



# Lucky Man Cree Nation

520 Heritage Way, Gold Eagle Indian Reserve, North Battleford, SK.

W : [www.luckymancree.com](http://www.luckymancree.com) T: 306-374-2828 F: 306-934-2853

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**Change of Address?** If  
you are moving or have  
moved, please let us know so  
we can update the mailing list.

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## Message from Chief Crystal Okemow

### Tansi Lucky Man Cree Nation Members,

I hope this reaches you in good health. I'd like to take this time to acknowledge our relatives who have went on ahead to the other side. My heart and prayers go out to the families, partners/spouses, friends and to the nation. A loss of a relative in Lucky Man is felt by each of us. You are not alone. We must keep each other in prayer and uplift one another with good thoughts and energy. Life is tough sometimes but we must be reminded that the Creator looks out for us even when we don't understand. Ceremony helps, whether your ceremony is our nehiyow way or church or maybe it's both, keep your faith, continue to pray.

There has been lots going on for Lucky Man. The following has been the focus:

### **Restructuring/Reorganization of the Band Office/Administration**

Bonnie Evans Whiteford has been the lead in this area. Takes a lot of time and focus to do this, getting information from Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), organizing weekly staff meetings, implementation of policy, meeting with LMCN project consultants and managers, following up with auditor, etc. Bonnie and staff have been working on getting all outstanding reports up to date. Working as well on getting Lucky Man up to date in terms of audits. The 2021-2022 audit has been submitted. Work on the 2022-2023 audit is underway and should be submitted by the end of December 2025. Lucky Man will be caught up with the audits by summer 2026. I have requested a forensic audit to ISC, it would be ideal if ISC covers the cost of the forensic audit as they can be expensive. A formal follow up will happen when all audits are caught up as that is what's required to do a forensic audit. A good step in accountability and transparency and also a good start on a clean slate moving forward.

### **Roads/Cultura Renovation & Gazebo/Ceremonial Building**

Request for proposals (RFP) will be sent out in the new year. Construction will start in spring 2026 on these projects. The one mile road construction will be funded by ISC. The cultural renovation and gazebo is the hall renovation and will be funded by the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal 41 (CHRT41). Ceremonial building funded by other source.

## **Second Net Zero Home (High Efficient Home)**

Piling foundation has been done. Cistern and septic for this home has been installed. The home is being built off site and will be moved to Lucky Man in spring 2026. This home will be in the cultural area and will house Lucky Man's knowledge keeper. The home is funded by ISC Immediate Needs.

## **Lucky Man Water Truck**

Lucky Man was in need of a water truck that could deliver water but also provide some fire protection. Lucky Man purchased a Ford Super Duty 750. This truck was funded by Lucky Man interest revenue that also provides biannual per capita distributions. The truck is presently being built and pick up date is scheduled for December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

## **SaskPower**

Discussions with SaskPower have been happening for the past while regarding 3-phase power. With the upcoming projects for the renovation and ceremonial building, Lucky Man is maxed out on power with just power boxes being there. In order to bring more houses, other buildings, water treatment plant, basically anything that needs power, LMCN needs 3-phase like towns and cities. This will take approximately a year to get the 3-phase power to the rez. Leadership, SaskPower and Urban Systems is meeting with Mayfair council on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025, for a meet & greet and to provide information on the 3-phase power plan. SaskPower will need to go to the farmers doors to get permission to build or put up poles so the meeting will be a preempt to that door knocking that SaskPower needs to do. The \$1.8M cost will have to be covered by ISC.

## **Specific Claims**

There was a specific claims tribunal court date set for November 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 but has been changed to an evidence hearing now. The judge for the specific claim has challenged the evidence that both Canada and Lucky Man has presented. As stated by our legal counsel, this is the first time this has happened in any of the claims he's been involved in but has assured us that it does not change the claim or its strength however it does add time to the process, a few months.

## **Lucky Man Pasture**

Pasture patrons will be reduced to two patrons starting in 2027. The land needs to recover from it being a pasture for 30 years. The hope is to have medicines return and also have more access to the lands without all the fences.

## **Other/Ongoing Projects**

Conversations with Canada (RIRSD) table. This is still ongoing. C-92 funding ended by May 2025. The C-92 coordinator (Fonda) reapplied for funding in late October, early November and is awaiting a response. Battle River Indigenous Relations Council (BRIRC) is still providing project management for the ongoing reserve projects. The staff are Alan Alex (PMP, MAsC, BEng.), Director of Crown Consultation and Thona Longneck, Executive Director.

We've started quarterly meetings (every 3 months) with the Regional Director General of ISC which is Rob Harvey, Saskatchewan region. These meetings are important as this is

where we bring up policy funding issues and challenges but this is also a place to discuss opportunities for Lucky Man.

### **Future Plans**

Annual audit/budget meetings  
Trust meetings - Legacy Trust – Education Trust  
Lucky Man policy and revision  
Economic development strategy

This is an update on what's happening in our nation. There was a request from nochawispun (late uncle dad) that we go back to doing newsletters. Going forward the LMCN newsletter will be sent out quarterly to provide updates and information. Please get on our LMCN App or the LMCN Facebook page to stay current. Reach out to Richard if you need assistance with the App or Facebook page.

Ekosi pitamah. Take care of yourself, let's keep each in prayer. Send positive energy and good thoughts for good outcomes for our specific claims and all the projects and infrastructure Lucky Man needs.

Have a blessed, festive season making lifelong memories. Spread kindness and love wherever you go 🍷 🍷 🍷 Stay safe, be well. May the New Year be healthy and prosperous!

Kinanaskomitinawaw,  
Chief Crystal Okemow

### **Councillor Eugenia Okemow: Portfolio Report**

Seasons Greetings! As the year comes to a close. I have been busy attending meetings for the future of Lucky Man Cree Nation. We have been having lots of discussions on new infrastructure that is happening within our nation, such as discussions on upgrades to our existing cultural center. We are working with amazing people in all aspects for our nation.

Over the year we have been busy. In the spring we travelled to Rocky Boy, Montana, USA to meet our relatives and we also had a Feast. In July we had our Treaty and Cultural Gathering in our nation. Also in July we had our Pow Wow in Little Pine First Nation. I would like to congratulate Nevaeh Okemow for being crowned Tiny Tot Princess.

I hold the Education portfolio. I again would like to congratulate our graduates, our youth who are continuing with their education. Also our post secondary students who are continuing with their studies. I admire you all. I also made school backpacks which include a gift card for shoes. I am also the contact for minors who are coming of age (18 years old) to access their trust monies held at CIBC so please reach out if you need help in this area.

In the Fall we had the pleasure of taking our Elders to the National Gathering of Elders 2025 which was held in Edmonton.

Our nation has experienced losses in our community. My thoughts and prayers to those that are grieving. I pray for those who are dealing with illness, addictions and for our homeless. I pray you take care of yourselves and one another.

In closing I wish you all the peace and blessings of Christmas and may your coming year be filled with happiness!

## **Councillor Terrence Okemow: Portfolio Report**

Tansi Lucky Man Cree Nation, I hope this letter finds you in good health. I am excited to share the latest news of the projects that the nation has been working on. Lucky Man Cree Nation is evolving with big changes on-site and in office. As we all know that the First Net Zero Home is complete and with a little bit of ironing out, things are working out a lot smoother and up to specs. I'm still monitoring the energy usage and savings with the houses solar panel usage. One of the unforeseen planning was a cistern tank being added and the water that needed to be hauled in. We can haul our own water December 15 when the truck is delivered on our nation.

On that note, LMCN needs a 3-phase powerline to add more infrastructure and residential homes, streetlights next to our new road that commence construction in the spring of 2026. This negotiation was with ISC and our community designer/engineers of Urban Systems. New powerlines and replacing old lines that was in place since the 1950's will benefit not only the community but the surrounding neighbors.

Back to home building, another home is being built in a Net Zero style but in RTM (ready to move), equipped with unique advancement for a combination of high energy efficiency and on-site renewable energy generation. 80% more efficient than the average new homes which minimize energy needs for heating and cooling and ultimately lowering utility bills, provide a more comfortable and healthier indoor environment, reducing carbon emissions. This home is being built by Voce Developments outside of Saskatoon and will be placed on piles just like the previous Net Zero Home. These piles were drilled and completed October 2025.

The nation was also testing for water, Beckie Hydrogeologists prepared analysis that was pulled from Andrews and Sons Drilling both from Regina. A total of 8 drill holes were tested in various locations on the land. Beckie confirms that the quality of the water is acceptable for the nation's potable water needs.

I am hoping to see you at our Lucky Man Cree Nation Christmas Meal, safe travels, stay warm and be safe. Hiy hiy!

## Councillor Roberta Okemow-Clark: Portfolio Report

Tansi

Seasons greetings. Another year has passed. So much has been going on in our nation. We've attended many meetings on the infrastructure that been going on in our home lands. It's very exciting to witness the future developments and bring us that more closer to home. We've come a long way. I'm very proud of the direction we are going. Not just for us but for our future generations to come.

We've had a very positive outcome on our trip which included some our members of our nation, We travelled to rocky boy, and enjoyed a feast with our extended family. We've also had Attended an Elders conference in Edmonton. I feel the it gave a sense of closeness amongst each other.

During this holiday season, Please keep those who have experienced loss in your hearts and in your prayers. It is a very difficult time. We are a small nation and we will grow stronger sticking together. we are all still family. Love you all. Happy holidays.

### Christmas Greetings from the LMCN Working Group

LMCN's negotiation table and working group continue to advance the work of the RIRSD table or often referred to as the "Conversations with Canada". This table helps to cover costs for consultants and legal and numerous meetings which include the meetings we have with the membership. We signed the MOU last year and are working on the Agreement in Principle (AIP) with Bob Freedman our lawyer on the file. We will host a coffee house in the new year, so please come out and attend. We remain optimistic that the federal funds for this work will continue.

Have a safe and healthy Christmas Everyone

From Elder Arlene, Richie, Jayneika, Councilor Gina, Alexis, Dwayne, and Bonnie



