed after Canada was found guilty of breaching the MFA in a 2018 binding arbitration decision for unilaterally changing the MFA's implementation process

without the TLEC's consent.

The breach is that Canada failed to secure the written consent of TLEC's Member EFNs that would amend the MFA to allow Canada to consult other Aboriginal groups on the TLE Reserve creation process.

In his written decision, and in commenting on Canada's arguments against TLEC, **Justice Grammond** stated:

"These arguments do not persuade me that I should deny the relief to which the applicant First Nations are entitled. Canada minimizes the scope of its default. If it wishes to add unilaterally a new step to the reserve creation process provided in the original agreement, it cannot blame the applicant First Nations for seeking to renegotiate other aspects of the agreement. Nor can it complain about the consequences of a dispute resolution process that it bargained for."

Justice Grammond then declared that the Releases void and ineffective in whole and that Canada is barred from relying upon them.

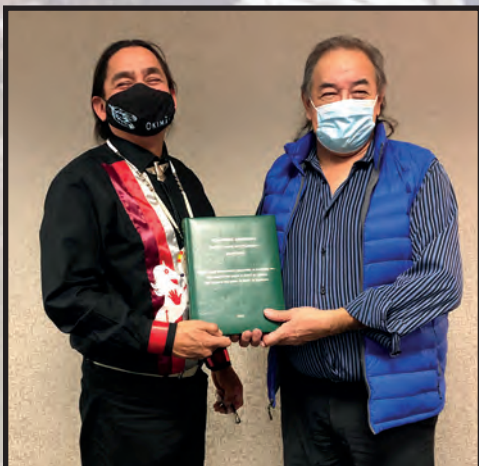
This now clears the way for the TLEC to sue Canada for loss of use under the TLE process. This additional legal action is currently being considered by our Member EFNs.

Recall that in 1997, when our Member EFNs agreed to accept the

MFA's deal for land to settle their outstanding TLE claims, each EFN was required to provide Canada with a conditional release where they agreed that further legal action would not be pursued by them regarding Canada's failure to provide the Reserve lands that the EFNs were supposed to receive after their Treaties were signed.

This release however was not absolute. It was conditional. TLEC's original negotiators ensured that if during the implementation of the MFA, and if Canada was to ever breach its legal obligations under this three-party land claim agreement, an EFN could then ask a judge to set aside the Release. And this is what happened with the 2021 federal court decision.

Fortunately, Canada did not appeal this decision and since then, we have been in active bilateral negotiations with Canada to try and resolve Canada's on-going breach of the MFA.



May 29, 2022 will be the 25th anniversary of the signing of the 1997 MFA. On this day, we will be commemorating this historic milestone by honouring the following members of the TLEC's original negotiating team:

1. Chief Dennis White Bird, Rolling River First Nation;
2. Chief Hubert Kematch, Sapotaweyak Cree Nation (*In Memoriam);
3. Chief John Thunder, Buffalo Point First Nation;
4. Councillor D'Arcy Linklater, Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation; and,
5. Mr. Dennis Grieves, Bunibonibee Cree Nation.

I also want to thank our former Board member, Mr. John Clarke, former Chief of Barren Lands First Nation, for his time and service on the TLEC Board of Directors. He stepped down from the Board in April 2021.

In closing, I thank our Implementation staff for all their work and dedication in helping our Member EFNs implement their TLE agreements under the MFA!

Stay safe.

Ekosi! Megwetch!

Chief Nelson Genaille
President – Board of Directors

Introduction:

The Manitoba Framework Agreement On Treaty Land Entitlement

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

The MFA outlines how the Parties – Canada, Manitoba, TLEC and the EFNs - have agreed to fulfill the outstanding TLE obligations in Manitoba arising from the Numbered Treaties. It sets out the principles, responsibilities and dispute resolution processes associated with the land selection and acquisition process.

The MFA provides for up to a total of 1,100,626 acres of additional Reserve land to be selected and/or acquired for those EFNs that agreed to accept the MFA's terms through community approval process votes.

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 acquired, or purchased, by the six (6) EFNs who were provided with land acquisition payments due to insufficient amounts of available Crown Land to select from within their territories.

Shortly after the signing of the MFA, Canada recognized the O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree Nation and the Marcel Colomb First Nation as separate First

Nations under the Indian Act. As a result, both these First Nations are now eligible to sign on to the MFA and receive additional Reserve land.

One of the unique aspects of the MFA is the Implementation Monitoring Committee (IMC). The IMC is generally responsible for facilitating the implementation of the MFA and any Treaty Entitlement Agreement (TEA) signed by the EFNs, by monitoring and reporting on progress, making recommendations to facilitate implementation and assisting the MFA parties in resolving matters and issues in dispute.

The IMC is made up of five (5) members: two (2) representatives appointed by TLEC, one representative for each of Canada and Manitoba and an Independent Chairperson.

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 Reserve land based on the populations of the "Indian bands", shortly after the Treaties were signed.

Not all Indian bands received their land entitlement as promised and cited as the "Per Capita Provision" in the Numbered Treaties; and this is what is referred to as "Treaty Land Entitlement".

TLEC'S Implementation Responsibilities

As set out in Article 33.02, General Responsibilities of TLE Committee, of the MFA, TLEC will assist with the implementation of the MFA and each TEA signed by TLEC's Member EFNs, by undertaking the following:

1. To provide technical and professional support to an EFN in planning and conducting the Community Approval Process (CAP);
2. To develop and deliver a communications program for the EFNs informing them about the implementation of the MFA;
3. To provide professional and technical support to an EFN in explaining the provisions contained in the MFA and the TEA and in the implementation of both agreements;
4. To establish a working relationship with the departments and staff of Canada and Manitoba in support of the implementation of the MFA;
5. To provide professional and technical support to an EFN in all aspects of the Selection or Acquisition of land to be set apart as Reserve, including:
 - a) Reviewing and commenting on the Land Selection Study undertaken by the EFN;
 - b) Liaison with Manitoba in the process of review of proposed Dispositions and Mineral Dispositions within each EFN's Community Interest Zone (CIZ);
 - c) Reviewing the application of the Principles to the Selection or Acquisition of land;
 - d) The preparation and negotiation of agreements necessary for the Selection or Acquisition of land;
 - e) The monitoring of the land transfer process;
 - f) The monitoring of the process of setting apart land as reserve;
 - g) The negotiation of municipal development and services agreements as required;
 - h) The removal, discharge or accommodation of Third Party Interests;
 - i) To provide professional and technical support to the Implementation Monitoring Committee (IMC) at meetings and aiding in resolving and mediating disputes amongst the major parties involved.
6. To produce documents and manuals in support of the implementation of the MFA; and,
7. To produce reports on the progress of the implementation of the MFA and TEAs.

During this past fiscal year, and despite the global COVID-19 pandemic and its associated challenges and risks, TLEC continued to use its best efforts in working with Canada and Manitoba under the Three Party Strategic Planning Process, and assisting the EFNs in advancing their TLE parcels under this multi-step process.

The end goal of this collaborative effort, which is chaired and facilitated by the Independent Chairperson of the IMC, is to create Reserve lands.

TLEC also continued to support and assist the EFNs in their efforts to resolve and accommodate the various third party interests, and other encumbrances, on their TLE land selections and acquisitions by providing them with dedicated funding through the Third Party Interest (TPI) Account.

An example of a third party interest is a mining claim, mineral exploration license, a hydro distribution line, a lodge and outcamps.

With respect to new TLE Crown Land Selections being made by the EFNs and Canada's unilateral consultation process, the EFNs have been reluctant to make new Selections due to the uncertainty and lack of rigor regarding Canada's current consultation process with non-MFA Aboriginal groups.

The EFNs believe that any new Selections may ultimately be

prevented from becoming Reserve if a non-MFA Aboriginal group opposes the Selection.

On July 21 & 22, 2021, the TLEC held its 2021 Annual General Meeting (AGM) on the Swan Lake First Nation's Reserve land in Headingley, Manitoba, Treaty No. 1 Territory.

One of the big agenda items discussed by TLEC's Member Entitlement First Nations (EFNs) at this AGM was the Federal Court of Canada's April 23, 2021 decision regarding the 1997 Manitoba Framework Agreement (MFA) on Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) and the next steps.

In addition, and in advance of August 3, 2021, the TLEC honoured the Brokenhead Ojibway Nation (BON) in recognition of the 150th Anniversary of Treaty No. 1 which was signed between First Nations and the British Crown on August 3, 1871, at the "old Stone Fort", now called Lower Fort Garry.

The BON is TLEC's only Member EFN signatory to Treaty No. 1.

The TLEC presented an original painting of the Treaty Medallion, created by Mr. Victor Tssessaze of the Northlands Denesuline First Nation (a TLEC Member EFN), to the BON's then-Chief Deborah Smith and Councillors Allen Hocaluk and Wendell Sinclair Jr.

Following the presentation, the Spirit Sands Singers provided a beautiful Honour Song to mark this milestone.

Presentations at this AGM included the following: TLEC's Year-end Financial Statements ending March 31, 2020 by Heartland CPA, and year-end reports by TLEC's Implementation staff.

Other invited guest presenters at this AGM, included:

- Ms. Cheryl Prosser on behalf of Michelle Dubik, Deputy Minister of Manitoba Indigenous and Northern Relations;
- Mr. Laren Bill, Independent Chairperson, of the Implementation Monitoring Committee; and,
- Mr. Steven Nahnybida, Manager of Additions to Reserves, Indigenous Services Canada, Manitoba Region.

In other AGM business, the vacant seat on the TLEC's Board of Directors was filled by Manto Sipi Cree Nation's Councillor Roger Ross who will serve until July 2022. He replaced former Councillor John Clarke of the Barren Lands First Nation.



The Member EFNs also voted to accept the following recommended Elders to serve as Elder Advisors to the TLEC, on a rotating basis:

1. Mr. Joe Hyslop, Northlands Dene First Nation (NDFN);
2. Mr. Henry Wilson, Opaskwayak Cree Nation (OCN); and,
3. Mr. Gilbert Andrews, God's Lake First Nation (GLFN).

They collectively replace Mr. Jimmy Hunter Spence, of the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation, who stepped down as TLEC's Elder at TLEC's 2021 AGM.

TLE Land Conversion Update

Entitlement First Nations	Crown Land (no minimum)	Other Land Entitlement Acres	Total Treaty Land Entitlement	Acres Converted to Reserve as of March 2022
Barren Lands	66,420.00	-	66,420.00	80.56
Brokenhead	4,344.00	10,137.00	14,481.00	679.46
Buffalo Point	3,432.00	607.00	4,039.00	2,450.90
Bunibonibee	35,434.00	-	35,434.00	32,721.60
God’s Lake	42,600.00	-	42,600.00	16,310.04
Manto Sipi	8,725.00	-	8,725.00	5,544.06
Mathias Colomb	217,364.00	-	217,364.00	175,340.34
Nisichawayasihk	61,761.00	-	61,761.00	33,816.01
Northlands	94,084.00	-	94,084.00	61,739.10
Norway House	104,784.00	-	104,784.00	66,745.38
Opaskwayak	47,658.00	8,410.00	56,068.00	29,685.30
Rolling River	2,356.00	44,756.00	47,112.00	6,532.34
Sapotaweyak	108,134.00	36,045.00	144,179.00	99,702.08
War Lake	,156.00	-	7,156.00	4,282.60
Wuskwi Sipi	44,168.00	14,722.00	58,890.00	29,893.23
TOTAL	848,420.00	114,677.00	963,097.00	565,521.98
*Fox Lake	26,391.00	-	26,391.00	3.21
*Marcel Colomb	17,007.00	-	17,007.00	-
*O-Pipon-Na-Piwin	17,674.29	-	17,674.29	-
*Sayisi Dene	22,372.00	-	22,372.00	-
*Shamattawa	24,912.00	-	24,912.00	-
*York Factory	29,173.00	-	29,173.00	-
Total	137,529.29	-	137,529.29	3.21

* To date, these six First Nations have not signed their individual Treaty Entitlement Agreements under the Manitoba Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement.



(Standing left-right): Councillor Modeste Tsessaze (Northlands Dene First Nation), Chief Elwood Zastre (Wuskwi Sipiik First Nation), & Councillor Willie Moore (Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation);
(Seated left-right) Chief Nelson Genaille (Sapotaweyak Cree Nation), Elder Joe Hyslop (Northlands Dene First Nation), & Councillor Roger Ross (Manto Sipi Cree Nation).

The TLEC is governed by a Board of Directors, comprised of five (5) individuals elected from and by the TLEC Voting Members in accordance with TLEC’s By-Law #1.

Directors are voted in by the Voting Members every two years at TLEC’s Annual General Meetings, which TLEC is required to hold annually by July 31 of each calendar year.

The TLEC Board of Directors leads and guides the policies, objectives and strategic direction of the TLEC, all the while ensuring TLEC fulfills its MFA implementation responsibilities.

As of March 2022, the TLEC Board of Directors consists of the following individuals:

- **Chief Nelson Genaille**, President - Sapotaweyak Cree Nation;
- **Councillor Willie Moore**, Vice-President – Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation;
- **Chief Elwood Zastre**, Treasurer – Wuskwi Sipiik First Nation;
- **Councillor Modeste Tsessaze**, Secretary – Northlands Dene First Nation; and,
- **Councillor Roger Ross**, Board Director – Manto Sipi Cree Nation.



A n i i n /
B o o z h o o /
T a n s i /
Greetings. My
name is Chris
Henderson and I
am the Executive
Director of TLEC's
Implementation
Secretariat.

I have been in this position since April 2010, and I am also one of TLEC's Representatives on the Implementation Monitoring Committee (IMC).

Since 2008, TLEC has operated under an annual Contribution Funding Arrangement (CFA) with Canada through its formerly named Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada and now called Indigenous Services Canada. This funding relationship has allowed and enabled TLEC to continue fulfilling its TLE implementation responsibilities, as well as continuing to serve and represent its Member EFNs.

25 years after the signing of the 1997 MFA, Canada has set aside over 565,000 acres of land as Reserve for our 15 Member EFNs.

TLEC's Member EFNs continue to object to Canada's unilateral consultation process, which has been deemed an Event of Default by an independent adjudicator in a 2018 Binding Arbitration Award between TLEC and Canada.

To date, Canada has not remedied this Event of Default and continues this breach by implementing its unilateral consultation process without the explicit written consent of TLEC's Member EFNs.

In accordance with Article 33 of the MFA, TLEC's Implementation Secretariat focused on the following priority areas in the 2021-2022 fiscal year:

- Continued participation in the Three Party Strategic Work Plan Process and assisting the EFNs in advancing their TLE parcels under this plan;
- Convening and participating in regular Parcel Review Meetings with the EFNs, Canada and Manitoba, to the extent possible utilizing teleconferencing or other virtual means;
- Continuing to support and assist the EFNs in their efforts to address, resolve and accommodate the various third party interests and encumbrances on their TLE land selections and acquisitions by providing dedicated funding to each EFN from the Third Party Interest Account;
- Supporting the EFNs in the relations with municipalities and in the negotiations for Municipal Development and Services Agreements for their Selections and Acquisitions, where applicable;

- Continuing to support the Barren Lands First Nation in their efforts to finalize and conclude their Land-in-Severalty Implementation Agreement, which will utilize the Certificates of Possession option under the Indian Act;
- Continuing to assist the Buffalo Point First Nation's Birch Point Provincial Park TLE Selection post-binding arbitration (2016) decision process;
- Continuing to assist the Northlands Dene First Nation in its Referral to the IMC to monitor and facilitate the completion of the Reserve creation process as the field survey may identify potential unregistered interests, and these would need to be resolved, and assisting in the environmental site visits which may uncover unauthorized land uses from the private land owner such as potential contamination;
- Encouraging and assisting those specific EFNs in researching and making new Crown Land Selections, to the extent possible;
- Supporting TLEC's Representatives on the IMC and completing TLEC's undertakings under the IMC's 2021-2022 Work Plan; and,
- On-going implementation of our communications strategy that includes production of our progress reports, regular updates to our Facebook page, providing

presentations and participating in the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba's Speakers Bureau.

As stated earlier and to date, Canada has not remedied its Event of Default and continues to be in breach of the MFA, which TLEC continues to oppose.

That being said, TLEC will continue to use its best efforts in all other tasks related to the land transfer and Reserve creation process mandated by the MFA and assisting our EFNs in advancing their TLE parcels under the Strategic Planning Process.

As we continue our Treaty implementation work, May 29, 2022, will mark the 25th anniversary of the signing of the MFA, and roughly over 200,000 acres of land selections and acquisitions remain to be selected and purchased by our EFNs.

In closing, I thank the TLEC Board for their leadership and guidance and the TLEC staff for their dedication and work in assisting our Member EFNs during this COVID-19 global pandemic.

Miigwech/Ekosani/Masi Cho/Thank you,

Chris Henderson
Executive Director

Finance/Office Manager's Message



Tansi! my name is Terry Ettawacappo, and I am from Norway House Cree Nation. I hope you are all staying safe during this time and would like to wish you and your family good health.

This is going on my eighth (8th) year of employment as Finance/Office Manager with Treaty Land Entitlement Committee (TLEC) of Manitoba. I hold a Certified Aboriginal Financial Management (CAFM) Designation and a Business Administration Diploma.

I provide financial management and administration of TLEC Limited Partnership, and Third-Party Interest account. Additionally, I provide financial administration of the Implementation Monitoring Committee. Financial reports are prepared and presented to TLEC's Board of Directors to allow for informed decisions. The financial reports include year to date position, variances, and reporting Third Party Interest investments.

TLEC engaged the services of Heartland CPAs to conduct the financial audit 2020-2021 for TLEC Limited Partnership, and Third-Party Interest. The audits were completed successfully and presented to the Entitlement First Nations (EFNs) at the Annual General Assembly held at Swan Lake First Nation in July 2021.

During the Annual General Meeting, an update was provided to the EFNs on the position and activity of the investments in the Third-Party Interest Account. The audited financial statements were submitted to Indigenous Service Canada on time as required in our funding agreement.

I continue to remain hopeful that all parties can come together in good faith to resolve the outstanding Treaty obligation.

Ekosani,

***Terry Ettawacappo, CAFM
Finance/Office Manager***

Implementation Advisor's Message



Hello. My name is Linda Reimer, and I am a member of the Sandy Bay First Nation.

This has been a challenging year due to the pandemic, and I found it hard to assist my TPI Coordinators in the usual way. However, the TPI Coordinators have been vigilant in their extra efforts to find ways to try and resolve the Third Party Interests on their TLE parcels. We were able to communicate by having virtual meetings.

I am pleased to report that progress was made for my assigned First Nations files:

- Bunibonibee Cree Nation has 5 selections they are working on; 2 are held up by consultation.
- Northlands Denesuline First Nation has 6 parcels to be surveyed.
- Norway House Cree Nation is making progress with their 11 selections.
- God's Lake made a new selection to pursue and enjoy their traditional activities on this new selection.
- Opaskwayak Cree Nation is making progress with finalizing an acquisition and have signed 2 survey regional maps.
- War Lake's 7 selections in the Town of Ilford, are to be surveyed and they are negotiating the resolution of the TPIs.

As an Implementation Advisor, I provide orientation sessions of the TPI program and the MFA to the new TPI Coordinators. I continue to update the Annual Work Plans, which identifies the individual detail steps for each party, and the inter-dependence of each Party. The Annual Work Plan is the guide for all parties to track and monitor the progress of the selections and acquisitions. I also update the Land Transfer Reserve Creation Manual charts for my assigned files, attend the Strategic Planning meetings, Parcel Review meetings, Special Meetings, and community meetings as required.

I will continue to stay focused in assisting my assigned EFNs in their efforts to achieve their goals in resolving their issues on their parcels, which may include negotiating resolutions to the third party interests, the Hydro Easements, caveats, mining claims, MTS, Manitoba Hydro utility permits, and MDSAs.

I look forward to supporting the EFNs along with TLEC staff to continue to implement the MFA.

In spite of all our frustrations dealing with TPIs and the delay caused by consultation, we will continue to work together to ensure that future generations will inherit what was promised to them under the Treaties. We will assist one another in moving forward to have our lands set apart as Reserves.

Miigwech/Thank you.

Linda Reimer
Implementation Advisor

A/Implementation Advisor's Message



Tansi, Anin, Hello. My name is Marion Wilson. I am of Cree/Ojibway ancestry and a member of the Peguis First Nation in Manitoba. First of all, I would like to extend warm greetings to the Entitlement First Nations (EFNs) of

the Treaty Land Entitlement Committee of Manitoba Inc. As we are all aware these past few years have been most challenging during these ill-fated times as our world is being impacted by the global pandemic caused by the Coronavirus (Covid-19). I send heartfelt condolences and continued prayers to those families that have been and are being impacted directly by this atrocious decease.

In the midst of it all, I am honoured to continue provide support to the best of my ability to my assigned EFNs: Brokenhead Ojibway Nation, Manto Sipi Cree Nation, Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation, Rolling River First Nation and Sapotaweyak Cree Nation.

My role is to assist my assigned EFNs with the implementation of their respective Treaty Entitlement Agreements. I attend all party parcel review meetings and support meetings with the EFNs along with Manitoba and Canada where current updates are provided and focus is on the methods of resolving Third Party Interests that encumber their TLE land selections and acquisitions; such as Manitoba Hydro & MTS Utility Permits, caveats, municipal issues, hydro easements, Manitoba

Infrastructure interests and mining claim leases/permits.

As well I provide one on one support to my EFNs where we review files and brainstorm on ways to advance their TLE to Reserve land.

I also participate in the Strategic Planning meetings along with my TLEC colleagues, Manitoba/Canada Governments and the IMC Chairperson where the All Party Annual Work Plan and other tools are maintained to transfer land as effectively and quickly as possible to Reserve status.

Though the MFA implementation process is slow and there has been hurdles and mountains to climb dealing with the governments, progress has been steady and it is through the dedicated efforts of the EFN's respective Chiefs and Council and TLE/TPI Coordinators that progress can be achieved.

My encouragement is to all EFNs, the TLEC, the Government of Manitoba and the Government of Canada to continue on implementing the 1997 MFA on TLE in good faith and determination to transfer all selected and acquired lands to Reserve status for the benefit of our children's future.

I look forward to continuing this work and one day seeing the completion of converting all Treaty lands to Reserve status.

Ekosi, Meegwetch, Thank you

Marion Wilson
A/Implementation Advisor

Project Manager's Message



My name is Jaymie Leary Balfour. I joined the Treaty Land Entitlement Committee in February of 2015 as a Project Manager for the Third Party Interest (TPI) Support Project.

I am responsible for working with our 15 Member EFNs in their implementation of TPI Support Project funding and their journey towards Reserve creation.

I also provide technical support to the Barren Lands First Nation, Mathias Colomb Cree Nation, Buffalo Point First Nation and Wuskwi Sipiik First Nation.

I am trained in the field of Environmental Science and Project Management and was raised on the Nelson River in Northern Manitoba. I gained valuable knowledge of the Reserve creation processes while working with Norway House in their TLE endeavors and can speak directly to the experiences from an EFN perspective. I have a strong connection and understanding of the principles of protection for our traditional territories, which is represented in my work.

2021-2022 highlights on my files include:

- Wuskwi Sipiik First Nation had 13 new reserves created, including their first Urban Reserve in the Town of Swan River;
- Hunting for blueberries on the four WSFN binding arbitration test-case parcels;
- Barren Lands negotiations on the recognition and creation of a Land in Severalty agreement with Manitoba and Canada;
- Negotiations with Manitoba, and then Canada, on Buffalo Point First Nation Birch Point Arbitration selection in a provincial park to move forward to reserve; and,
- Working closely with the TLEC and EFN Finance Officers in the administration of the TPI Support Project and its funding and oversee the activity reporting from the TLE/TPI Coordinators.

The realization of the promises made in Treaty extends beyond the conversion of land and is integral to the current relationships in which we exist today.

I would like to encourage the EFNs to continue to work diligently towards the best possible outcome and demonstrate our true resilience; we all have an important role to play.

Ekosani.

Jaymie Leary Balfour
Project Manager

Communications & Admin. Assistant's Message



My name is Kendra Santiago. I joined the Treaty Land Entitlement Committee in October of 2021 as Communications and Administrative Assistant on a term position.

I provide administrative support to the Executive Director and facilitate communication with our 15 Member Entitlement First Nations as we work together in the journey towards Reserve creation and fulfilling outstanding treaty obligations. My principal tasks, in addition to support provided to the Executive Director, include updating TLEC Board of Director and Special Meeting records and updating the electronic filing system. The TLEC electronic records became a critical tool during the pandemic as record keeping needs changed.

Since beginning with TLEC, I have had the opportunity to attend the Board of Directors meetings which occur monthly and have begun to familiarize myself with the intricate steps involved in the Reserve creation process. I have also had the pleasure of meeting our Entitlement First Nation voting representatives and the Third Party Interest Coordinators at the TLEC Special Meetings that have been held since I have begun.

My background is in Finance and Administration with non-profit organizations. I am currently in my Advanced Year of Remedial Massage Therapy and will be completing that two year program in June. I am the proud mother of three boys and a member of Shoal Lake #40 First Nation in Ontario.

Working at the Treaty Land Entitlement Committee has been an educating experience as it relates to our history and the Reserve creation process. The role that the unfulfilled Treaties plays in our interpersonal relationships with our own people and also with government causes one to reflect on how our histories may have been different if the Treaty relationship was honoured.

As an outcome of my work at TLEC, I have become distinctly aware of the importance of our territories and exercising our sovereignty as First Nations people in this country. I am very grateful for receiving this reminder through my work and for working with the TLEC team.

As we come upon the 25th anniversary of the signing of the MFA, I would like to encourage all of our Entitlement First Nations to take pause on recognizing what has been accomplished to date and continue to strive for fulfillment of the Treaty promises.

Miigwech/Thank you,

***Kendra Santiago
Communications and
Administrative Assistant***

TLEC's 2021 Annual General Meeting



TLEC's 2021 AGM was held on the Swan Lake First Nation's Reserve Land in Headingley, MB.

The Brokenhead Ojibway Nation's then-Chief & Council accepting a gift at the TLEC's 2021 Annual General Meeting in honour of the 150th Anniversary of Treaty No. One.



AGM delegates listening to the year-end presentations and reports.

Left-right: Councillor Michael Esquash, Swan Lake First Nation, receiving a gift of thanks from TLEC's Board member, Councillor Roger Ross (Manto Sipi Cree Nation), for allowing TLEC to host its AGM on the Swan Lake First Nation's Reserve Land.



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 Sipiik First Nation	Treaty No. 4
York Factory First Nation.....	Treaty No. 5



TLEC Implementation Secretariat

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