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Annual
Report

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Executive Summary

This is the third Annual Report the Nation has released as we continue to prioritize increased transparency and accountability to our members. We hope this document demonstrates the important work that CLFN staff have undertaken to provide essential services aimed at improving the livelihood of our community members.

This Annual Report focuses on the core activities completed from April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021 during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Members can contact Administration to inquire about any information that is shared.

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Cold Lake First Nations
2020 Annual Report

A Message From Chief & Council



Roger Marten Chief

2020 was a year that will not be soon forgotten. The global COVID-19 pandemic brought forth several waves of unique challenges and hardships to our community. With the support of federal funding, our businesses and our corporate partners, we were able to develop and implement an emergency response plan that minimized the financial impacts of COVID-19, and kept our Nation and its members safe and healthy.

Thank you once again and we look forward to the year ahead.
~ Masi Chok.



Bernice Martial
Councilor



Travis Matchatis
Councilor



Kelsey Jacko
Councilor



Gina Russell
Councilor



Goerge Machatis
Councilor



Deion Blackman
Councilor

The Nation's Response To COVID-19

In the beginning of the year, the Federal Government provided an initial **\$400,000** in funding for COVID-19 relief. These funds in conjunction with grants and donations from our business partners were used to offset the costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

 **\$575,000 Security Services**

24 Hour checkpoints at all CLFNS entrances. Names, locations and license plates recorded for contact tracing. Curfew enforcement. Jersey barriers.

 **\$138,000 Emergency Food Services**

Emergency food vouchers and hampers for on-reserve members. Grocery gift cards for urban or off-reserve members.

 **\$10,000 Isolation Facility Operational Costs**

Meal services, sanitation, furnishings.

 **\$8570 Emergency Equipment**

Masks, hazmat suits, gloves, thermometers, sanitizers, signage, freezers.

 **\$5000 Sanitation Protocols**

Additional janitorial staff and enhanced cleaning protocols for all band building.

COVID-19 Isolation Facility

In early 2020, the Federal Government provided **\$1,000,000** in funding for a COVID-19 Isolation Facility. During the second wave of COVID-19, the facility was utilized by several members who required a safe place to isolate during their 10-14 day quarantine period.

Contributions And Donations

We extend our sincerest gratitude to the front-line health officials and essential service workers who maintained operations through the initial lock-down to ensure our members needs were being met. We also want to recognize the invaluable service contributions of Primco Dene, 7 Lakes Oilfield Services, Comec Energy Services, Tri-Rez Grader Division, Casino Dene, TC Energy Corporation, Mastec, Enbridge, Cenovus, NOVA Gas Transmission, Inter Pipeline Ltd, Canadian Natural Resources Ltd, 3 Eagle Wellness, Second Harvest Food, E-Construction, Urban Systems Ltd, Blue Quills University, the Benevity Community Fund, Confederacy of Treaty 6 First Nations, and Tribal Chiefs Venture Inc.

Administration

Strategic Planning

This year, Administration continued to implement a number of programs and services that were guided by the priorities identified in Chief and Council's 2019 Strategic Plan. The following departmental highlights are mere snapshots of this important work, with a focus on the following priorities:

Community Health, Well-being & Resiliency

- Create new programs and facilities that will help community members pursue healthier lives and lifestyles
- Institute programs to help members pursue a better life for themselves and their families

Employability and Life Skills

- Create new programs and facilities that will help community members pursue higher levels of education and employability
- Create new programs that will help community members develop and maintain essential life skills

Housing and Infrastructure Expansion

- Construction of new cost effective housing developments
- Modernization and upgrade of existing critical infrastructure

Economic Endeavors & Business Portfolio

- Diversify CLFN business portfolio
- Support existing CLFN enterprises
- Increase efficiency, transparency and effectiveness across the entire economic development portfolio





Mental Health and Wellness

On March 11, 2020 the pandemic was declared. On March 27, Alberta went into lock down and our nurses and staff worked hard to implement public health protocols across the workplace and community. We sought out suppliers and partners to ensure our members would have the supplies they need to isolate successfully at home.

Our team worked with the Emergency Operation Center (EOC)) to update and integrate new public health guidance into the Emergency Operations Plan and Pandemic Plan. Policy changes and public health recommendations seemed to change almost daily, but our team was able to make necessary changes and learn and move quickly as they occurred.

We acted quick early in the 1st wave to enhance programing and community supports. We acquired the Isolation building and initiated our Mental Health program, and both of these have proven to be essential contributions to the collective wellbeing of our Nation.

We spearheaded many food security initiatives including the distribution of grocery gift cards, assembly and distribution of Food Hampers, and personalized food delivery for individuals forced to quarantine in their homes for extended periods of time.

From April 2020 to March 31, 2021, our Health Department did an incredible job testing, contact tracing, quarantining, and case managing 128 cases on reserve, and worked collaboratively with Alberta Health Services on an additional 36 off-reserve cases as well to assist during the surge of the 2nd and third wave.

We also started mass vaccination clinics from February to March 2021. We are now on the back end of the 4th wave of COVID-19, which has proven to be the worst yet, and we must remain diligent in doing our part to protect each other going forward. Please continue to wear masks, use hand sanitizers, and most importantly...

GET VACCINATED PLEASE

» *"We the Denesųliné are strong and resilient,
we will get through this together"*
~ Chief Roger Marten

Community Health Programming



Immunizations

807 members immunized



Prenatal Class

11 classes



Elder's Easter

150 gifts distributed



Elder's Christmas

100 gifts distributed



Jordan's Principal

18 school aged children have accessed funding



School Halloween Safety

120 bags distributed



Doctor's Clinics

12 doctor's clinics
107 patients seen



Dietitian's Clinic

1 clinic
6 clinical visits



Telehealth

4 clinics
64 patients assessed via telehealth



Halloween Drive-Thru

300 candy bags distributed in a safe environment



Food Hampers

450 local hampers
350 gift cards mailed out



Births/Deaths In The Community

18 births/
16 deaths

Medical Subsidy Use

	General	Elders	Total
Optical	\$35,958.84	\$5322.09	\$41,280.93
Dental	\$20,015.65	\$6838.60	\$26,854.25
Prescription	\$75,030.10	\$38,916.04	\$113,946.14
Service Fees	\$17,142.12	\$7320.41	\$24,462.53
Required Aides			
To Living	\$510.17	\$100.00	\$610.17
Orthodontic	\$47,739.39	–	\$47,739.39
Oxygen	\$2291.00	–	\$2291.00
Dentures	\$630.00	–	\$630.00
Forms	\$5702.53	\$3903.19	\$9605.72
		Total Overall	\$267,420.13

Family & Community Support Services (FCSS)

FCSS has gone through quite a transformation during the COVID-19 pandemic. Prior to January 2021 FCSS consisted of 3 positions: 1 Manager, 1 Band Designate, 1 Support Worker. The primary responsibilities were on community events and information workshops and as a children's services representative for Cold Lake First Nations. Today we have a team of approximately 20 people!

We are working towards obtaining our own Child Protection Services and writing out our own Traditional Child/Family Law.



Youth Support - Over the summer we have partnered up with the Lands Department and Spirit North to provide a well-organized summer youth program. FCSS contributed 2 youth workers to the summer project to offer organized sport activities to youth from our communities. This resulted in an end of project canoe trip for 6 youth and 7 support staff in northern Saskatchewan!



Family Support - Through family meetings, elders in families are empowered to make crucial decisions regarding family matters. The support team has facilitated several family meetings to decide on matters effecting where children should reside, who has responsibility on family decision making, and family homes. The Family Support Workers have continued to provide several on-line and in-person workshops such as Anger Management, Loss & Grief, and a Youth Cultural Camp.



Child Intervention - Between July 9th and October 12th we have been successful in reuniting 14 children with their family of origin from Child Welfare to home with parents or grandparents! This has been a monumental task as we advocated for these children to be reunited with their parents, grandparents and loved ones.

It Takes A Village To Raise A Child, Thank To All Of Our Partners That Have Worked With Us.

- Addictions Health
- Schools
- Financial Services
- Federal and Provincial Governments
- Health Services
- Dr. Justin Wong - TCVI Researcher
- Therese Houle - TCVI Facilitator/Moderator
- Janelle Charland - Wahkotowin Law & Governance Lodge Researcher
- Mental Health
- Children's Services
- Lands & Resources



Social Development

During the first wave of the pandemic, a large portion of the Canadian workforce was temporarily unemployed due to public health restrictions. In response, the Federal Government launched the Canadian Emergency Response Benefit (CERB). As a program of last resort for those who did not qualify for CERB, the purpose of the Income Assistance program was to support the basic and special needs of indigent residents of First Nations reserves and their dependents, as well as providing access to services that help clients transition to and remain in the workforce.

The desired outcome of the Income Assistance Program is an improved quality of life through the alleviation of poverty and hard-ship on reserve, so that Income Assistance clients are employable and able to secure and/or maintain attachment to the workforce.

Highlights 2020/2021

- Completion Of The Portage College Health Care Aide Program *(Completed June 2020)*
- Employment Readiness Skills Development Program *(Completed December 2020)*
- Safety Ticket
- Self Esteem Workshops *(Completed December 2020)*
- Wage Subsidy
- Pathways To Employment
- Motion In Momentum Program-Life Skills, Pre-Employment
- Learners Benefits

Future Program Planning 2021/2022

- Safety Ticket Training
- Pathways To Employment
- Motion To Momentum Program
- Wage Subsidy
- Harm Reduction Supports
- AISH Application Assistance
- Personal Development Workshops
- Pre-Employment Support Program



Housing And Infrastructure

The housing and infrastructure department has been very busy this year on capital projects and housing developments. Due to the pandemic, there were no renovations during this time.

Last year, we received funding for the following projects:

- **\$556,000 (approximately)** to complete road upgrades.
- **\$2,000,000** from Cenovus to build **5** new homes on town-site and from ISC to construct **5** rural homes.
- **\$250,000** towards lot servicing from ISC This was to install water, sewer, power, and gas utilities.
- **\$13,600,000** from ISC to connect to the regional water system and to supply water to **149** Phase 1 plan. Phase 2 &3 will consist of hooking the remainder of homes up to this system.

Cenovus Housing Initiative

Last year the Cenovus Housing Initiative completed the first **5** homes of the new project. Although completing the homes during the pandemic created several of it's own challenges, the homes were delivered with little delay and remained on budget. After the success of the first phase of the project, Cenovus has doubled it's initial pledge to **\$2,000,000** and the next phase will provide **10** new homes to CLFN members.

Future Projects

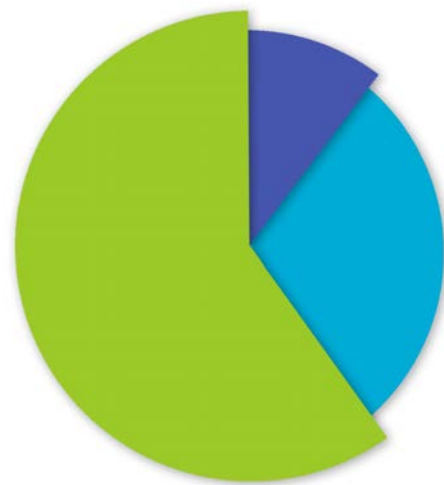
This year, look out for housing and infrastructure progress that includes:

- **\$275,000** towards lot servicing.
- **\$5,368,000** towards waterline construction.
- **\$150,000** for new air conditioning for the Administration Building.
- **\$94,000** to upgrade ventilation system for LeGoff school.

Education

Although school closures and uncertainty from the pandemic changed the dynamic of our programming, the Education Department still worked to provide:

- 70 families with \$750 recreation funding
- 107 families with \$150 to ensure that families could pay for school fees
- 34 families with \$100 to ensure youth could attend field trips
- 107 families with funding for school supplies
- 38 families with \$250 for Chromebooks for on-line learning



44 Students Applied For Funding:

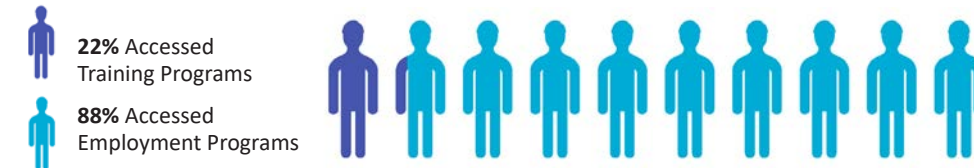
- 61% Received Full Funding
- 23% Received Partial Funding
- 16% Received Part Time Funding

- Additionally, 45 students obtained post secondary funding through Freehorse Family Wellness Society

Employment & Training

The Employment & Training Department is proud to serve our community to assist our Members to achieve their goals and their greatest future. It is our absolute honor to be a part of your journey as our people continue to achieve their independence and long term careers.

Employment & Training Provided Support for 158 Members:



This has resulted in an **91% Success Rate** for our individuals served; Thank you for allowing us to continue to be part of your success during this challenging year.

To offer our community members exciting new opportunities, the training department has been working on some exciting partnerships:

Partnership:	Company/Government/Nation Department:
Short Term Training/Trades	Grand Prairie Regional College
Safety Training	Astec Safety
Safety Training	Safe Net
Driver Training	Woods Driving School
Short Term Training	Alberta Construction Safety Association
Driver Training	Northeast Transport Training
Employment Assistance/Trades Support	NEAAI
Employment/Service Provision Support	TCETSA

The Training Programs Our Community Members Accessed Included:

- Class 7,5,3,1 Driver Training
- Law
- Esthetics
- NCSO
- Health Care Aide
- Pipeline Construction Inspector
- Addictions Counseling
- Business and Digital Marketing
- Emergency Medical Responder
- Trades: Carpentry, Culinary, Electrical, Heavy Equipment Technician, Insulator, Welding
- Real Estate
- Security
- Horticulture



Lands And Resources

The Lands Department within CLFN manages formal consultation files with industry and the crown. During the pandemic the Lands and Resources Department has been working on both fronts and has updates for community members on this work.



Pilot Guardian Program - This was a land based capacity development initiative that focused on providing job opportunities and personal supports to people in the program. The two crews constructed a field camp and completed a second cabin to lockup at Primrose Lake.



Environmental Monitoring - Proposed expanded oil sands monitoring this year to now include fish, water quality and biodiversity. We will be working this summer on a pilot approach to monitoring blueberry productivity and maybe starting wildlife work this winter. Last year we focused on monitoring lakes in the territory using traditional fishing methods and shared thousands of pounds of fish with the community. Our staff are out in the field every week monitoring the safety and quality of resources in Dene Ni Nenne.



Caribou Conservation - This year we are hoping to make some significant progress on caribou conservation in Dene Ni Nenne. We are also helping to lay the ground work for land based economic development, mental health, and social program initiatives from other departments. We have a pilot youth program planned that focuses on physical health and land skills. This year will hopefully also see more facilities for land based activity being built. Look for us to be collaborating more with other CLFN departments on new types of projects.

Economic Development

The Economic Development Department exists to improve, identify and facilitate opportunities to achieve economic growth, with a focus on generating employment and revenue, thereby supporting CLFN's overarching goal to enhance the community's economic well-being. Though economic growth has been a challenge this past year, due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, there are several sources of optimism that can be derived from recent Economic Development initiatives.



Strategic Planning - In 2021, CLFN finalized its Economic Development Strategic Plan (EDSP). The EDSP is a goal-oriented exercise that includes analysis on how to capitalize on new business opportunities, support the growth of community owned-business and maximize CLFN's economic resources. The EDSP identified seven strategic directions and includes an immediately actionable implementation.

1. Diversify CLFN's business portfolio.
2. Improve business governance.
3. Help improve CLFN businesses' abilities to recruit, retain, and promote CLFN members.
4. Enhance CLFN's reputation as a proud, progressive, business-savvy First Nations community.
5. Enable more collaboration amongst CLFN businesses and CLFN administration.
6. Enabling factors for individual entrepreneurs.
7. Lobbying efforts for better business outcomes



Business Development - The EDSP identifies diversifying CLFN's business portfolio as a key focus for the Economic Development Department. The department deploys a considerable amount of resources towards activities that will help CLFN engage in businesses that is outside of the oil and gas industry.



Private Infrastructure Investments - Over the course of the past two years, the Economic Development Department has been working towards an ownership stake in a large renewable energy project.



Economic Resiliency - The last two years having been economically challenging for CLFN with the compounding impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and low oil prices. The Economic Development Department has played an important role in helping CLFN and CLFN-owned businesses mitigate these impacts.



Oil and Gas Infrastructure Abandonment and Reclamation - Through the federal governments financial commitment towards reclaiming oil and gas infrastructure in the province of Alberta, CLFN has been allocated a significant amount of funding to reduce some of those environmental liabilities on CLFN's reserve lands.

Consolidated Statements Of Financial Positions

	2020	2019
Financial Assets		
Cash And Cash Equivalents	\$15,840,890	\$7,247,633
Temporary Investments	\$5,496,419	\$495,636
Accounts Receivable	\$7,634,194	\$5,056,774
Trust Funds	\$2,825,967	\$2,549,121
Investment In Government Business Enterprises	\$53,817,218	\$52,221,970
	\$85,614,688	\$67,571,134
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable And Accrued Liabilities	\$10,712,730	\$8,480,563
Contributions Carried Forward	\$15,672,325	\$7,691,387
Long-Term Debt	\$11,491,918	\$10,716,161
	\$37,876,973	\$26,888,111
Net Financial Assets	\$47,737,715	\$40,683,023
Non-Financial Assets		
Deposits And Prepaid Expenses	\$120,950	\$179,832
Tangible Capital Assets	\$39,118,295	\$32,322,952
	\$39,239,245	\$32,502,784
Accumulated Surplus	\$86,976,960	\$73,185,807

» Notes and complete financial statements can be accessed by contacting the CLFN Administration Department.

Consolidated Statements Of Operations & Accumulated Surplus

	2020	Budget 2020	2019
Revenues			
Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	\$21,009,368	\$6,997,574	\$14,441,578
Donations	\$8,563,686	\$3,291,921	\$4,994,365
First Nations Development Fund (FNDF)	\$6,032,578	\$1,780,213	\$3,065,165
First Nations And Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB)	\$2,382,857	\$1,000,000	\$4,381,694
Other	\$53,817,218	\$15,840,890	\$52,221,970
Other Government Grants	\$2,082,233	\$1,582,033	\$1,603,921
Dene Ts'edi Society Grants	\$909,435	\$655,831	\$1,461,943
Trust Fund Transfers	-	-	\$180,000
Contributions Carried Forward From Prior Year	\$7,646,739	-	\$3,185,999
Contributions Carried Forward To Next Year	\$(15,641,879)	-	\$(7,646,740)
	\$34,478,017	\$21,501,162	\$27,341,799
Expenses			
Administration And Governance	\$4,510,779	\$6,961,252	\$5,134,500
Health	\$5,027,467	\$1,980,213	\$3,166,015
Social	\$2,348,699	\$2,469,989	\$3,284,977
Infrastructure	\$5,352,890	\$6,255,012	\$6,309,579
Education	\$2,053,132	\$1,519,647	\$1,877,874
Other	\$3,032,385	\$2,315,049	\$3,164,542
	\$22,325,352	\$21,501,162	\$22,937,487
Surplus From Operations Before The Following	\$12,152,665	-	\$4,404,312
		2020	2019
Other Income (Expenses)			
Income Allocation From Primrose Lake Trust		\$1,082,208	\$603,595
Share Of Income (Loss) From Government Business Enterprises		\$245,583	\$(3,169,932)
Gain On Disposal Of Government Business Enterprises		\$33,851	-
Net Change In Trust Funds		\$276,846	\$760,556
		\$1,638,488	\$(1,805,781)
Excess Of Revenues Over Expenses		\$13,791,153	\$2,598,531
Accumulated Surplus Beginning Of Year		\$73,185,807	\$70,587,276
Accumulated Surplus End Of Year		\$86,976,960	\$73,185,807

Cold Lake First Nations Mission Statement

“Sekwi t’áhi ʔátu ghedeḽi beba”

“Yedariyihe ʔuéchogh Túé Denesų́łné neja nuh k’e ninuxjnila nit’a ełk’esj nuhnéné k’e xąk’ahuldu, hok’esoredliʔu, eyi hot’a sehoʔa. Nuhxeyatíeʔu, nuch’aníeʔu, t’ąt’u eghasoredi besets’udi xa ʔanjsjʔu, duhu, xeł tth’i ʔanathe t’ahots’ęn hots’ęn Denesų́łné dahidlj. Ekohuʔa sj. Hok’et’á hule hots’en”.

“...For the Unborn Children Travelling Towards us”

“The Creator placed the ʔuéchogh Túé Denesų́łnę equally on this land to freely govern ourselves with respect, honor, harmony, and to uphold and maintain our Denesų́łné language, culture and beliefs, for generations to come. That’s the way things are until there is no tomorrow”

