

# Addition to Reserve & Treaty Land Entitlement: Exploring Current Structure & Approaches for Policy Reform

September 9, 2021

## Treaty One Development Corporation



### **Gord Bluesky** – Lands Director

Gord's home community is Brokenhead Ojibway Nation. He has a wonderful wife with 3 beautiful daughters. Gord enjoys fishing, hunting and lands management on reserve. As Treaty One's Lands Director, Gordon is currently in process of creating one of the largest urban reserves in Canada at the former Kapyong Barracks in Winnipeg, Manitoba. This opportunity has only followed a lengthy court battle where Treaty One First Nations: Brokenhead Ojibway Nation, Long Plain First Nation, Roseau River Anishinaabe First Nation, Peguis First Nation, Sagkeeng First Nation, Sandy Bay Ojibway Nation, Swan Lake First Nation stood in solidarity to take on the court challenge and have negotiated a settlement where they would see the development of a 109 acre joint reserve in the heart of Winnipeg for the use and benefit of the Treaty One Nations.

Treaty One recently went into ceremony and the site was given the name Naawi-Oodena, center of the heart, center of community. Gord's focus is to develop a solid legal framework through the development of a joint land management system that will facilitate the economic development on Naawi-Oodena.

"The Treaty One communities unanimously agreed to move forward under the FNLM Land Management Regime as their best option for this major re-development which requires the highest level of decision making when sitting down with all levels of government." BlueSky stated.

## Brokenhead Ojibway Nation



### **Bev Smith** – Lands Manager

Bev has been the Lands Manager with the Brokenhead Ojibway Nation (BON) since September 2017. Prior to becoming Lands Manager, Bev has worked in various capacities with the Lands area since she returned back to BON in 2000 including being a Lands Manager and First Nation Councillor holding the Lands Portfolio.

Bev was born and raised on the Brokenhead Ojibway Nation till she moved off reserve to Winnipeg, Manitoba, a couple of years after graduating from high school to pursue other education and career opportunities. She has an education; community development and organizational development background.



### **Bob Green** – Special Projects

Bob Green is the Special Projects Manager for Swan Lake First Nation. Bob has a Degree in Agriculture Majoring in Management and Economics from the U of M. Bob has been working for First Nations Organizations since 1975 in various capacities including Management. He has been the Independent Trustee on the SLFN Trust since 1995 working with Chief and Council and fellow trustees to identify, purchase and convert over 8700 acres of TLE lands to Reserve Status. Bob has been working with Chief and Council to now develop the land to maximize returns dependent on location whether it is working to persuade Sandhills Casino to locate on the Reserve or the 2 Office Buildings located just west of Winnipeg that are fully leased. Plans are in the works to continue to grow and expand business ventures for Swan Lake First Nation.

## Treaty Land Entitlement Committee of Manitoba Inc.



### **Chris Henderson** – Executive Director

Chris Henderson is Anishinaabe and a First Nations citizen of the Black River First Nation (signatory to Treaty No. 5) in southeast Manitoba.

Chris is currently the Executive Director of the Treaty Land Entitlement Committee (“TLEC”) of Manitoba’s Implementation Secretariat. He has held this post since April 2010. TLEC’s mission is to provide technical support and assistance to its Member First Nations in the implementation of their individual Treaty Land Entitlement (“TLE”) agreements signed under the 1997 Manitoba TLE Framework Agreement.

From 2004 to 2007, Chris served as the Southern Grand Chief of the Southern Chiefs’ Organization of Manitoba, at that time representing 36 First Nations in southern Manitoba. Prior to his appointment as Executive Director of TLEC, Chris served as Project Manager with the Government of Manitoba’s Aboriginal Issues Committee of Cabinet, providing policy analysis and advice to this Cabinet Committee on a variety of First Nations issues and challenges.

Chris possesses his Bachelor of Arts degree in History and his Communications Certificate in Public Relations and Marketing, both from the University of Winnipeg. While at the U of W, Chris was also active in student government serving as Vice-President and President of the First Nations Student Council.



**Dr. André LeDressay** – Director of Fiscal Realities

André has over 20 years of experience working with indigenous communities, organizations, and institutions, industry, and local, provincial and federal governments. He has written numerous academic and consulting reports in his areas of expertise - the institutional framework to support economic growth. He is the Director of Fiscal Realities Economists and the Director of the Tulo Centre of Indigenous Economics. He co-authored a book which was nominated for the Donner Book Prize in 2010. He was the principal author of the Tulo Centre online textbook – Building a Competitive First Nation Investment Climate (2015). His most recent research is a chapter in, *Unlocking the Wealth of Indian Nations* (2016) and *Renewing Indigenous Economies through Creative Destruction* (2018 <https://www.tulo.ca/news/2018/createdestruction>).

He has received a distinguished alumni award from Thompson Rivers University and a lifetime achievement award from the First Nations Tax Administrators Association. He has helped develop the First Nations Fiscal Management Act, the First Nations Sales Tax, the First Nations Goods and Services Tax Act, the First Nations Commercial and Industrial Development Act. He holds a PhD in Economics from Simon Fraser University, a Master of Applied Economics from the University of Victoria and an Honors degree in Math and Economics from the University of Regina.

## FIRST NATION LAND MANAGEMENT RESOURCE CENTRE



**Andrew Beynon** – Director, Land Code Governance

Andrew Beynon has over thirty years' experience working on First Nation lands and self-government. Andrew has worked on land development, environmental protection, environmental assessments, additions to reserve and treaty land entitlement, economic development, specific claims, federal-provincial agreements, optional self-government legislation, taxation, infrastructure projects, reform of federal funding agreements, work with First Nations drafting laws and many other areas.

Andrew was Canada's lead lawyer on the Nisga'a treaty and has considerable experience with negotiations as well as drafting and has appeared on numerous occasions before Parliamentary Committees. Andrew is one of the authors of "Modern First Nations Legislation Annotated", a legal publication which includes a chapter dealing with the Framework Agreement and the federal legislation which ratifies the Framework Agreement.



**Adam Wright** – Planner, Land Code Governance

Adam Wright is a registered professional planner (RPP, MCIP) and works as a Land Code Governance Planner with the First Nations Land Management Resource Centre. Over the past 10 + years Adam's work has spanned various sectors including private, non-profit, government and academia with a specific focus on the planning processes that regulate and guide land development on First Nations land. In his role with the Resource Centre, Adam provides land-use planning support to signatory Communities which includes offering any relevant expertise, resources, information, advice and guidance.