# Long Point First Nation

## **Annual Report** 2023-2024

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## Ogima Henry Rodgers



#### KWE KWE KAKINA!

I hope everyone had a wonderful year. As for myself, my year has gone fairly well. I am actively involved in several portfolios, which include Aboriginal Rights and Title, Justice, Communication, Education, Elders, Public Security, and Land Status. I am totally committed to these files and want to see them advance for the benefit of our community.

Over the course of the year, the Master Plan (Unity Approach) has begun to attract interest from other Anicinabek communities. So far we have: Kebaowek First Nation, Timiskaming First Nation, Kitigan Zibi, Wolf Lake and Long Point First Nation who have signed the Unity Agreement. Additionally, we have received a million dollars from Agnico Eagle Mines (AEM) so the communities to align themselves to work out the details of this working relationship.The Anishinabeg Algonquin Nation Tribal Council will oversee the delivery of finances of this entity.

The police file is inching its way to the next level, where we now have a working document in place to provide the province to show the work that has been conducted by the three communities of TFN, KFN and LPFN. The SQ still needs to accompany the police from TFN and KFN when doing their patrolling. We will continue to address this issue in future meetings with the province. Regarding the Land Base, our negotiating team comprising of: Steeve Mathias, Diane Polson, Sharon Hunter, and our legal advisors Nadir Andre and Isabelle Simard have been working tirelessly towards an agreement. Discussions have now commenced on the creation of a reserve, although there is still a long way to go before reaching that milestone.

During my two year-tenure as chief for LPFN many of your ideas and issues have come to my attention. I've appreciated hearing your ideas and concerns. This is why I got involved with political life; to see how I can improve our community. I've heard this from other chiefs as well, while attending chiefs meetings. My door is always open to hear from you. However, my primary role is a chief, I take care of political matters and I usually let the administration handle their responsibilities independently.

I am eager for another productive year 2024-2025, with your guidance and assistance we can achieve greater goals. Despite challenges we can overcome any adversity that befalls us. We can do this!

> Ogima Henry Rodgers



#### MISSION

Assert the sovereignty, enhance the quality of life, and assure a safe and secure environment for the Kakinwawigak Anicinbeg.

#### VISION

A dynamic prosperous Anicinabeg Nation, harmonious, strong, and proud, with holistically healthy and bi-culturally educated people.

#### VALUES

Kakinwawigak's values are consistent with rendering quality services with utmost loyalty and integrity, inspired by the Seven Grandfather Teachings passed down to us by our ancestors.

#### **7 GRANDFATHER TEACHINGS**



**Respect** Bison



Humility Wolf



**Love** Eagle



Honesty Sabe



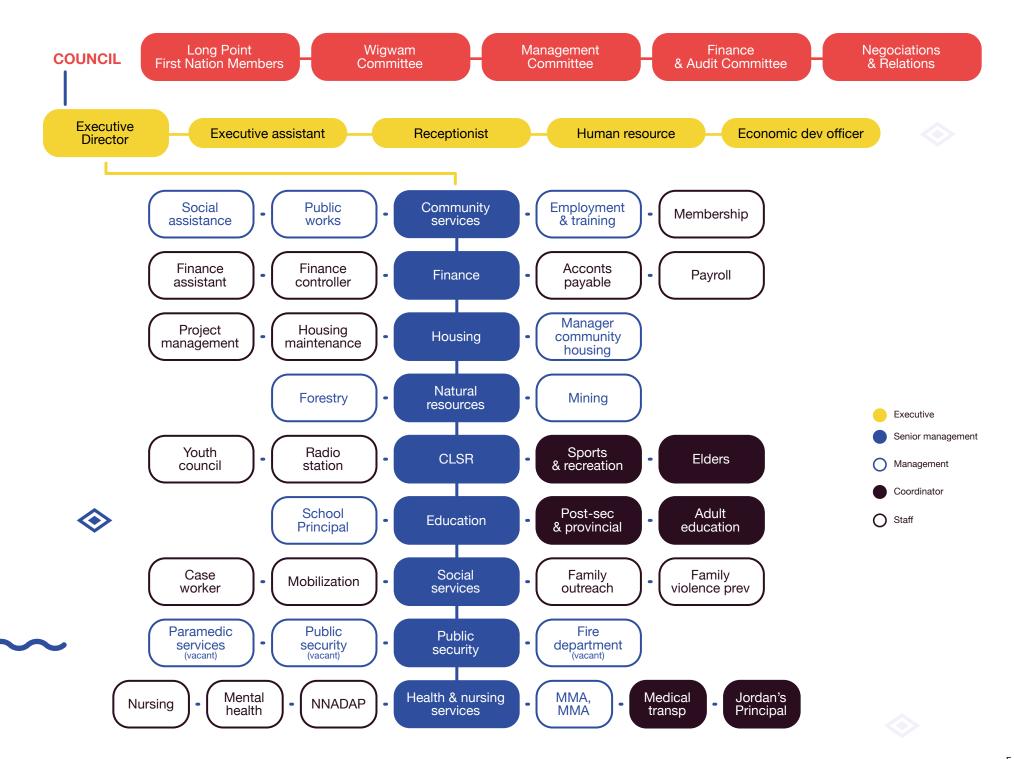
Bravery Bear



**Truth** Turtle



Wisdom Beaver



## Portfolios of council



CHIEF HENRY RODGERS Aboriginal Rights & Titles Justice, Communication, Education, Men, Public Security, Land Status.

VICE CHIEF AMY ZACHARY Housing, Women, Employment & Training (HRD), Social Assistance, Culture, Language.





COUNCILLOR STEVEN POLSON Economic Development, Public Works, Youth, Men, Membership.



COUNCILLOR DIANE POLSON Natural Resources & Environment, Governance, Finance, Administration, Family & Child

Services.



#### COUNCILLOR JASON MATHIAS

Health & Wellness, Sports & Recreation, Residential School & Veterans, Daycare.

## Management



ADAM HUNTER Director of Health & Wellness.



CHELSEA POLSON Director of Housing.



LIZA CHARBONNEAU Director of Community Services.



CASSANDRA PICHETTE Director of Natural Resources.



JERRY POLSON Director of Culture, Language, Sports & Recreation.

#### MARIELLE RANNOU Director of Finance.



LEONARD POLSON Director of Education.



SHARON HUNTER Executive Director.

# Council resolutions

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS**

Council adopted a total of twentynine (29) resolutions during the fiscal year 2023-2024. Here is a summary of the resolutions :

- Application for Funding from the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada: Council authorized entering a Contribution Agreement with the Impact Assessment Agency. Cassandra Pichette is the signatory.
- Moose Moratorium Extension: Council supports extending the moratorium on moose sport hunting in Reserve Faunique La Verendrye.
- Housing Loans Renewal with RBC: Council authorized renewing two housing loans at a 4.82% interest rate for five years with RBC. Sharon Hunter and Marielle Rannou are signatories.



- Replacement and Repairs of Windows – Health & Wellness Centre: Council allocated \$167,500 to Construction Francis Roy for window repairs. Sharon Hunter is the signatory.
- Roof Replacement Amo Ososwan School – Maçonnerie Gilles Caya Inc.: Council approved a \$2,536,543.11 contract with Maçonnerie Gilles Caya Inc. for roof replacement. Sharon Hunter is the signatory.
- First Nation Finance Authority Representative: Council designated Chief Henry Rodgers as LPFN's representative to the First Nation Finance Authority.

- 2023 Election Preparation Meeting: Council decided that the General Assembly is set for July 24, 2023, to prepare for elections. Jessica Polson to post notices and organize the meeting.
- **Public Security**: Council approved a plan for a regional Aboriginal police force. Chief Henry Rodgers is the signatory.
- Funding Negotiations: Council certified project completion and approved financial and activity report for public security and land base project.
- The Subsidized Private Housing Program & Allocation of a Lot «221 Pawitig Mikana»: Council approved Mahigan

Mathias and Shania Polson Mathias to build on Lot 221, with a maximum amount of \$240,000 and an additional \$55,000 subsidy.

- Frank Polson's Art Studio

   Skydreamers: Council supported the construction of an art studio for Frank Polson, with funding of \$235,341.50 and a request for increased grant support.
- Social Assistance Committee: Council established a committee to manage Social Service program appeals. Members: Marielle Rannou, Kathleen Jerome, Chelsea Polson, Jessica Polson.
- Elders Centre Air Conditioner and Cultural Site Camp: Council supported application for \$25,000 to install an air conditioner and establish a camp for elders.
- Apartment Complex for Health Professionals: Council authorized pre-feasibility studies for new apartments for health professionals on Lot #615 Ocki Mikana.
- Retainment of Know History to Conduct the Targeted Historical Research for the Specific Land Claims: Council



retained Know History for historical research on land claims. Chief Henry Rodgers is the signatory.

- Operating Assistance for Local Indigenous Radio 2023– 2024: Council supported CFWR Community Radio Project and authorized Sharon Hunter to sign the agreement.
- Tower and Cell Telecommunications Project: Council declared the Tower and Cell Telecommunications project complete, with Gabriel Rodgers to submit documents.
- Community Infrastructure Natural Resources
   Department Renovation: Council requested \$706,856 from SRPNI for renovations. Totalestimatedcost:\$1,413,712.

- Anicinabe Nation of Kakinwawigak Finance and Audit Committee: Council appointed Diane Polson as chairperson, with Norm Odjick and Satya Rannou as members.
- Wanaki Board of Directors: Council appointed Sky Polson for two years and Elder Jimmy Hunter as a substitute.
- **Fitzpatrick Island**: Council supported the return of FitzpatrickIslandasanIndigenous Protected Conservation Area with Algonquin Great Earth Law programs.



- Signing Authority of Executive Director for Natural Resources: Council authorized Sharon Hunter to sign all funding and project documents for 2023-2024.
- Expansion of Existing Childcare Centre: Council requested funding for pre-feasibility studies to expand the Amosesag Child Care Centre.
- Amo Ososwan School Renovations: Council mandated seeking funding for renovations to create more workspace due to new positions from FNREA.
- Construction of a New Teacher Apartment Building: Council mandated seeking funding for a new teacher apartment building due to infrastructure inadequacies.
- **Construction of a New High School & Special Education Program**: Council mandated seeking funding and an architect for a new high school due to inadequate current facilities.
- Mandate for Legal Services in Relation with the Negotiation with the Quebec Government on Natural Resources: Council mandated BLG to represent LPFN in negotiations with Quebec regarding natural resources.



- ParticipationintheFirstNationsHealthandEnvironmentalBaselineProgram:Council supportedparticipation in the programtoassesshealthbeforeindustrialprojects.IsabelleBrûlé tomanage.
- Financial Contribution for the Application for Judicial Review Concerning the Charter of the French Language CQLR c C-11 to be Paid to the FNEC: Council committed \$15,000 to FNEC for judicial review of amendments to the Charter of the French Language.



# Council meetings

#### **COUNCIL MEETINGS**

A total of twenty-six meetings (26) were held during the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Here are some of the highlights:

- Council approved the signing authority of the Natural Resources Director.
- Council approved an application for funding from the Impact Assessment of Canada.
- Council discussed the Complexe du aux Eaux profondes (swimming pool) project.
- Council accepted the education salary scale for teachers and educational assistants.
- Council reviewed various mining files and negotiation updates.
- Council discussed the issue of stray dogs in the community



- Council discussed a podcast on lithium.
- Council approved the dispersal of community business fund (COVID) monies.
- Council addressed an infraction issued to a community member by the Ministry of Natural Resources.
- Council approved the moose moratorium extension.
- Council identified a lot for new nursing residences.
- Council addressed concerns around participation of council members at meetings.
- Council approved the 2023/2024 budget and five-year budget forecast.
- Council approved the increase in ETSC participant wages.
- Council approved the purchase of a vehicle for the First Nation Representative.
- Council completed the Executive Director's annual performance evaluation.
- Council approved the public security agreement and feasibility study.

- Council discussed and approved the purchase of textbooks for the education department.
- Council discussed and approved the appointment of the Comité de développement d'Anicinape Inakonigewin.
- Council addressed issues related to the housing policy and private homeownership.
- Council discussed the specific land claims research and recommended engaging Know History.
- Council approved increases to post-secondary student incentive grants.
- Council approved capital projects for 2023/2024, including the Amo Ososwan School roof replacement.



- Council supported the toponym initiative to rename streets in Rouyn-Noranda.
- Council discussed the court case regarding defects in the Amo Ososwan School design and construction.
- Council approved the purchase of a tractor for the education department.
- Council reviewed and discussed the Laronde agreement with Agnico Eagle.
- Council supported the Findan-Independent-Expert (FAIME) Database project.
- Council suspended the purchase of traditional wild meat due to concerns over reproductive periods.
- Council approved the isolation premium for school teaching staff.
- Council set a deadline of September 2024 to achieve Financial Management System Certification.
- Council supported the Fitzpatrick Island Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas initiative.



- Council approved the dispersal of community business fund (COVID) monies.
- Council addressed concerns over the Amosesag Childcare Centre's financial situation.
- Council discussed and approved the organizational chart and salary scale for the education department.
- Council approved additional funding for the Amo Ososwan School land scaping and multisport projects.
- Council reviewed and discussed the draft Anicinape Inakonigewin (C-92) law.
- Council activated the education steering committee and mandated a chairperson.
- Council approved the resolution for the Tower and Cell Telecommunications Project.



- Council approved the quarterly financial report as of September 30, 2023.
- Council approved the purchase of 155 food baskets for community members.
- Council approved several council resolutions related to finance, audit, and board appointments.
- Council discussed and addressed concerns over an incident at an Abitibiwinni hockey tournament.
- Council approved the capital projects budget for 2023/2024.
- Council supported the paving of the Baie Carrière Road.
- Council approved the hiring of two new positions in the Natural Resources department.

- Council approved the Amo Ososwan School renovations resolution.
- Council discussed and provided feedback on the draft Algonquin Unity Funding Agreement.
- Council agreed to participate in the potential AFNQL intervention in the Attorney General of Quebec v. Pekuakamiulnuatsh Takuhikan case.
- Council approved the resolution for the Amo Ososwan School renovations.
- Council reviewed and discussed the quarterly financial report as of November 30, 2023.
- Council approved the resolution for the «Apartment Complex for Health Professionals».

- Council approved the resolution for the «Elder's Centre Air Conditioner & Cultural Site Camp».
- Council approved the resolution for «Frank Polson's Art Studio – Skydreamers».
- Council approved the resolution for the «Fitzpatrick Island» initiative.
- Council approved the resolution for the «Tower and Cell Telecommunications Project».
- Council approved the resolution for the «Community Infrastructure Natural Resource Renovation».
- Council approved the resolution for the «Algonquin Unity Funding Agreement».

## Administration

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

KWE KWE KAKINWAWIGAK ANICINABEK,

It is no surprise that the 2023-2024 year has been filled with twelve months of exciting developments and projects for LPFN. The staff and management team have been working hard at improving existing services, implementing new ones to answer to the needs of our ever-growing community, while responding to the everincreasing demands on programs and services.

Having our vision and mission at heart, our organization's collective aim is attaining the priorities set out in LPFN's Strategic Plan 2020-2025 as well as rendering quality services with utmost loyalty and integrity, based on our collective values that are consistent with and inspired by the Seven Grandfather Teachings, as passed down to us by our ancestors; Respect, Love, Honesty, Truth, Humility, Bravery, and Wisdom guide us on a daily basis.

Included throughout the following pages are departmental achievements that our team is extremely proud to share with all LPFN members, from community infrastructure improvements to operational effectiveness and efficiency. During the summer of 2023, our community streets were once again used as access roads for heavy equipment as the last and final phase of the addition of storm sewers and the repair of existing infrastructures and street reconstruction project for the residential area of Kijigate and Naneweak Mikana, commonly known as the 'other end' went underway. As a community, we can all take pride that all residential areas are now beautified with curbs, sidewalks and paved streets. Another major community infrastructure improvement project was modernizing the Water Treatment facility with the replacement by up-to-date and automated fixtures and devices. LPFN's newest residential development and future lagoons area was also commenced with the deforestation of a one-kilometre access road. This newest extension of Naneweak Mikana will pursue in the next fiscal year and encompasses three future phases of development.

LPFN's Fire department was identified as a priority as well with the hiring of a full-time Fire Chief to provide much needed essential services, particularly in the areas of prevention. Training modules for our volunteer brigade of fire fighters were also held with the team from the Circuit Rider Training Program. The summer fires of 2023 demonstrated that LPFN needs to be prepared for any and all natural disasters. As such, certain members of the management team kept close contact with the SOPFEU, having daily updates on the status of forest fires in our area that could affect our community and the safety of our members.

In terms of Early Childhood education, local stakeholders got together as a working group and were hard at work with developing a five-year plan, designing programs and services for families with children 0–5 years old. As a result, the Little Feathers Head Start program was implemented and offers children 0–5 years old with early stimulation in areas of physical, social and cognitive development as well as workshops for parents.



Both LPFN's Health and Social Services departments also went through a reorganization. The new Health and Wellness department now regroups and bridges together all First Line Services, Health promotion and prevention services and nursing services under one single department.

At LPFN, we believe in building capacity and as such, management was provided with additional management tools such as a training on integrated planning as part of LPFN's process on Financial Management Systems (FMS) Certification and took part in a retreat on communications and team building at Grassy Narrows on November 28–29, 2023. The FMS certification is ongoing with advancements towards policy adoption to effectively guide information management, human resource management, emergency preparedness, assets management and the level of risk with a risk register. All employees were also provided a workshop in effective communication. This workshop was held in order to meet our organizational priority of improving communication as a result of our job satisfaction survey.

As an organization, the process of conducting annual performance appraisals for all employees was reinstated. As well, LPFN hosted its first annual LPFN Employee Recognition Day, KIKIJIKINAN KA WASAKONETOWADJ ANANGOG (You are the Stars that Light up Our Sky). A fun-filled day of conferences and awards ceremony celebrating work anniversaries of 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 plus years were discerned to over 40 deserving employee/recipients.

A few highlights that are worthy of mention on the part of our leadership includes LPFN's Day of Sovereignty as LPFN proudly raised our flag at Kewagama (present-day area of Préissac) as a gesture of reclaiming sovereignty over our traditional lands and territory.

A few members of council, community members and Elders also participated in a Podcast with Ms Élise Ekker-Lambert and Gaël Poirier entitled Au Pays des Cratères (In the Land of Craters), which looks at the deep relationship that anicinabek communities have had with Anicinabe Aki for millennia and the threat of Lythium Mining on our traditional ancestral territory.

With every major event that took place within the community in 2023–2024, it is safe to say that the most favorite for this year was Phyllis Webstad's visit during the National Indigenous People's day events in June 2023. As we all know, Phyllis created Orange Shirt Day and founded the Orange Shirt Society in Kamloops, BC. She travels the country to share her life story

and message to create awareness of the history of residential schools in Canada. Author of several books and inspirational speaker, she is a woman of heart and soul, and believes in the importance of family and the bonds of kinship.

It truly is a blessing and honour to work for the community, in the spirit of teamwork, and I'm certain that each and every employee that goes to work each day agrees with this statement. The People of Kakinwawigak depend on every one's effort, dedication and devotion; from our children to our elders and for the next seven generations.

Meegwetc Kakina,

#### Nin Sharon Hunter Executive Director



#### **MEMBERSHIP**

16

Long Point First Nation has a total of 971 registered members. Since 2023–2024, membership has increased from 957 to 971 and so grew by 1.46%

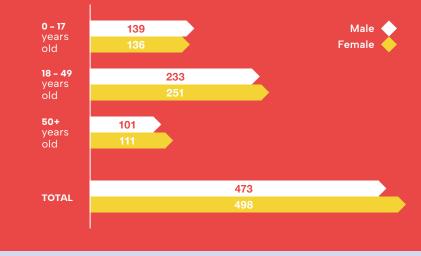
52,32% of our Members reside within the community

# **45,11%** of our Members

reside off-reserve

2,57% of our Members





#### **MEMBERSHIP SERVICES RENDERED DURING THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024**

MONTH	BIRTHS		DEATUS	TRANSFERTS	ADDITION	ID CARDS	
	CURRENT YEAR	PRIOR	DEATHS	TRANSFERTS	IST. GEN.	LAMINATE	SCIS
TOTAL	1	17	4	0	3	4	164
April	0	0	0	0	1	1	13
Мау	0	2	0	0	0	0	16
June	0	0	0	0	1	0	14
July	0	3	0	0	0	1	2
August	0	2	0	0	0	0	13
September	0	3	0	0	0	0	14
October	0	2	2	0	0	0	11
November	1	2	0	0	1	0	11
December	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
January	0	0	1	0	0	1	39
February	0	3	0	0	0	1	11
March	0	0	1	0	0	0	18

#### CCP COORDINATOR'S MESSAGE

#### KWE KWE KAKINA,

I am pleased to provide an update on the progress made in the Comprehensive Community Planning (CCP) and Communications since my appointment as the Communications Officer and CCP Coordinator in Fall of 2023. The initial focus this year has been on comprehensive training, strategic planning, and establishing a strong foundation for the upcoming fiscal year. This report outlines the progress made since my appointment in fall of 2023 to the end of the fiscal year, and highlights the plans for 2024-2025.





#### **TRAINING AND STRATEGIC PLANNING**

- Comprehensive Community Planning (CCP) Presentation Delivered a detailed presentation to the council on Comprehensive Community Planning (CCP), explaining its importance, benefits, and the planning cycle. This presentation served as a foundation for understanding and initiating the CCP process within the community.
- Trauma-Informed Organizations (TIO) Training

Attended a training session on Trauma-Informed Organizations (TIO). This training emphasized the importance of creating a supportive and understanding environment within the community and its organizations. The knowledge gained will be integrated into future community initiatives to foster resilience and support healing from trauma.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

Enhanced Communication Channels

Strengthened the existing communication channels within LPFN, ensuring timely and accurate dissemination of information. This includes regular updates on the LPFN Facebook Page and LPFNCommConnect Instagram page.

Re-introduced channels of communication, such as newsletters to reach a broader audience within the community.

#### LPFN Website Development

Initiated the development of a new trilingual website (Algonquin, English, and French) for LPFN in collaboration with LeBleu Communications. This website aims to enhance the community's online presence and provide a central hub for information, policies, meeting minutes and other publications.

The project is expected to be completed by Fall 2024, providing community members with easy access to updates, resources, and important announcements.

#### Communication Plan

A communication plan is also a work in progress with LeBleu Communications. This plan aims to improve internal and external communications, focusing on enhancing communication within LPFN departments, with the community, and with neighboring communities and municipalities.

The plan will include strategies for regular updates, community focus groups, and transparent decision-making processes to build trust and ensure effective information dissemination through our channels of communication within the community.



#### **ACHIEVEMENTS AND IMPACT**

#### Enhanced Communication

New communication strategies have led to more informed and engaged community members. The regular updates and interactive sessions have set the framework for a sense of transparency and trust between the community and the administration. More work will have to be done in this area in the next fiscal year.

#### Improved Community Participation

Initiated the groundwork for increased community participation in the planning process, setting the stage for broader engagement in the upcoming year.

#### Adoption of New Technologies

Embraced new technologies and strategies to improve communication and engagement. Continued efforts will leverage emerging tools and methodologies to further enhance community involvement and the effectiveness of our initiatives.

#### **FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

Looking ahead, the goal is to build on the progress made and continue enhancing the community's involvement in the CCP process. This includes:

- Focus Groups and Community Meetings: Host multiple focus groups and community meetings to gather input on areas of interest and concern within the community.
- Data Collection and Analysis: Implement a systematic approach for data collection to inform the CCP, ensuring that community needs and preferences are accurately captured and addressed.
- **Public Awareness Campaigns**: Launch public awareness campaigns to address critical issues and encourage proactive involvement from community members.
- Innovative Communication Tools: Introduce more innovative communication tools and platforms to reach a wider audience.
- **Strengthened Partnerships**: Strengthen partnerships with local departments and regional organizations to support community development initiatives.





#### **IN CLOSING**

I am committed to working closely with the community, departments and outside organizations to achieve our collective goals and ensure a prosperous future for Long Point First Nation. With the always-evolving technology and strategies, we are poised to achieve even greater successes in the years to come.

Kitchi Meegwtc,

Bradley Polson CCP Coordinator

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S MESSAGE

KWE-KWE, BONJOUR, HELLO,

The Annual Economic Development Report for 2023–2024 highlights the progress and achievements that have shaped our community's economic landscape. Our efforts in local business development, sustainable resource management, and infrastructure improvement have brought substantial benefits. This progress underscores the dedication and hard work of our community members and reflects our collective commitment to building a prosperous and self-sufficient Long Point First Nation.

Looking ahead, we have several strategic projects planned to further enhance our economic growth. These include expanding our renewable energy initiatives and investing in education with training programs to equip our youth with the necessary skills for the future. We are also exploring new avenues for economic diversification to ensure long-term sustainability. I encourage every member to stay engaged and actively participate in these initiatives, as your involvement is vital to our continued success. Together, we can create a vibrant and sustainable economy that honors our heritage and secures a prosperous future for generations to come.

#### CHALLENGES

Lateral violence, which includes acts of bullying, gossiping, and undermining peers within the community, continues to pose a significant challenge to our progress and unity. It erodes trust, diminishes morale, and hinders collaboration, making it difficult to achieve our collective goals. This destructive behavior often stems from historical trauma such as colonialism, unresolved conflicts, and internalized oppression, perpetuating a cycle of negativity and division. Addressing lateral violence requires the need for change through awareness and training, concerted effort to promote healing, open communication, and mutual respect. By fostering a culture of empathy, support, and positive conflict resolution, we can build a stronger, more cohesive community that works together toward shared prosperity and well-being.

#### **INFRASTRUCTURE**

Infrastructure projects are often slow to evolve due to a combination of factors including regulatory hurdles, extensive planning, and approval processes. The complexity of coordinating multiple stakeholders, and with more regulatory requirements, can be stringent, which causes delays. Requiring thorough environmental impact assessments and compliance with numerous local, state, and federal laws. Planning and approval processes involve detailed feasibility studies, design, and securing necessary funding, which can be timeconsuming. Additionally, infrastructure projects frequently involve coordination between various government agencies, private sector partners, and community groups, each with their own interests and timelines. These factors, coupled with potential political and economic uncertainties, contribute to the protracted timelines often associated with the development and completion of infrastructure projects.



#### ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Entrepreneurship in the community is slow-going due to several challenges that entrepreneurs face, including limited access to capital, inadequate infrastructure, and the need for more comprehensive business training and mentorship programs. Many aspiring business owners encounter difficulties in securing the necessary funding to start and sustain their ventures, as most financial institutions often have rigorous requirements and limited understanding of Indigenous business contexts. The grand opening of Sky Dreamer Studios was to be officially open in the summer of 2024.

You can have your own business if you have a clear vision, a solid plan, sufficient support, and the determination to overcome challenges. With the right backing and perseverance, your entrepreneurial dreams can become a reality.

Kitchi Meegwtc,

Gabriel Rodgers Economic Development Officer



## Finance

### MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

#### KWE KWE !

I am taking this opportunity to thank my finance team for the great work achieved throughout the fiscal year and the professional services provided to our community members.

#### **OUR TEAM**

The finance team is composed of myself, Marielle Rannou, Director of Finance, Daniel Rodrigue, Financial Comptroller, Venuste Kayiranga, Financial Comptroller, Shannon McLaren, Finance Clerk, Roxanne Charbonneau, Payroll Clerk and Shawn Polson Rodrigue, Finance Assistant, Nancy Gauthier, Account Payable Clerk. A special thank you to Rudy Wiens, former financial comptroller and best wishes for your retirement.

The team worked hard each day and have collaborated with Directors and Managers of the organization. The finance team is very reliable and are always in office to assist with many tasks. I would like to congratulate each of you for your achievements.

#### **OUR TASKS**

- Weekly Account Payable
- Bi-Weekly Payroll (Pension and Group Insurance Monitoring)
- Monthly Financial Statements
- Monthly Bank Reconciliations
- Reconciliation of advances
- Monthly Government Remittances
- Quarterly Financial Statements
- Yearly Audited Financial Statements
- Yearly Budget Forecast
- Yearly ( 5 Year Financial Forecast)



#### **FMB CERTIFICATION**

We are continuously working towards our Financial Management Board Certification. We are currently working on an asset management plan with MNP, the Directors and managers.

#### FAC (FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE)

Our committee is composed of Norm Odjick, Diane Polson, and Satya Rannou. I would like to express my thanks to the members of the committee for working with Long Point in ensuring and monitoring closely our financial situation and making recommendations to the Council for the approval of quarterly reports, annual budget, 5 year forecast, audit. Thanks for your support and good achievements.

#### **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS MARCH 31, 2024**

The financial statements ending March 31 st, 2024 provide reliable financial information that demonstrates our accountability to Long Point First Nation community members. The audited financial statements are completed annually by MNP as per funding agreements and in accordance with the Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards.

The results of this year's audited financial statement will be presented at the Annual General Assembly by our auditor Mr. Anthony McFadden.

Meegwech, thank you, merci!

Marielle Rannou Director of Finance

Education

#### **MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION**

The following is the Education Activity Report, which covers the period of April 1st, 2023, to March 31st, 2024. This report will provide you with a brief summary of the different activities that were conducted in the different programs under the education department.

As in previous years, we continue utilizing the Ontario Curriculum for Amo Ososwan School in the delivery of our education program. With the implementation of the First Nations Regional Education Agreement (FNREA) and the increased funding that came with it, we were able to separate all classes and have a teacher in each one. High school still has its own classrooms in the rented trailers across the school.



#### **SCHOOL ROOF LAWSUIT**

A lawsuit was brought forward by Long Point First Nation (LPFN) regarding defects in its construction. The Director of Education attended several meetings and hearing dates to discuss and provide input from LPFN's standpoint. Following a lengthy legal battle, LPFN is pleased to inform you that a settlement has been reached in our favor regarding the school roof. As the only bidder, Construction Gilles Caya was selected to rebuild the roof.

#### LPFN EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARD

A ceremony was hosted on April 28, 2024, at Amo Ososwan School's gymnasium to recognize all LPFN's employee years of service and hand out awards which attested to the number of years they have served.

#### **SALARY GRID & ISOLATION PREMIUM**

Amo Ososwan School's proposed salary grid and premium were adopted by Council on April 11, 2023, for qualified teachers and educational assistants. In September 2023, the salary grid for all Amo staff was adopted by Council, including the isolation premium.

#### SCHOOL GENERATOR

The purchased school generator from GADI Electrique was installed and tested. In the event of a power outage, the generator will allow Amo Ososwan School to remain open. Additionally, in emergency situations where a winter power outage occurs, our population could seek shelter in the gymnasium as Amo is equipped with a cafeteria to accommodate and meet the needs of our community.

#### **CHROMEBOOKS**

Chromebooks (laptops) utilized by students needed to be replaced or upgraded were evaluated. The total amount to accomplish this task was in the neighborhood of \$110,000. These Chromebooks are used for educational purposes to assist the students with their schooling and were purchased and upgraded.

#### **DR. SIGWAN THIVIERGE BURSARY AWARD**

In honor of LPFN's first doctor, a \$1,000 bursary award was created and the "Dr. Sigwan Thivierge Award" was presented to our very first recipient, Ms. Stacey Boudrias. This bursary will become part of our annual graduation ceremony and be awarded to a post-secondary student on an annual basis. The criteria for this bursary will be based on marks and achievement.

#### **THREE NEW APARTMENTS**

Three new apartments for teachers were constructed in the basement of a sixplex. These apartments were fully furnished with satellite receivers and internet and made available for our teaching personnel.

#### **SKATING RINKS**

Two skating rinks were constructed and paved, one on the side of the school and the other where the previous skating was. These skating rinks are intended to be multi-purpose and used year-round. The idea was to have one for elementary and one for high school. Tiles are also planned to be installed which would allow our children to be capable to utilize it for such activities as basketball, pickleball, or just rollerblade. Again, these rinks will be used for hockey and broomball. Skating rink lights will be installed at the rink by the school.

#### **SCHOOL ORGANIGRAM**

Chief and Council adopted a new organigram for Amo Ososwan School. This organigram will include all the new positions created under the funding from the First Nations Regional Education Agreement. For example, Jessica Polson was hired as Student Life Animator for the high school students. The idea of the position is to bring forth a student voice and to create a more engaging environment amongst the high school students.

#### AMO OSOSWAN'S CULTURE PROGRAM

Mr. Jason Mathias was hired as our Cultural Program Officer. His role will be to teach our culture to the students at all levels. He will also be responsible for organizing various cultural outings which may include ice fishing, setting snares, and other winter activities. He will be scheduling other seasonal activities with our student population.

Mrs. Gracy Ratt was hired as our Cultural Consultant. Mrs. Ratt will complement the services rendered by our Cultural Program Officer. She will be providing cultural teachings to the students and organizing evening activities with community members.

A cultural building was built in the back of the school to aid in delivering Amo Ososwan School's cultural program.



#### **SCHOOL COMPUTERS**

Twenty-five school computers were given to community members. These computers were outdated and instead of discarding them, it was decided to give them to members. Prior to giving them out, the computers were wiped of all data. They were given out on a first-come, first-serve basis. The community advertisement posting was done through LPFN's Facebook page.

#### **HISTORY OF LONG POINT FIRST NATION**

An initiative was undertaken with l'Universite du Quebec en Abitibi-Temiscamingue (UQAT) to have the history of Long Point First Nation documented in a written book format. This was done in the hopes that it becomes part of our social studies curriculum. Exercise books can be created from this and used by students at most grade levels. UQAT had a film crew come to the community and conduct interviews with several individuals which included some of our elders.

#### **NEW OFFICES**

A trailer was rented for the purpose of having additional offices for staff. This trailer now has three offices and a boardroom which houses the Interim Post-Secondary coordinator, our Cultural Program Officer, and the Student Life Animator.

#### **CONSTRUCTION COURSE**

Six candidates who had previously taken the carpentry course were offered the opportunity to complete their training which will lead them to getting their carpentry competency card. This course was given through CREA Kitci Amik and the Quebec Ministry of Education. The individuals' funded salary was also provided through the Quebec Ministry of Education.

#### **STUDENT ATTENDANCE**

In order to improve student attendance, a program called Bright Arrow was purchased in Spring of 2024. A training was conducted and the program will be implemented for the 2024–2025 school year. This program notifies parents via phone call, text, or email to inform them when their child is absent from school.

#### DATA COLLECTION/ASSESSMENTS/RESOURCES

Data collection is a success indicator that needs to be implemented to determine our school's progress as part of the FNREA. As such, the Cognitive Achievement Test (CAT-4) measures students' cognitive abilities using Language Arts and Math. The assessments were done throughout all grade levels.

In order to provide consistent instruction for student learning, Amo Ososwan School implemented the same Language Arts and Math programs throughout the elementary grade levels and purchased all the resources. This includes the Fountess and Pinnell program, which focuses on phonics, spelling, and word study.

#### **OUR MISSION STATEMENT, OUR VISION, AND VALUES**

In August 2023, Amo Ososwan School invited Francois Massé, an educator with over 30 years of experience, to consult and guide our staff in professional learning communities, collaboration, and transforming school culture. During this two-day interactive workshop, our staff assisted in updating Amo Ososwan School's mission statement, vision, and values.

Our Mission: To support the exponential growth of all children; mentally, physically, emotionally, and socially.

Our Vision: To provide a culturally enriched environment that fosters inclusiveness.

Our Values: Communication, Collaboration, & Respect

Meegwetch !



## Health and wellness

#### MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS

On behalf of everyone on my team, it is my pleasure, as Long Point First Nation's Director of Health and Wellness, to address this message to you and highlight the many achievements, successes as well as challenges of the past year within the Health and Wellness Department.

#### A COMMUNITY WITH A LATERAL KINDNESS CULTURE

When we mention Community many think we are referring to a town, village, and / or even our Rez. Actually, A community is "A social group of any size whose members reside in a specific locality, share government, and often have common cultural and historical heritage". Thus, for this reporting purpose, community herein refers to We, the Anicinabeg of Kakinwawigak.

As for Culture, it can be understood or defined as "the norms and social behavior found in a society such as customs, habits, beliefs, and laws". We often narrowly use the word Culture to describe our traditional way of life. Specifically, we confuse culture with how we used to live pre-European contact. Of course, many of those traditions prevailed and still exist in our modern culture. But many new ways of thinking and doing things have also emerged that we have come to embrace throughout the ages and generations. Thus, culture herein refers to how we live today as Winneway people.

Long Point First Nation has a Mission and Vision. To attain our mission, and vision, we put in motion the Seven Grandfather teachings that were passed down to us by our ancestors.

The Seven Grandfather teachings are Respect, Love, Honesty, Truth, Humility, Bravery and Wisdom. These sacred values are part of our life, and have been made part of our organizations by way of strategic planning.

In February of 2017, the Council of Long Point First Nation adopted a Violence in the Workplace Policy that all employees must strictly adhere to. This policy, like the everlasting Seven Grandfather teachings, is still applicable to this day and hopefully shall prevail. From the aforementioned, employees are mandated to demonstrate politeness and kindness to one another, and towards the people we serve.

All violence in the workplace, whether perpetrated by an employee or a visitor, is formally reported to Council. The aim is to promote mutual respect towards one another at all times, not just between employees, but between all members of our community.

If I told you not to think of the Eiffel Tower, the Eiffel Tower will automatically show up in your mind. When we think of lateral violence, gossiping, rumour mongering, verbal or physical assaults, backstabbing, blaming and more show up in your mind. But. But when we think of the Seven Grandfather Teachings, only the values show up in our minds. It is for this reason that we are shifting from lateral violence prevention to lateral kindness promotion.

The Seven Grandfather Teachings reflect lateral kindness clearly. These values teach us how to Be Good.

Imagine the Culture we can create if we, the Community, would join forces in practicing and honoring the Seven Grandfather teachings. Our community would be stronger and healthier because culture creates community; however, the community must first create its culture.

#### **HIRING OF TWO MANAGERS**

Two Managers have recently been hired by the Health and Wellness Centre: Jackee Polson, Manager of Health and April Polson, Manager of Social Services. This development is to effectively and efficiently enhance the overall services that we render to our members. We are now prepared to review our services and see where we can improve. We will be reviewing what doesn't work and what works well for our clients. Together, with all staff input, we are working towards providing a wider range of services to our community.

The First Nation Representative and the Mental Health Worker were transferred to the Social Services Manager's supervision. Other transfers will occur as we continue our developmental initiatives.

#### **ACCREDITATION CANADA**

The Health and Wellness Centre is starting over its quality improvement tasks due mainly to reorganizational reasons. The Council has integrated its Social Services Department into the overall Health and Wellness Centre; as a result, the amalgamation affected some areas of the Centre's operations.

Some training pertinent to accreditation will be made available to all employees. This is a requirement if we are going to maintain accreditation status as we are all required to follow policies and procedures to maintain high quality services.

#### **FAMILY CENTRE**

A Family Centre is in the making. It will be a building that will enable the Health and Wellness Centre to provide a wider variety of services. A room for workshops and family kitchen, along with accommodating the Headstart Program, is part of the construction. With the guidance of Norma Hughes, IELCC Consultant, key people gathered and garnered their thoughts and ideas to realize this vision.

#### HEALTH AND WELLNESS PLAN

A Health and Wellness plan is being worked on. Additions, deletions and amendments to accommodate any foreseeable developments of services aimed to enhance community well being will all be considered in the process.



#### **MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM**

The Medical Transportation Program is a Set Funding Program. Meaning, we receive a budget that is dictated to Long Point First Nation by the Government. Sadly, the funding is not an allocation that we get to budget and administer to the community. We are basically Clerks attempting to navigate within the tight financial and administrative constraints imposed on us by Indigenous Services Canada.

The budget sent to LPFN consists of two parts. The first part being for salaries and benefits and the second being to cover other expenses. If a deficit occurs in salaries and benefits line item, the government states that we need to absorb it. If a surplus occurs in the other expense section, the government will claw it back. The surplus cannot be used to redress the deficit in the Salaries and Benefits line item. My business opinion considers it as a program designed to spiral into an overall deficit.

Having said the above regarding Medical Transportation Program, Sylvie Savard, MT Coordinator continues to work diligently to render the best services possible under such guidelines. Sylvie continues to demonstrate commitment in her work in spite of all the groundless complaints she receives as a result of these constraints. Often times, the complaints come through social media.

#### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Many can agree that Social Media is often used to be cruel to one another. I often see Facebook users pouncing on and ambushing someone else's comments without knowing the reality of the matter being posted. I believe that our department is not immune to such activity. We often hear of other departments, or administrators, or Council somewhat being victimized. Perhaps we should begin applying the Seven Grandfather Teachings on all social media platforms also. If we are going to address bullying, we can start here.

#### **SOCIAL SERVICES**

Long Point First Nation's Social Services Departmenthas experienced many success stories. Unfortunately, we are unable to disclose any due to confidentiality. But we can say that we take pride in helping our people. We take pride in preventing placements where and when possible. We take pride when we are able to help families reunite.

The Health and Wellness Centre continues to work closely with Mino Obigiwasin Anicinape Child and Family Services to address addictions, poverty and mental health issues to alleviate child placements.

Kitchi Meegwetc,

Adam Hunter Director of Health and Wellness



#### MINO MADIZI ABINODJISH, MINO MADIZI ANIKODADIWIN MANAGER'S MESSAGE

HEADSTART PROGRAM,

It's with pleasure to provide you with an update of the HeadStart Program. We have more or less than 10 children attending the HeadStart Program on a daily routine. Due to lack of space, we sadly cannot accommodate any more children. We are also getting demands from parents to assist them with the babies. Since we don't have a baby room at this time, we cannot take in children under the age of 12 months. But we are presently looking into another rental for the HeadStart, to accommodate the babies and to separate them in age groups.

Activities that were planned throughout the year such as a supper with parents for Valentine's Day, BBQ Beach Day, Apple Picking, Pumpkin Patch, Santa's visit, etc. Parents are really enjoying the activities that are planned out for the HeadStart children.

A monthly activities schedule will be planned out for those that attend the HeadStart Program so that parents can be more involved in their children's development and skills.

We've been working on the creation of the Family Centre; we have received two plans that the architect sent which will need to be discussed at the council level. This family centre will be composed of several rooms such as a culture room, dad room, computer room, a big kitchen, babies' room, toddler room, a sensory room, etc.

Kitchi Meegwetc,

Colette Pichette Manager of MMA & MMA

## Community services

#### 2023-2024 COMMUNITY SERVICES

#### **SUMMARY**

As the Director of Community Services, my role is to oversee and make sure that each Departments are manage efficiently, successfully and that our community fully benefits from all these services

During this fiscal year, Kathleen Jerome was hired on December 11th, 2023, as the Public Works Manager.

So, under the Public Works Department, we have Kathleen Jerome as the Manager, Raymond Mathias as the Machinery Operator, Stephane St-Denis as the Public Works General Maintenance, Terry Polson as the Interim Waste & Water Technician, Alex Lariviere and Aniki Polson as Labourer.

Also, under the Social Assistance, we have Kathy St-Denis as the Manager and Lee-Ann Chief as her Assistant.

Finally, under the Employment & Training Service Centre, we have Linda P. Hunter as the Manager and Precious Hunter as the Employment Counsellor.

Also, if you need to contact anyone under the Community Services Department, you may call the administration office at 819–722–2441 and our fax number is 819–722–2202.

To conclude, I would encourage you to read the annual reports that was produce by each manager under the Community Services Department.

Meegwetc,

Liza Charbonneau Director of Community Services

#### **PUBLIC WORKS MANAGER'S MESSAGE**

#### KWE KAKINA, KATHLEEN JEROME NEDIJINEGAS,

It is with great please to introduce myself with enthusiasm as Long Point First Nation's new Public Manager as of December 11, 2023. Our Public Works Department works with various departments within our community members to achieve and provide services to our community members. The Public Works Department provides services collaboratively with activities such as cultural week, graduation, community meetings, garbage collection, spring cleaning, snow removal, beautification and maintenance on our machinery.



#### WATER AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT

Our Water Treatment Plant is still undergoing improvements which will distribute clearer water flow to our members with monitoring devices set up with our Circuit Rider provider. Our sewage plant is also undergoing improvements while our new lagoon will be completed in the new future.

In closing, I would like to thank our Community Service Department, administration and my fellow colleagues for their support and guidance in this department and most importantly our community members of LPFN. I sincerely, look forward in working with our infrastructure and community development.

Kitchi Meegwetc,

Kathleen Jerome Manager of Public Works

### SOCIAL ASSISTANCE MANAGER'S MESSAGE

#### SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

Under the supervision of the Director of community services, we manage the Social Solidarity, Social Assistance benefits and programs such as different types of Social Assistance Transfers (SAT). Social Assistance provides advice and assistance to community members who have no other source of any other income & making sure that every client can benefits what they are entitle too.

Programs and services are provided to approximatively one hundred and fifteen active clients compared to one hundred and twenty last fiscal year & about five active clients as of today that are on Social Assistance Transfer (SAT) compared to seven last fiscal year. Our goal is to promote capable recipients to integrate the labour force, by getting them into SAT program for a minimum of twelve weeks up to three years in partnership with other employers, most likely in partnership with Human Resources department.

In the past fiscal year, we integrated a lot of our clients on Social Integration and professional integration. For any recipient of income security who has completed an action plan and who participates in a measure, process, activity which directly serves to support the client's social and professional integration. Examples of activities related to the two stages of the SI-PI process:

- Social integration
- Workshop on self-esteem
- Workshop on time management
- Workshop on the development of personal skills, healthy lifestyles
- Conference on employment
- Etc.



Participation in this measure must be included in the action plan and target the client's skill development and social and professional integration. A recipient who participates in this measure will receive an allowance prorated to his or her level of participation, determined by the number of hours of activity, to a maximum of \$222/month in addition to the basic benefit.

In addition, the participating recipient can receive special benefits if the need is identified, to cover:

Childcare expenses (up to \$10/day/ child of preschool or elementary school age) (invoices on file).

#### All under the policies of the First Nations Of Quebec and Labrador Health and Social Services Commission.

Once again, last Christmas in collaboration with "Le Regroupement d"Entraide Social du Temisccamingue" (Les paniers de Noel) we provided close to sixty food baskets to families on Social Assistance or considered low income.

Social Assistance department began helping some clients to get their driving licence back in 2021. We started with 16 participants and so far, we still have 5 active participants, 4 that has successfully achieved their driven licence and 3 that are just about to be done.

This past year with the additional funds that our department received for the

price of inflammation, we added an extra amount of dollars each month to each client depending on the situation of the beneficiary. We also organized a one night "back to school shopping trip to North Bay with all expenses covered with some extra money to shop. There was also a Winter gear shopping trip organized for parents with children to North Bay once again in December 2023.

Last Fiscal year, Social Assistance department received funds from Canadian Malartic Mine. The purpose of these funds is to promote, guide clients, inform the beneficiaries of policies, to create a different bond with our clients. We had an information session with Service Canada to inform the clients about life insurance. Clients that attended were invited to a 2-night trip to Niagara Falls (which was a great turn out). We also began a weight loss challenge and community kitchen to get together to cook healthy meals. Unfortunately, we had to put everything on hold when I left on sick leave. For our Halloween activity, we took out some clients to pumpkin patch then we had a grocery race at the ball field where our clients had to be disguised to participate. Once again, it was a huge success with a lot of laughter.

Kitchi Meegwetc,

Kathy St-Denis Social Assistance Manager



### EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE CENTER 2023-2024

KWE KAKINA,

On behalf of the Long Point First Nation Employment and Training Service Centre, we are very pleased to present the 2023-24 An nual Report of the ETSC

#### A LITTLE OVERVIEW OF THE HISTORY BACKGROUND

**1991–1996** : Pathways to Success Strategy (Co-management between HRDC and jurisdictional group)

**1996–1999** : Regional Bilateral Agreement (the AFNQL creates the FNHRDCQ that brings together 29 communities and 2 Urban offices)

1999-2004 ; 2005-2010 : Aboriginal Human Resources Development Strategy

**2010–2015; 2016–17–18** :Aboriginal Skills, Employment and Training Strategy

2019-2029 : Indigenous Skills and Employment Training Program

**Objective**: To support the development of work skills and training to help Indigenous people maintain long term career by recognizing their unique needs, with the ultimate goals of eliminating the gap in employment, wages and skills between the ilndigenous and non-Indigenous populations.

#### AN OVERVIEW OF THE ETSC PROGRAM



#### **GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE**

Long Point First Nation Employment and Training Service Centre is one of the 27 points of service centers.

The FNHRDCQ is responsible for administering the Indigenous Skill and Employment Training Program (ISETP). The decision authority of the Commission is composed of the representatives of 27 members of communities. As such, and in the collective interest of all members, they have the opportunity to express their views on the directions of the organization three times a year at the Commission regional meetings. (June, Oct, March).

#### **INCLUSION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILI**

Through its projects for the inclusion of persans with a disability, the commission wishes to rehabilitate their raie within the community and to demonstrate that they can contribute significantly to various areas of their environment. This project is called Nisidotam.



#### **EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE**

#### TRANSITION TO THE LMDA

The government of Canada has Labour Market Development Agreement (LMDA) with the province and territories so they can support Indigenous with Employment Insu rance. The FNHRDCQ also has access to this system to provide the assistance to the ETSCs in accompanying our clients and managing the local Employment Insurance Funds (EIF). This transition to the LMDA system in certain ETSCs is a work in progress.



#### ALMASS

The ETSC provides results at the end of each quarter. The Information requested for the results: family and first name of client, date of birth, level of education, type of measure and intervention, start date and end date of measure, results at the end of measure, etc.

#### CLIENT MEASURE AND SERVICES

A – Support and Guidance (Labour Market Information and Professional guidance)

 B - Training measures (Vocational Training and Academic upgrading)
 C - Employability measure (Job Creation Initiatives and Self-Employment Assistance

#### SERVICE OPTIMIZATION-COMPONENT 1

In 2022, FNHRDCQ for funding to ESDC (Employment and Social Development Canada), under the SPF(Skills Partnership FUND) program. The objective of this strategy is to increase the number of

Indigenous people in employment and ski lis training in the communities and urban areas by 2027. That being said, the FNHRDCQ will purchase of modular units all furnish (including furniture, computer and human resources it should be completed February 2025.



### RESULTS FOR THE LOCAL ETSC 2023-2024

Below, you will find the results of the partnerships between the ETSC and other departments of Long Point First Nation and training institutes. This does not include the clientele who had received assistance with preemployment measures and assistance with resumes/cover letters and the Partnership Agreement between the FNHRDCQ-ETSC and Income Assistance First Nations Youth Employment Strategy (IAFNYES).



DEPARTMENT	# OF CLIENT
Administration	2 ETSC clients
Finance Department	2 clients with success stories
Public Works Department	5 clients
Social Assistance Department	2 clients
Forestry Department	0 clients
Housing Department	5 clients
Cultural, Language, Sports & Recreation Department	3 clients
Amosesag Childcare Centre	2 clients
Amo Osowan School	1 client
Student Summer Employment:	8 students
Workforce Development Liaison Officer and Survey Interviewer	1 client 1 client
Heavy Equipment training	3 successful client with Diploma
Self-Employment training	1 clients starting her own business

For the year 2023–24, we have assisted a total of 34 clients at the Employment and Training Service Centre.

Kitci Migwitc!

Linda P. Hunter Employment and Training Manager



## Natural Ressources

#### FORESTRY MANAGER'S MESSAGE

### MRNF (MINISTERE DES RESSOURCES NATURELLES ET DE LA FAUNE)

The Program to Support Indigenous Participation in Sustainable Forest Management (PPA) was signed in December 2023 for the 2023-2025 fiscal years (Funding for office operations). A presentation was given at the community hall in February 2024 for the spruce budworm (TBE) located in management unit 083-51 which is in the Val d'Or-Rapid 7 area. Planned cuts for the 081-52 and 082-51 area were sent to the Natural Resources Department (maps for Belleterre, Trout Lake area, and Rouyn-Remigny area). Planned cuts were presented at the General Assembly on May 8, 2024. As of September 2024, no sector within the 3 management units (083-51, 081-52, and 082-51) are yet harmonized with Long Point First Nation.

#### PRAU (LICENSE TO HARVEST TIMBER FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUPPLYING A WOOD PROCESSING PLANT)

It authorizes the holder to harvest a volume of wood on the lands of the State domain. In LPFN's case, it's 49, 550 cubic meters of wood. No agreement signed as of September 2024 but most likely to be signed before the end of the year.



#### **CHANTIERS CHIBOUGAMAU**

Ongoing negotiations. No agreement signed for 2023-24 and 2024-25. Meeting set for September 12, 2024 with members from the executive level. Delivery of 10 loads of firewood in the Fall of 2023. A project was created that employed 2 members from the community and whose duties were to cut, split, and deliver the wood to members which favoured elders and people who have limited mobility.

#### INTERFOR

The mutual cooperation agreement was not signed for 2023–24 and 2024– 25. Meetings were held in winter 2024 but no outcome.

#### **INTEGRATION AGREEMENT**

An Integration agreement is to be signed and this is an agreement between Forest Companies and First Nations forest rights holder (PRAU) and is to be brought together as a collaborative unit. Each of the parties involved is responsible for communicating its needs to the MRNF. The parties must agree on the modifications of cuts before proceeding with their activity.

#### CARIBOU

An ongoing project for the protection of the woodland caribou is still in effect. Many virtual meetings were held during the year and a plan was presented to various organizations and first nation communities on expanding the area of protection for the woodland caribou. An emergency order is presently on the table which will prohibit any activity from disturbing the woodland caribou and this includes forestry, mining, oil and gas and electrical industries.

### UPDATE ON LONG POINT FIRST NATION'S CAMPS

Updated our database by GPS'ing LPFN members' camps during the spring/summer of 2024. Rapid 7 and surrounding areas yet to be done. By updating members' camps, it will give us better leverage when harmonizing with the MRNF. It will also show that we are occupying the territory.

#### UPDATE ON LONG POINT FIRST NATION'S COMMUNITY MAP

With the help of our GIS tech, we now have a community map that is updated. Having an updated map is useful for all the departments and especially for the Health and Wellness Center which relies on many house visits.

#### **ILLEGAL CAMPS**

The Natural Resource Department is presently discussing with the MRNF (Rouyn) on a project to crack down on illegal camps on our unceded traditional territory. This will give LPFN tools to deal with the growing problem and to limit camps being built by non members.

Kitchi Meegwetc,

Nelson King Forestry Manager



## Culture, Language, Sports & Recreation (CLSR)

#### **MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CLSR**

The 2023 -2024 has been a busy year for Long Point First Nation's department of Culture, Language, Sports and Recreation (C.L.S.R.). As Director of C.L.S.R., I wish to express my gratitude to all the people that assisted to make all the projects and activities a reality for 2023 – 2024.

Those individuals are from all levels of governments; federal, provincial, regional organizations and First Nations. Especially thankful to the Council of Long Point and the community of Winneway for their support of the C.L.S. R. department.

During the year, I've participated in various assemblies; such as language, mining, anishinabe moose protection, and climate change. Furthermore, I'm on the Board of Directors for Mino Obigiwasin as the elder's representative for the four participating Anishinabe First Nations. Also, as part of the responsibility delegated to me includes the supervision of the Elder's Centre and the Radio Station.

#### CULTURE

- National Indigenous People Day
  - Assisted in planning of the day's activities
- Every Child Matters Day
  - Organize for a guest speaker, a meal and handed out t-shirts and present plaques with LPFN's residential school names.
- Cultural Week
- Ice Fishing...

#### LANGUAGE

Community: Let's Talk Anishnabeg project ended December 2023 and a new five-year language project started January 2024 entitled "Anicinabemowin Minikanan Kitige" (Planting Anishnabe Language Seeds)

#### **SPORTS**

Sports participants from the community of Winneway are known as strong competitors. Hockey, baseball & broomball are the main activities they take part in.

Men and women in baseball and girls broomball are organized locally. Many youths partake with the hockey league in the Temiscamingue region. Meeg8etch to parents, friends and LPFN departments that support or participate in exterior sports activities.

#### RECREATION

Recreational activities in the community had a difficult year in 2023-24. The main problems are finding workers, funding, and indoor site for activities. The Community Centre is a multi-functional building that are not always available for recreational activities. Plans are under way for a Youth Centre.

#### **ELDERS CENTRE**

Renovations were made during the course of the year, namely electrical, bathrooms and basement. Accommodations for exterior visitors will soon be available soon. However, more exterior repairs has to be done.

Weekly activities, specific for elders are organized. Workshops, family gatherings and some ceremonies are available to the community upon request.

#### **RADIO STATION**

Long Point First Nation has received financial support for the radio station from Quebec's Culture and Communications (QCC) and Heritage Canada. Quebec provides financial support through "Programme aide au fonctionnement pour les medias autochtones" which supports the operation and broadcasting of the CFWR radio station.

The Anicinabemowin Minikanan Kitige is five-year language project that employs three persons to broadcast in anishinabe. Furthermore, the project offers language workshops and excursions. However, the project main goal is to create a plan to revitalize the language in the community of Winneway.

#### **FOUR PILLARS**

A class action lawsuit settlement was agreed to with the Canadian government for their role in attempting to stop the use of indigenous language. Over three hundred First Nations in Canada will have funds to revitalize their languages. Four Pillars Society will administer the settlement with the First Nations. Long Point First Nation is a benefactor. The usage of these funds will start in 2024–2025 fiscal year. This project will be ongoing for years to come.

Kitchi Meegwetc,

Jerry Polson Director of Culture, Language, Sports, and Recreation



# Community housing

#### MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR OF HOUSING

#### KWE KAKINA,

As the Director of Housing, I am passionate about serving the community to establish the housing program and serve all our residents to the best of our abilities. My role involves overseeing the procurement of safe, affordable housing for our community by liaising with governmental agencies such as CMHC (Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation) and ISC (Indigenous Services Canada). I am responsible for submitting proposals, implementing growth plans, forecasting budgets, reporting on finances, rental collection, guarterly and annual reports, developing work and action plans, ensuring tenant compliance with housing policies and lease agreements, and providing tenant support and information.

I am very fortunate to receive generous advice from members, enormous support from my colleagues, and I look forward to engaging with all of you as we work together to enhance housing opportunities and empower individuals and families in our community.

#### SUMMARY

Long Point First Nation currently has 97 single houses, 13 duplexes, 3 multiplex buildings, 2 trailer apartments, and 1 apartment building (radio), which include various types of housing programs such as private ownership, band-owned rental units, and section social housing.

The Long Point First Nation Housing Department oversees and manages renovation programs under CMHC, such as the On Reserve Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP), On Reserve Emergency Repair Program (EPR), and Home Adaptations for Seniors Independence Program (HASI). Additionally, it manages programs under Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), such as the On Reserve Community Housing Initiative.

#### OBJECTIVE

The Long Point First Nation Housing Department is dedicated to providing tenants with access to safe, affordable, and healthy living accommodations that meet inspection and safety requirements. This ensures tenant responsibilities are upheld and that they comply with housing policies and lease agreements.

#### MISSION

The mandate of the Long Point First Nation Housing Department is to implement the housing program through fair, equitable, and efficient administration of the Housing Policy.

#### GOALS

The goals of the Long Point First Nation Housing Department include generating rental revenue for all rental programs, developing additional housing through construction and renovation, and partnering with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) and Indigenous Services Canada (ISC).

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Wigwam Committee, Chief & Council, Housing Maintenance, Project Manager & Assistant, and the Members for their collaboration. I conclude with a brief summary report for 2023–2024.

Meegwetch,

#### **Chelsea Polson**

#### SUMMARY REPORT

During the 2023-2024 fiscal year, there was:

**1** Replacement Renovation 1 Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP) 2 Expansion Projects 8 Renovations, including 6 new concrete basements and 2 renovations 6 Additional Renovations 2 duplexes constructed by Maison Champoux 1 Four-Plex

The funds allocated under ISC were \$39,207.00 per additional unit and \$62,663.00 for the expansion projects with the capital funds to increase basement projects. The \$62,663 subsidy was awarded to a project for a concrete basement expansion to add bedrooms, addressing overcrowding issues. CMHC allocated \$20,000 for one project. Construction included the building of 2 duplexes to accommodate 4 families.



#### **CONCLUSION**

Prioritizing rent revenues is crucial for future housing development. Renovation funding is decentralized by governmental agencies such as the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) and Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), with annual project submissions.



#### **PROJECTS 2023-2024**

• 14 Housing Initiative Renovations 1 Expansion 2 Duplexes Constructed by Maison Champoux 1 Four-Plex





112 Kakinwawigak Mikana, Winneway (Quebec) J0Z 2J0 Office: **819-722-2441** • Fax: **819-722-2579** • Email: **info@lpfn-aki.ca**