



May 26, 2021

Chief Dixon & Councillors – Bearspaw First Nation
Chief Poucette & Councillors – Wesley First Nation
Chief Young & Councillors – Chiniki First Nation

Dear Chiefs and Councillors:

I am writing in follow up to the meeting between Wesley, Chiniki and Indigenous Services Canada officials on April 20th, 2021. My understanding is that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the 64(1)(k) capital transfer initiatives for Chiniki and Wesley as well as other administrative related items including my receipt of the letter dated March 30, 2021 from Chief Young and Chief Poucette to Chief Dixon on the future of Heritage Trust Fund(HTF).

As you know, Canada's support for Bearspaw's initiative in the 64(1)(k) transfer was premised on the receipt of an unanimously signed Band Council Resolution #2020-019 dated October 15, 2020 by Stoney First Nation's Chiefs and Councillors. The above mentioned March 30, 2021 communications signals that there is still unanimous consensus on the desire to move HTF monies out of the control of the federal government as soon as possible; however, it appears there are a number of internal questions and issues that the three Nations are looking to have addressed before a transfer of Bearspaw's per capita share of capital moneys to a separate trust would be supported by Wesley and Chiniki. The issues presented in the March 30, 2021 letter appear to require attention by the Stoney Nakoda First Nation, as they relate to matters of common interest within the broader Stoney Nation membership.

Since the above mentioned Band Council Resolution has not been rescinded, Canada will continue with our review and processing of the request to transfer the Bearspaw First Nation's per capita shares of the capital moneys, unless otherwise advised by the Stoney Nakoda First Nation. However, we will pause this work until the end of July 2021 to ensure there is adequate time for the Nations to address any outstanding issues, and to advise us of any further decisions taken by way of a new Band Council Resolution. If no correspondence is received by the end of July, Canada will proceed to review and process the Band Council Resolution # 2020-019.

Indigenous Services Canada is ready and committed to supporting Stoney Nakoda First Nation to address the questions and issues identified and ultimately advance the

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transfer of the Nation's current and future capital moneys pursuant to the Policy on the Transfer of Capital Moneys through Paragraph 64(1)(k) of the *Indian Act*.

Please feel free to contact my office or our Regional officials, Blair Cairns at blair.cairns@canada.ca or Roxanne Warrior at roxanne.warrior@canada.ca respectively, should you require further assistance on the transfer process.

Thank you for your commitment, determination and collaboration in this important initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jamie Brown', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jamie Brown
Regional Director General
Regional Operations, Alberta Region
Indigenous Services Canada
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