

Cote Quarterly Newsletter

SPECIFIC CLAIMS UPDATE

The Status of Specific Claims detailed below have been the focus of collaborative discussions with the Department of Justice and the Director General of Specific Claims in an effort to resolve five (5) simultaneously. It is expected that a formal table to negotiate their resolution will be established before 2021. Notwithstanding, described in more detail below are the various statuses of the claims within the Specific Claims Process.



Cote First Nation
Specific Claims Update – October 2020

Cote First Nation 1903 CNR Railway Claim

Specific Claims Tribunal (SCT):	August 19, 2014 Declaration of Claim filed with the SCT. The Crown filed its response to the Claim on October 21, 2014. On May 15, 2015 an Amended Declaration and Crown response was filed.
Land Taken:	44.56 acres
Basis of Claim:	This Claim deals with the Crown's unlawful expropriation of 44.56 acres of Cote reserve land in 1903 for the purposes of a railway right-of-way. The Claim asserts that the Crown breached its statutory (<i>Indian Act and Railway Act</i>) and fiduciary obligations owed to the Cote First Nation for the wrongful taking of Cote reserve land for railway purposes.
Relief Sought:	Compensation for the fair market value of the Claim lands plus damages for loss of use with reversionary rights when the lands are no longer required for railway purposes.
Current Status:	<p>Historical Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prominent railway historian, Dr. Frank Leonard Ph.D, Department of History, University of Victoria, concluded his historical report concerning the activities of the Canadian Northern Railway Company and its agents in the location, acquisition, and development of right-of-way and Kamsack Station Ground as well as the Townsite. His report is complete and was sent to the Crown on November 20, 2018. Peggy Martin-McGuire, historian, was hired to prepare a supplemental report on the larger picture of prairie reserve land speculation by key Department of Indian Affairs officials during this time period. Her report was sent to the Crown November 20, 2018. These reports will also be used in the 1904 Townsite and Station Grounds Claim. <p>The Crown submitted responding reports on January 6, 2020.</p> <p>Appraisal Report: Altus Group, land appraisers, prepared a historic market value assessment of the claim lands. This appraisal report was sent to the Crown on Jan. 15, 2018.</p> <p>The Crown submitted a responding report on July 12, 2018.</p> <p>Next steps:</p> <p>Settlement: As presented and discussed with Chief and Council, a settlement proposal in the amount of \$2.95 million was sent to the Crown on December 10, 2018. Canada has been reviewing this claim in conjunction with the 1904 Townsite Surrender Claim and required time to complete its expert report and legal opinions with respect to both claims to determine its position on settlement. Concern about their delay in this matter has been repeatedly communicated to the presiding Judge. However, Canada stated at the April 2020 Case Management Conference that the time Canada has spent reviewing the claim is an indication that negotiation is imminent. At the July 8, 2020, Case Management Conference Canada stated that their legal opinions would be completed by early October 2020 and, from there, it will take 1 to 2 months for the Specific Claims Branch to consider the legal opinions and to determine whether they will negotiate. At that time, (est. sometime in November 2020) the Cote First Nation will be notified whether the claim will be accepted for negotiation.</p>
	<p>Throughout this period, there was continued communications with the Director General of the Specific Claims Branch and the Senior Crown Negotiator regarding proposed comprehensive exploratory discussions with the goal of ultimately negotiating a settlement of all of Cote's long outstanding specific claims, including this Claim, the 1904 Townsite Surrender Claim, the Road Allowances Claim, and to expedite the review of the Misadministration of Trust Claim.</p> <p>Tribunal: If the claim is not settled, the claim will continue through the Tribunal process.</p>

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SPECIFIC CLAIMS UPDATE CONT.

Cote First Nation 1904 Station Grounds and Kamsack Townsite Surrender Claim

Specific Claims Tribunal (SCT):	Sept. 4, 2014 Declaration of Claim filed. Nov. 7, 2014 Canada's response filed. April 28, 2016 Amended Declaration of Claim filed. May 4, 2016 Crown's Amended Response filed.
Land Taken:	272 acres
Basis of Claim:	This Claim relates to the Crown's breach of its statutory and fiduciary duties concerning the surrender of 241.94 acres of land from the Cote reserve for the purposes of townsite and 30.06 acres of land for the purposes of railway station grounds, 272 acres in total. The Crown failed to comply with the surrender procedures under the <i>Indian Act</i> and breached its fiduciary duties owed to the Cote people prior to the surrender and failed to collect the full amount of money owing to the First Nation from the sale of the lots by CNR in the town of Kamsack.
Relief Sought:	Compensation for current, unimproved value of the Claim lands, in lieu of restoring the lands to reserve status, plus compensation for loss of use of the lands, subject to a set-off for any land sale proceeds collected by the Department of Indian Affairs and credited to the Cote First Nation.
Current Status:	<p><u>Historical Report:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prominent railway historian, Dr. Frank Leonard Ph.D, Department of History, University of Victoria, concluded his historical report concerning the activities of the Canadian Northern Railway Company and its agents in the location, acquisition, and development of right-of-way and Kamsack Station Ground as well as the Townsite. His report is complete and was sent to the Crown on November 20, 2018. • Peggy Martin-McGuire, historian, was hired to prepare a supplemental report on the larger picture of prairie reserve land speculation by key Department of Indian Affairs officials during this time period. Her report is complete. Her report is complete and was sent to the Crown on November 20, 2018. These reports will also be used in the 1903 CNR Railway Claim. <p>The Crown submitted responding reports on January 6, 2020.</p> <p><u>Appraisal Report:</u> Altus Group, land appraisers, prepared a historic market value assessment of the station ground lands. This appraisal report was sent to the Crown on Jan. 15, 2018.</p> <p>The Crown submitted a responding report on July 12, 2018.</p> <p><u>Historical Forensic Accounting Report:</u> Forensic historical accountants, Matson Driscoll & Damico Ltd. (MDD), Calgary, AB conducted an in-depth investigation into precisely what happened with the sale proceeds of the Kamsack townsite. MDD completed its report on July 25, 2018 and was filed with the Tribunal on September 11, 2018.</p> <p>The Crown prepared a responding Draft report on June 29, 2020, which Claimant counsel has not yet seen.</p> <p><u>Next steps:</u></p> <p><u>Settlement:</u> As presented and discussed with Chief and Council, a settlement proposal in the amount of \$65 million was sent to the Crown on December 29, 2018. Canada required time to complete its responding expert forensic accounting report and legal opinion to determine its position on settlement. Concern about their delay in this matter has been repeatedly communicated to the presiding Judge. However, Canada stated at the April 2020 Case Management Conference that the time Canada has spent reviewing the claim is an indication that negotiation is imminent. At the July 8, 2020, Case Management Conference Canada stated that their legal opinions would be completed by early October 2020 and, from there, it will take 1 to 2 months for the Specific Claims Branch to consider the legal opinions and to determine whether they will negotiate. At that time, (est. sometime in November 2020) the Cote First Nation will be notified whether the claim will be accepted for negotiation.</p> <p>Throughout this period, there was continued communications with the Director General of the Specific Claims Branch and the Senior Crown Negotiator regarding proposed comprehensive exploratory discussions with the goal of ultimately negotiating a settlement of all of Cote's long outstanding specific claims, including this Claim, the 1903 Railway Claim, the Road Allowances Claim, and to expedite the review of the Misadministration of Trust Claim.</p> <p><u>Tribunal:</u> If the claim is not settled, the claim will continue in the Tribunal process.</p>

SPECIFIC CLAIMS UPDATE CONT.

Cote First Nation Misadministration of Trust Claim

Specific Claims Branch (SCB):	This Claim was filed with the Specific Claims Branch on January 10, 2018.
Land Taken:	N/A
Basis of Claim:	The Crown manages two trust accounts for the use and benefit of Cote First Nation: the Capital Account and the Revenue Account. It is alleged that monies were misappropriated from these accounts and that this spending breached provisions of the <i>Indian Act</i> and Canada's fiduciary duty to the Cote Band.
Relief Sought:	Compensation for the total amount of the improper expenditures applying 100% compounded interest from the date of misappropriation to the present date.
Current Status:	On June 12, 2018, Canada advised that the Claim met the "Minimum Standard" which is a series of requirements for a claim submission under the Specific Claims Policy. There has been ongoing communications with the Director General of the Specific Claims Branch and the Senior Crown Negotiator to expedite the review of this Claim and to negotiate a settlement of all of Cote's long outstanding specific claims, including this Claim, the 1903 Railway Claim, the 1904 Townsite Surrender Claim, and the Road Allowances Claim. In this regard, Canada is in the course of considering a settlement proposal dated May 20, 2020. <i>Tribunal:</i> If the claim is not settled, the claim will continue in the SCB and the Tribunal process.

"You only fail when you stop trying." - Albert Einstein

Cote First Nation Road Allowances Claim

Specific Claims Branch (SCB) – Now Eligible to be Filed with SCT:	This Claim was filed with the Specific Claims Branch in March 2017. On October 11, 2017, Canada advised that the Claim met the "Minimum Standard" which is a series of requirements for a claim submission under the Specific Claims Policy. Canada has deemed that the Claim was filed with the Minister on September 6, 2017, which started a 3-year research and assessment period whereby the Specific Claims Branch will decide if they will or will not negotiate the Claim. This assessment period is now over as of September 6, 2020.
Land Taken:	Approx. 562 acres
Basis of Claim:	The Crown breached of its statutory and fiduciary duties when it took Cote reserve lands for road allowances purposes in various transactions dated from 1906 to 1976.
Relief Sought:	Compensation for the fair market value plus damages for loss of use of the Claim lands plus reversionary rights when the lands are no longer required for road purposes.
Current Status:	Since the 3-year assessment period expired September 6, 2020, the Cote First Nation is entitled to file this claim with the Tribunal. However, this Claim has been part of the continued communications with the Director General of the Specific Claims Branch and the Senior Crown Negotiator regarding proposed comprehensive exploratory discussions with the goal of ultimately negotiating a settlement of all of Cote's long outstanding specific claims, including this Claim, the 1903 Railway Claim, the 1904 Townsite Surrender

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	<p>Claim and to expedite the review of the Misadministration of Trust Claim. We expect a response from Canada by November 2020 regarding their position on negotiating the claims. If, by the end of November, we do not receive a response from Canada respecting this Claim, we advise that a Declaration of Claim be filed with the Tribunal.</p> <p>In the meantime, the following expert reports will be prepared to support the Claim, whether it be in negotiations or at the Tribunal:</p> <p><u>Survey Report</u>: Millenium Geomatics Ltd. will complete a report by the end of October 2020 to confirm title and total acreage amounts pertaining to the claim.</p> <p><u>Appraisal and Loss of Use Report</u>: Once the survey report is complete, an appraisal will be completed to assess the total current market value and LOU of the claim lands so that a proposed compensation amount can be presented to Canada.</p>
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Cote First Nation Veterans' Land Claim

Specific Claims Branch (SCB):	This Claim is in the drafting stage.
Land Taken:	Lands were not removed from the reserve, but instead allotments around one quarter section (about 160 acres) were allocated to war veterans under various federal legislation. Some of these lands have reverted back to the Band, some may still be occupied under Certificates of Possession, Occupancy, or Location Tickets.
Basis of Claim:	<p>The federal government passed the <i>Soldier Settlement Act</i> (1919) and <i>Veterans' Lands Act</i> giving returned war veterans access to grants and lands for agricultural purposes. A provision was written into the <i>Indian Act</i> to permit the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs to function like the Soldier Settlement Board, reviewing applications and awarding funds to eligible candidates. A similar scheme was enacted after the Second World War. Through this legislation the Band was made to provide land (sometimes confirmed by BCR) to six veterans of the First World War, some of whom had already been in possession of their allocations prior to their discharge from the military. Roughly 22 more veterans of the Second World War and Korea were also provided lands, some authorised by BCR and given the formality of a location ticket, while others were effectively granted a "license of occupation".</p> <p>In 1954, the Band complained to the Indian Affairs Branch about overpopulation and insufficient lands on the reserve, part of which was related to there being too many allocations to individual members. Over the next two decades, the Band sought to reacquire by "purchase" or cancel some of these allocations, which brought some of the less-used allotments back into the collective use. Other allocations might still be in individuals' hands, though this needs further research.</p> <p>These federally-mandated schemes removed productive lands from the Band's use without the Band's consent, causing a compensable harm.</p>
Relief Sought:	Compensation for value of the loss of use of reserve lands allocated, and the Band's disbursement from its Trust account to "purchase" some lands allocated under the scheme.
Current Status:	There has been some delay by Joan Holmes & Associates in producing the final draft of the research report. The final JHA Report is due first week of October 2020. The Report will provide more certainty in terms of the numbers of allotments (as well as the amount of land) allocated to individuals under federal legislation, in addition to the sum disbursed by the Band for the "purchases". A claim submission is currently being drafted and we estimate, provided that JHA meets their deadline, that a draft will be filed with the Specific Claims Branch early in 2021.

AGRICULTURAL BENEFITS CLAIM

Cote First Nation is currently working on completing the historical research associated with our agricultural benefits claim. The historical research is in the final stages of preparation, once it has been completed, the historical research will be reviewed by our professional advisors and by the band council. We will then be preparing our formal legal and historical submission associated with the claim which will be submitted to Canada for their consideration under Canada's Specific Claims Policy. We will keep the membership updated as matters progress further on the agricultural benefits claim.

Chief George Cote,
Cote First Nation.

“IZAYAN OWITI NIKAN— GOING INTO THE FUTURE”

SAULTEAUX BOOK PUBLICATION

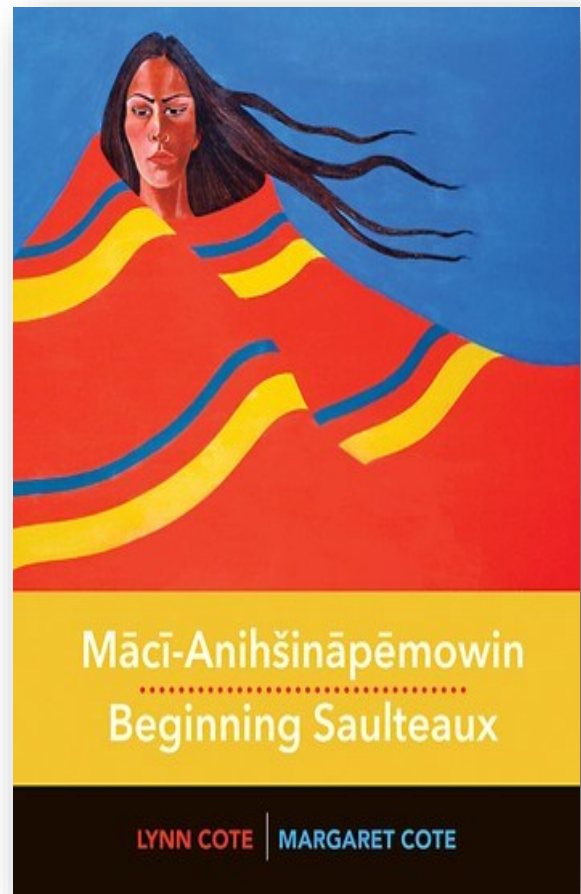
Cote band members Lynn Cote and Margaret Cote have recently had a book published by University of Regina Press. The book, *Maci-Anihinapemowin, Beginning Saukteaux* is an introductory look at one of the most widely spoken of all North American Indigenous languages, regionally known as Saukteaux, Ojibway, Ottawa (Odawa), Chippewa, and Algonquian. In an easy-to-use and easy-to-read series of lessons, both designed for self-study or for use in the classroom, *Beginning Saukteaux* will guide beginners through the language's grammatical structures and spelling systems, as well as everyday terms and phrases.

The book grounds the language in both traditional and contemporary contexts, and sheds light on the Saukteaux world view.

For example, there is no word for good-bye in the language, so upon parting people will usually say *Kika-wapamin minawa*, meaning “I'll see you again.”

The third in Indigenous Languages for Beginners series, *Beginning Saukteaux* is an invaluable resource produced in consultation with Elders, Language Keepers, and community members, and continues our commitment to revitalizing Indigenous languages.

If you wish to purchase this book you can visit:
<https://uofrpress.ca/Books/M/Maci-Anihinapemowin-Beginning-Saukteaux>



SASKTEL PLANNED OUTAGE NOTIFICATION

Cote First Nation and, potentially, the surrounding area may experience internet connection issues. The most impacted facilities will be the Cote Band Office and the Cote Health Clinic.

SaskTel will be servicing its network starting March 18th at 1:00 pm (Canada Central Standard Time) and ending at 6:00 pm (Canada Central Standard Time).

If you have appointments at the Cote Band Office or the Cote Health Clinic on March 18th, 2021, you should call promptly and make new arrangements.

SaskTel is recognized as a communications leader, nationally and internationally. Their network is one of the most advanced in the world, and, as such, they are committed to making periodic enhancements and/ or up-

grades to continue to provide improved technology and services.



KICI-ANISHNABAE NOTICE

Here is a message for our Kici-Anishnabae living on Reserve. Kici-Anishnabae will be having their furnace and ducts cleaned beginning March 22nd. This service will be provided until April 2nd, 2021.

If any of the Kici-Anishnabae need a place to go during the cleaning, New Beginnings will be open. The service will take approximately two to three hours. The workers will have Personal Protection Equipment on during the service cleaning.

However, if you do not wish to have this service provided, please call the Cote band office reception @ (306) 542-2694 to make arrangements. Please leave your name, phone number, and house number.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Cote First Nation is currently searching for artists to do some beautiful work in the Cote Band Hall. This is an opportunity for Cote band members to express their creative capabilities through multiple mediums.

Note: Must be willing to create large murals!

How do you get involved? Submit an art portfolio to Community Development via email: ccpyouthadmin@cotefirstnation.ca

EDUCATION

POST-SECONDARY

Here is a reminder for Cote post-secondary students. Cote Post-secondary is currently accepting Spring & Summer funding applications until March 15th, 2021. **Don't Wait!**

If you have any questions related to Spring & Summer funding please contact the Post-Secondary Coordinator Melissa Langan at (306) 542-2694.

Furthermore, if anyone is interested in attending the University of Regina or First Nation University of Canada: these post-secondary institutions are currently accepting applications and waiving the application fee until March 15th – you'll be saving money!

For more information, check out: urconnected.uregina.ca

CHIEF GABRIEL COTE EDUCATION CENTRE

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The school and the activities within are moving forward during this pandemic. All safety precautions are still in effect - at all times. The wearing of masks at the school is mandatory for all who enter the school.

Ronnie, our Learning on the Land instructor, is doing a lot of outdoor activities like snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, etc. Students are enjoying this.

Please be advised that if you are keeping your child(ren) at home during this pandemic, you need to phone the school and make arrangements with your child(ren)'s homeroom teacher so that on-line assignments and work packages can be prepared.

During this critical time, we need to ensure that your child(ren) is receiving academic input from the school. We need to make certain that the communication is an on-going process, this will ensure your child(ren) is receiving classroom work.

Your cooperation in this matter would be greatly beneficial to your child(ren)'s education.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school at (306) 542-3313, during the hours of 8:30 am to 4:00 pm – Monday to Friday.

Yours in Education,

Jonas Cote
Principal

“Helping Our Students Understand the Value of an Education”

Application INFO

March 1st - 15th - Waived Application Period!
The benefits of applying during this special period include:
• Waived application fee – Save \$100 on your application.

HOW TO APPLY:

- 1) Fill out the paper application for undergraduate admission
- 2) Submit application and transcripts to post-secondary coordinator.
- 3) Post-secondary coordinator can send via e-mail to enrolment.services@uregina OR mail to:
Enrolment Services
3737 Wascana Parkway
Regina, SK, S4S0A2

Callie Morris
Indigenous Recruiter & Enrolment Counsellor
Email: callie.morris@uregina.ca

Samantha Waditaka
First Nations University of Canada Recruiter
Email: swaditaka@firstnationsuniversity.ca

* Students can no longer apply into the Faculty of Nursing as the deadline has passed.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINES
Don't miss the deadline to apply for important scholarships and awards!

February 28th	First Nations University of Canada Entrance Scholarships
March 15th	U of R Application Required Entrance Scholarships Campion College Entrance Scholarships
May 15th	Luther College Entrance Scholarships

For more information, check out our website at urconnected.uregina.ca



MATRIMONIAL REAL PROPERTY RIGHTS ON RESERVE

Chief and Council recently met with consultants who collaborate with the Centre of Excellence for Matrimonial Real Property to discover the substance of the Act.

This matter will require community engagement and take on the formal four-step process before Matrimonial Real Property is adopted on Cote First Nation.

The two-step plan for 2021 is to first, educate and bring awareness to this topic: individuals will understand the Provincial Federal Rules. The next step encompasses consultation and strategic planning: in this process, the community and stakeholder consultation assist in determining if the First Nation would like to develop a Dispute Resolution Mechanism.

So what is Matrimonial Real Property?

Matrimonial real property can include land held by one or both spouses or common-law partners and used by the family, i.e. houses, sheds, mobile homes or other structures on the land. But it does not include materialistic items such as cars, money, clothing, etc.

In the event of death, divorce or separation, people living off reserve have provincial law rights and protections regarding their family home. These provincial rights and protections do not apply to those living on reserve.

To give people living on reserves comparable protections and rights as those living off reserve, a law was put in place on December 16, 2013, called the Family Homes on Reserves and Matrimonial Interests or Rights Act (the Act).

What Does the Act Do?

The Act gives First Nation communities the opportunity to either develop their own community matrimonial real property law or follow provisional federal rules. These rules, although intended to temporarily apply until a First Nation develops their own matrimonial real property law, can be followed for an indefinite period of time.

As of December 16, 2013, First Nation communities can make their own matrimonial real property laws under the Act. If a First Nation makes its own laws within one year (before

December 16, 2014), the provisional federal rules will not apply to that community.

If a community develops its own laws, the content of the law has to be agreed upon by the First Nation and its members. All members of voting age, 18 years or older, regardless of whether or not they live on or off reserve, have the opportunity to vote on the proposed law. Community members have the right to learn about the law and to be made aware when a vote on the law is taking place.

Protections.

As of December 16, 2014, once the provisional federal rules are in effect, the following are examples of the protections and rights that would apply, should a First Nation community not have enacted its own community law:

- Emergency Protection Orders.
- Family Home issues.
- Division of On-Reserve Matrimonial Interests or Rights
- Balances Your Rights and the Rights Of the First Nation Community

What the Act Does Not Do

- Allow non-First Nations or non-members to gain permanent possession of a family home;
- Give non-members of a First Nation the ability to sell reserve land; nor
- Allow the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development to have any role in reviewing, cancelling, rejecting or altering First Nation laws.

For more information please visit <https://www.coemrp.ca/>

There you will find additional information and resources to facilitate your need to know.

ROLE OF CHIEF & COUNCIL IN MATRIMONIAL REAL PROPERTY

Chief and Council will familiarize themselves with the Act and how it applies to the First Nation.

IMPORTANCE OF FIRST NATION VIEWS.

The Act recognizes the diverse values and practices among First Nations concerning individual interests in reserve lands. For this reason, the Provisional Federal Rules included in the Act provides for First Nations to be notified in regard to any proceedings under this Act, except in the case of emergency protection and confidentiality orders. Where a community's collective interests in lands are engaged, the First Nation may make representations to the courts about the cultural, social and legal context relevant to the proceedings.

Section 41 specifies that an applicant for an order under the Act must without delay, send a copy of the application to the Council of any First Nation on whose reserve the structures and lands in question are situated.

Section 41(2) further states that on the Council's request, the court that is seized of the application must, before making its decision, allow the Council to make representations with respect to the cultural, social and legal context that pertains to the application and to present its views about whether or not the order should be made.

APPLICATIONS FOR EXCLUSIVE OCCUPATION

The process before any applications arrive at the Band Office.

In order to ensure fairness and transparency in proceedings, it is best practice for the First Nation to develop a policy and procedures for responding to any applications under this legislation. Including:

- designation of an individual to receive applications, and
- establish an internal file management system.
- As an alternative, the First Nation might consider the formation of an internal management committee, framed by Terms of Reference, to develop the required policies and procedures.

The process when an application for exclusive occupation arrives at the band office.

Each time an application is copied to the First Nation, the designate should open a new file. Applications for exclusive occupation are sensitive files containing personal information and should be kept in a secure filing location. If the Council wishes to provide its views on a pending application, Council may wish to:

- designate a writer to draft a written response, and
- ensure the designate is familiar with the applicable Provincial family court rules, and
- designate a band representative in the event a court appearance is required. This individual should be well prepared for the hearing with a written summary of the First Nation's views.

When might the Council support or oppose an application for exclusive occupation?

Community input may be required in developing principles to guide the Council on the issue of applications for exclusive occupation and when they will be either supported or opposed. Council has the final discretion in how it will proceed. Important considerations may include; whether the homes on the reserve are owned by the Band, whether the land is owned by an individual or whether it is part of a family land holding, whether the homes are subject to a lease, mortgage, or a Ministerial Guarantee, etc.

ENFORCEMENT OF ORDERS

The Act also provides, the Council may enforce the following orders on request by a person who is not a First Nation member or an Indian:

- orders on the amount payable to the spouse, common-law partner or survivor [ss. 30(1) & 36(1)]
- orders on how the amount will be paid [ss. 30(1) & 36(1)];
- orders enforcing a written agreement on the amount payable and the methods for paying it [s. 33 & 40].

If Council does not enforce the order, the court may require the person against whom the order was made to pay the amount into court.

HOUSING & CAPITAL DEPARTMENT UPDATES.

Some exciting activity has occurred with discussions related to developments that housing and Capital are currently reviewing for the up-coming year and will require community engagement too move forward on two major policy developments for our community

Universal Rental Regime

The Cote First Nation has explored new ideas on how the current maintenance and renovations of our existing band units can happen over a 5-year plan. A series of meetings have occurred with Indigenous Service Canada and Beardy's & Okemasis First Nation on how Beardy's & Okemasis established a maintenance fee and 5-year renovation plan to address their band units.

Expect something in the coming months on how Cote Housing can implement something similar to what Beardy's & Okemasis has done for their community and how we could have a similar plan here for Cote First Nation band units.

Leadership attended these discussions with ISC and Beardy's Okemasis in Saskatoon and have directed housing to pursue this on how we can look into our band housing units.

This will require community engagement, so membership must watch for future announcements on the website for dates and meeting notices.

The other discussions that have happened are possibly combining housing and capital into one department, called Public Works, this has yet to be determined, and once Chief and Council review all applicable roles and functions of each department and how we can merge both departments.

Existing Housing Procedures

Please ensure that you apply for housing annually, the housing department will not keep any applications that are a year old.

Any units that become vacant, the process is they come back into the housing inventory are allocated by the housing committee.

Also, any unit transfers of between tenants must be approved by the housing department

New Housing Announcements

In December of last year, the Cote Housing Department submitted for eighteen (18) new modular houses and four (4) renovations on vacant units through the Rapid Housing Initiative. Cote Housing was notified that we were approved for renovations on the four (4) vacant units and should hear within the next two (2) weeks if we are approved for the additional 18 modular units.

COVID 19 hit our progress of completing the renovations, mainly the services needed such as power and gas. With the warm weather coming, we hope to complete all renovations that have been started.

Stay safe and healthy

Housing & Capital

LANDS UPDATE

Exciting activity has occurred in discussions related to the Lands Department for the upcoming year. Cote First Nation is decommissioning three garbage disposal sites: one known as the Hillside dump, Old Main located in Badgerville, and the other being one being the most well-known adjacent to the across-the-river road.

With the closing of the waste sites, Cote First Nation is in the process of including a Solid Waste Transfer Station. A Solid Waste Transfer Station is a facility for the temporary displacement of waste.

Here are some benefits of a Solid Waste Transfer Station:

- Reduced overall transportation costs for solid waste.
- Allow several communities to share regional landfill, rather than each community operating its landfill.
- Help enables a community to operate waste diversion programs.
- Provide the ability to compact solid wastes, allowing higher load densities, resulting in fewer trips and lower overall costs.
- Green friendly.

The Solid Waste Transfer Station is set to occur in the late spring

For more information on Solid Waste Transfer Stations visit: <https://www.epa.gov/hw/criteria-definition-solid-waste-and-solid-and-hazardous-waste-exclusions>

<https://www.wm.com/enterprise/municipalities/community-solutions/transfer-stations.jsp>

CFN LANDSCAPING & EXCAVATION

CFN Landscaping & Excavation is offering employment opportunities. CFN Landscaping & Excavation is looking for Security Guards, General Labours, Flag Workers & Truck Drivers for future projects.

The employment opportunity poster for these positions will be disseminated on March 16th, 2021, it will contain all pertinent information.

Anyone interested in applying for these positions please send your resume via email to Landis Tourangeau, at landistourangeau@hotmail.com The deadline for resume submissions is April 7th, 2021.

Note: Applicants must have safety tickets. First Nation individuals in the surrounding area of Cote First Nation will be given preference.

TENDER FOR 339 CULTIVATED ACRES

Cote First Nation is issuing a call for tender for 339 cultivated acres, farmland for a three (3) year permit.

Location of the land:

NE 30-30-32-W1, SE 31-30-32-W1,
NW 29-30-32-W1, SW 32-30-32-W1

If you have any questions related to this tender please contact the Lands Director: Landis Tourangeau at (306) 542-7112 or contact the Cote Band Office (306) 542-2694

Deadline for Submissions is **March 15, 2021**

If you wish to see more on this tender and retrieve an application please visit: <https://cotefirstnation.ca/land-tender/>



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Cote Chief and Council passed a Business Charter this past year. In pursuit of this commitment, the Cote First Nation will embark on strengthening its economy through the incorporation of Cote Developments LTD. The movement towards the separation of business and politics will ensure that Cote businesses are managed professionally with demonstrated development capacity through successful business expansion and attraction strategies. We need to work towards developing a culture of entrepreneurial excellence where our young and growing population will see business creation as a way to economic sustainability.

Currently, Cote Development LTD. has six members and one Kici-Anishnabae on the board. Additionally, the interim General Manager is Cindy Sunshine. We are adapting and evolving into new roles: we are looking forward to the work ahead!

COTE DEVELOPMENT LTD. CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Cote Development LTD. is currently looking for a highly energetic, ethical, trustworthy, and task-oriented Administrative Assistant to join their team. The successful candidate will work directly with the General Manager (GM). The ideal candidate is self-motivated, professional, and capable of operating in a fast-paced environment. Prioritizing tasks and maintaining a high level of confidentiality and efficiency is key in this role.

Tasks and Responsibilities: • Provide high level confidential administrative support including compiling reports • Develop and maintain a high level of professionalism • Researching a variety of systems, concepts, and projects and relaying all vital information • Provide strategic calendar management to ensure optimum efficiency • Prepare internal and external corporate documents, reports, and presentations • Maintain an organized filing system of electronic documents, as well as ensuring all paper documents are uploaded to electronic files • Schedule and attend all project specific meetings and relay pertinent information • Provide meeting minutes and presentation support • Collaboratively support all resources, teams, projects, and initiatives within the organization • Provide financial data entry, analysis, and reconciliation for review by GM

Skills/Qualifications: • 1+ years experience as an Executive Assistant, Personal Assistant or similar role • Proficiency in Microsoft Office and ability to become familiar with other programs and software • Proficient in QuickBooks (strongly preferred) • Familiarity with online calendars and document sharing systems • Excellent time management skills and the ability to work independently • Excellent organizational skills with ability to think proactively and prioritize work • Great verbal and written communication skills • Attention to detail and Professional discretion

Application deadline: March 12, 2021

Apply by: Send your cover-letter and resume to: Cotedevelopments@gmail.com



Cote First Nation is located north of the town of Kamsack, Saskatchewan and 16km west of the Manitoba Border totaling approximately 8,090 hectares (19,900 acres). The Band has a current membership of 4,091 people with approximately 1161 living on reserve.

Cote First Nation is one of the 6 First Nations that are members of the Yorkton Tribal Council and is also part of the Treaty Four territorial agreement. Saulteaux is our native language.

Cote First Nation

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