

COTE FIRST NATION



Community Development Plan



2018

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GOVERNANCE

Community Goals

Establish bylaws and policies to support community development.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Develop a Constitution;
- Review and update all policies to ensure business is conducted equitably; and
- Update Custom Election Act (to reflect member preferences from 2017-2018 engagement).

Build leadership capacity.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Provide governance and leadership training for Chief and Council;
- Develop a Strategic Plan every 3 – 5 years to set goals and a vision for the community;
- Review policies and bylaws to ensure they are being implemented; and
- Establish a Youth Council.

Build staff capacity.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Train staff to effectively deal with crisis or emergency situations in the community;
- Hire an Elder's Coordinator to address the needs of Elder's and coordinate support services; and
- Enforce and ensure compliance with the Personnel Policy and Financial Management Act.

Address issues with drugs and alcohol in the community.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Develop a Curfew Bylaw to limit the hours that youth can be in public places unaccompanied;
- Develop a Drug and Alcohol Bylaw to prohibit such substances in the community; and
- Promote awareness and prevention of drug and alcohol use through youth programs.

Be administratively transparent and accountable.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Require Chief, Council, and department managers to attend Band meetings and general assemblies; and
- Provide program updates to members regarding funding opportunities.

Improve communication between leadership and members living on both on and off-reserve.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Develop a community newsletter and distribute online and via mail;
- Regularly update community website;
- Utilize social media to share information with members;
- Hold additional band meetings on-reserve;
- Hold regular meetings with off-reserve members;
- Update membership mailing list;
- Ensure members can contact council members;
- Communicate the difference between Income Assistance and Treaties to members; and
- Provide Treaty education to members highlighting the spirit and intent of the Treaty.

Support off-reserve members.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Establish an urban office in Saskatoon and Regina;
- Establish an Urban Councillor position;
- Provide off-reserve members with transit subsidies;
- Provide off-reserve members with opportunities to attend culture meetings;
- Provide off-reserve members with an opportunity to participate in community matters from where they live; and
- Provide off-reserve members with financial support to start businesses.

Address issues with domestic animals in the community.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Enforce animal control bylaw to address issues with domestic animals in the community;
- Partner with the University of Saskatchewan Veterinary Department to spay stray dogs; and establish a dog pound in the community.

LANDS AND RESOURCES

Community Goals

Protect the environment.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Limit chemical usage on farm land;
- Pick up garbage and litter in the community; and
- Establish a community recycling program.

Improve land management.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Limit the leasing of farm land to non-members;
- Develop a Land Management Act;
- Protect culturally and traditionally significant areas including graveyards, ceremonial grounds, Pee Paw Plains, hunting areas, and Chief Gabriel Historic site;
- Provide members with information about community lands and resources;
- Provide training for lands department staff to build capacity; and
- Develop awareness of traditional hunting and gathering areas.

Pursue land development opportunities.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Acquire additional reserve lands; and
- Acquire land in urban centres.

HEALTH

Community Goals

Ensure access to health-related programs and services offered in the community.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Provide medical transportation services;
- Provide addictions counselling services for youth and adults;
- Provide detox treatment services and support for individuals reintegrating into the community;
- Provide AA/NA meetings;
- Provide mental health support programs;
- Provide programs to prevent health issues and increase awareness;
- Provide lateral violence prevention workshops;
- Provide parenting classes;
- Provide day care services;
- Provide assisted living support services for individuals with disabilities;
- Provide support services for individuals with physical disabilities;
- Provide community nurse home visits for Elders;
- Provide dental and optometry services in the community;
- Establish a safe needle depository;
- Establish an after-hours crisis team or hotline; and
- Recruit health care professionals to hire in the community.

Support members in obtaining required health services/treatments.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Provide financial assistance to members who must travel to receive emergency medical treatments;
- Provide financial assistance to members to cover the cost of prescriptions, dental services, emergency procedures, etc.; and
- Provide financial assistance to members who must be hospitalized for extended periods to support their families.

Increase awareness of available health services.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Conduct home visits to share health services information;
- Hold health forums to spread awareness of health services and seek feedback from members; and
- Hold weekly prevention and awareness health workshops on different topics.

Improve community safety.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Invest in community owned emergency services and equipment to reduce emergency response wait times;
- Increase police and security presence;
- Educate members on gun safety;
- Educate members on driving and vehicle safety;
- Educate members on bicycling safety;
- Ensure a safe community for children (e.g. traffic safety, abuse, etc.); and
- Ensure a safe community for elders (e.g. elder abuse, financial abuse, etc.).

Promote physical activity.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Develop a new recreation complex with an indoor arena;
- Provide additional recreation programs for members of all ages;
- Provide afterschool activities for youth;
- Host sports tournaments in the community;
- Provide financial support for off-reserve members to cover costs for sports and recreation activities;
- Establish a Recreation Board comprised of community members; and
- Establish leagues for organized sports (e.g. figure skating, lacrosse, soccer, high school football, etc.).

EDUCATION

Community Goals

Enhance youth education programming.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Update the school curriculum to ensure it is on par with other schools;
- Pursue additional funding opportunities for education programming;
- Provide education and career counselling services for high school students;
- Establish an anti-bullying program;
- Establish discipline policies through the school;
- Provide immersive programs in math and science;
- Provide literacy development programs;
- Encourage parents to volunteer at the school and participate in student activities;
- Provide student transportation services to and from school;
- Incorporate traditional teachings and Sauteaux language in education curriculum;
- Provide lands-based teachings;
- Educate youth on Treaty rights;
- Provide life skills classes i.e. cooking, nutrition, cleaning, personal hygiene, etc.;
- Ensure there are education assistants on staff to support students with disabilities;
- Provide awareness and prevention programming regarding drugs and alcohol use; and
- Provide trades and job readiness programs for youth.

Build teacher and staff capacity.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Hire additional education professionals;
- Establish daily teacher and staff debrief sessions;
- Provide professional development training for teachers and staff;
- Provide stress management, conflict resolution, and communication training for teachers and staff; and
- Provide safe and well-maintained busses for student transportation.

Enhance adult education programming.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Develop a permeant adult training centre in the community;
- Pursue additional funding opportunities for education programming;
- Provide trades training programs in the community (e.g. electrical, carpentry, plumbing etc.);
- Provide medical professional training programs in the community (e.g. nursing);
- Provide computer/technology training courses in the community; and
- Provide student transportation services.

Invest in post-secondary education.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Pursue additional funding opportunities for education programming;
- Provide post-secondary funding to members living both on-reserve and off-reserve;
- Communicate the application process and selection criteria for post-secondary funding opportunities; and
- Provide select post-secondary courses in the community.

HOUSING

Community Goals

Ensure members have access to appropriate housing.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Enforce the Housing Policy (e.g. appropriate rents being charged and collected);
- Develop a Matrimonial Real Property Law;
- Develop a variety of new housing types in the community to address overcrowding;
- Build housing on-site in the community;
- Provide home ownership option;
- Provide housing support for off-reserve members;
- Provide housing for students off-reserve;
- Establish a transition house in the community for members in crisis;
- Provide subsidizes for home owners; and
- Provide lodging for families during medical procedures off-reserve.

Maintain housing stock.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Collect fees for reoccurring repairs required in band owned homes;
- Obtain replacement and fire insurance on all band owned homes;
- Address issues with sewage back ups in homes;
- Address issues with flooding basements in homes;
- Pursue additional funding opportunities to renovate community homes;
- Survey members to understand the current condition of their homes and where repairs are needed;
- Renovate houses to ensure they are habitable;
- Create jobs for members in renovating community homes;
- Compensate local labour and contractors fairly for their services; and
- Provide training and education to members so they will have the skills to build/maintain and their homes.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

Community Goals

Provide quality maintenance to community infrastructure.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Upgrade the sewage collection truck;
- Upgrade the water treatment plant;
- Provide training for water treatment plant staff to ensure operators have the required certification;
- Repair community roads;
- Revive traditional grounds;
- Pursue additional funding opportunities to renovate community facilities;
- Increase frequency of garbage disposal services;
- Test community water supply for contamination to ensure safe drinking water;
- Remediate vandalised properties; and
- Maintain partnerships with the Province to ensure provincial roads are well maintained and repaired appropriately.

Invest in community infrastructure.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Develop a new band administration building;
- Develop a new rink/recreation complex;
- Relocate the landfill, install security features, and charge a fee for non-member use;
- Plant additional trees in the community;
- Install solar panels on community buildings;
- Ensure buildings have access to fire hydrants or a water truck for fire suppression;
- Install fibre optic wireless services; and
- Pave village roads.

JUSTICE

Community Goals

Crime reduction in the community.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Increase security;
- Establish Tribal Police service;
- Increase RCMP presence;
- Establish a Justice Committee comprised of community members;
- Support Youth Justice workers in the community;
- Encourage members to anonymously report criminal activity;
- Hold community meetings regarding justice and crime prevention with Chief and Council; and
- Support those in the criminal justice system to break the cycle of crime.

CULTURE

Community Goals

Connect members with their culture.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Hold community powwows;
- Hold community feasts;
- Provide Saulteaux language classes for youth and adults;
- Hold ceremonies with youth and Elders; and
- Hold story telling events.

Provide opportunities for members to learn traditional skills.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Pursue additional funding opportunities for cultural initiatives;
- Hold culture camps for youth and adults;
- Identify people in the community who are willing to teach and share traditional knowledge;
- Provide traditional teaching sessions;
- Organize culture nights for youth and Elders;
- Establish a youth drumming group;
- Provide youth programs for berry picking, bannock making, girl guides, etc.;
- Teach youth skills such as hunting and gathering, nature hikes, gun safety, etc.; and
- Establish an 'elder's room' in the Band office to promote cultural learning.

Preserve the Saulteaux language.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Provide classes for youth and adults led by Elders;
- Encourage people who do speak Saulteaux to use the language;
- Support members in learning "one Saulteaux word a day";
- Utilize technology to support members in learning Saulteaux;
- Hold sing songs in Saulteaux;
- Use Saulteaux in community signage;
- Conduct ceremonies in Saulteaux;
- Streamline to only one Saulteaux dialect; and
- Create awareness of Saulteaux through the Language Protection Act.

SOCIAL

Community Goals

Bring members together.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Hold events off-reserve to provide an opportunity for members to get to know each other and build community support;
- Hold community potlucks; and
- Hold community meetings.

Provide care and support for community members.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Provide child care services for members; and
- Provide motivational and personal development training.

DRAFT

ECONOMY

Community Goals

Generate own source revenue.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Establish an Economic Development Corporation;
- Develop a Terms of Reference for the Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors;
- Develop a Business Charter for the Economic Development Corporation;
- Pursue resource exploration and extraction opportunities on community lands i.e. oil, gas, etc.;
- Pursue alternative energy production opportunities i.e. solar, geothermal, etc.
- Establish commercial enterprises i.e. restaurant franchise, grocery store, automotive mechanic shop, gas station, hotel, etc.;
- Invest in agricultural operations i.e. crops, horticulture, livestock, etc.; and
- Financially support both community and privately-owned businesses.

Create employment opportunities for members.

Actions to achieve goal:

- Support member entrepreneurs in establishing small businesses in the community and off-reserve; and
- Ensure members have equal and fair opportunities to be employed in the community.