

New Reclamation Project Opens

Suncor celebrated another milestone in our reclamation efforts with the planting of a unique type of wetland called a fen at the base plant north of Fort McMurray.

A fen is a specific type of peat-accumulating wetland, common to the region. Suncor is one of the first companies in the world to attempt reconstruction of this type of wetland, and has been doing so in co-operation with a number of university researchers from across the country.

"I want to acknowledge the many people and organizations working together on this journey; they have played a vital part in helping us get where we are today," says Mark Little, executive vice president, Oil Sands and In Situ. "I also look forward to continued collaboration on this great project, as we are deeply committed to returning land to a natural state for future generations. Looking ahead I expect we and others in the industry will continue learning as we share the knowledge gained so far, and as we progress together through the Nikanotee Fen's monitoring phase."

The fen's underlying watershed was constructed in January 2013, setting the stage for planting vegetation this spring and summer. To celebrate the planting phase, Suncor held an opening ceremony on August 26 which included an aboriginal blessing and remarks from local dignitaries including Mayor Melissa Blake and Honourable Don Scott, MLA for Fort McMurray-Conklin. Rita Marten, a member of the Athabasca Tribal Council performed the blessing of the fen.

The event also acknowledged the student who won a contest earlier this year to name the fen. Emma Curtis, a former grade 4 student at St. Martha's School in Fort McMurray, chose the name Nikanotee (pronounced Nee-ga-no-tee) because of its meaning to the Cree word for future.



From left: James (Dickie) Dragon, Fort McMurray Metis Local #1935 President, Melissa Blake, Mayor of the Municipality of Wood Buffalo and Mark Little, EVP, Oil Sands & In Situ, at the opening of the Nikanotee fen.

Clara Bouchier, Fort McKay First Nation community elder with James (Dickie) Dragon tend to the water sedges, which are typical plants used in Fen wetland development.



Nikanotee is the Cree word for "future."

Leadership Training in Fort Chipewyan

In May, forty community members from Fort Chipewyan took part in a three day Indigenous Leadership and Management course. Offered on site by the Banff Learning Centre, the course provided individuals who work with aboriginal organizations customized training sessions. Sponsored by Suncor, the members learned about techniques to improve performance, critical skills to support leaders and ways to create a strategic focus to achieve personal and organizational goals.

Celebrating Success!

Congratulations to the 2013 Aboriginal students in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, who received their high school diplomas earlier this Spring, Joy Flett and Kirsten Hudak, from Suncor's Aboriginal Relations department attended the May 28th graduation ceremony. Suncor salutes our graduates and wishes them continued success in their future career.

Fort McKay Group of Companies 6th Annual Development Trade Show



On October 17, 2013, the Fort McKay Group of Companies (FMGOC) along with the Fort McKay First Nation Joint Ventures travelled to Calgary for the 6th Annual Developmental Trade show. This show provides a southern platform for the Group of Companies to showcase their existing portfolio and announce new services and capacities. The Fort McKay Group of Companies is a success story in part due to the oil sands industry bringing new opportunities to Fort McKay First Nation.

This year's event was a huge success and created a buzz among industry attendees with the announcement of the new and upgraded services of Fort McKay Logistics. The new partnership with Day & Ross, a nationwide transportation company, allows McKay to transport goods from all over North America to Northern Alberta and the Alberta Oil Sands.

This announcement also focused on the new logistics facilities in Edmonton and Fort McMurray along with the addition of increased equipment lists which allows FMGOC to handle all logistical needs for their clients. Other companies had similar announcements of new services and upgrades catching the attention of many attendees. Oral Hawkins, General Manager, Muskeg Mountain, was pleased to relay the Earthwork division's successful and future plans of adding more equipment on new sites.

After the tradeshow, Fort McKay First Nation hosted a stakeholder reception at the Hyatt Regency. Chief Jim Boucher shared the story of his people, his childhood growing up in Fort McKay and the positive changes to the community due to the oil and gas industry.

Chief Boucher expressed the importance of partnerships with industry and his vision for a healthy and prosperous community. To conclude the event, Fort McKay Group of Companies, spoke about the success over the past year, the position of the wholly-owned companies today and areas of focus to continue on the path of growth. The event was well attended by industry representatives including Suncor, Syncrude, Shell, Husky and Cenovus. Furthermore, the networking and knowledge sharing amongst the groups is forging better and stronger relationships.

Out and About in the Community



Employees from Suncor participated in the annual Fort McKay Treaty Days parade, which took place on June 21, 2013.

Suncor provides financial and in-kind support to several events which highlight the traditions of our Aboriginal communities.

Over the spring and summer, staff from our Aboriginal Relations department attended the following cultural celebrations in the Wood Buffalo region.

Treaty Days (Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, Mikisew Cree First Nation, Fort McKay First Nation, Fort McMurray #468 First Nation)

Fort McMurray Metis Local 1935, Metis Festival

Fort McKay Metis Local 63, Metis Festival

Fort Chipewyan Metis Local 125 Metis Days

Fort Chipewyan Annual Heritage Days

ACDEN Grand Opening

Five local golf tournaments (Athabasca Tribal Council, Fort McMurray Metis Local 1935, Fort McKay Group of Companies, Northeastern Alberta Aboriginal Business Association, Fort McMurray #468 First Nation)

Fort McKay Awards Night

Athabasca Delta Community School Honor Roll Celebration



North Eastern Alberta Aboriginal Business Association

20th Annual General Meeting



The newly appointed NAABA Board of Directors.

The NAABA AGM banquet was held at the Sawridge Inn & Conference Centre on September 19, 2013 to celebrate its 20th Anniversary. Newly elected board members were led into the banquet hall by the Thundering Spirit Drum Group and dancers. Violet Clarke gave the Blessing along with two students from Father Patrick Mercredi High School; Khelan Bouchier spoke in Dene, and Riley Whiteknife spoke in Cree. The banquet

raised over \$15,000 from the live and silent auctions with funds supporting Girls Inc. Mitch Mercredi, NAABA's President spoke to NAABA's future vision and Mr. Dave Tuccaro, NAABA's first president shared his thoughts on NAABA's 20 year journey, current opportunities and future possibilities. The event ended with the keynote speaker, Earl Lambert, a motivational speaker and storyteller.



David Tuccaro, one of the speakers at the NAABA Annual General Meeting.

Giving Credit Where Credit is Due – Partnership Provides Mutual Benefits

Sometimes, the old adage “you get what you pay for” just isn't true.

Suncor's Regional Business Development team recently aligned two of its partners to work together on strategic development planning. Ryan Steil is an MBA Candidate at Royal Roads University (RRU) and General Manager at Reward Oilfield Services, in Fort McMurray. Possessing almost 20 years of industry experience, Ryan will provide management consulting services to the Mikisew Group of Companies in exchange for credits towards his MBA requirements.

Ryan will work under the leadership of Scott Ferguson, CEO of the Group of Companies, to jointly develop a strategy for asset management.

Ryan will hone his skills reviewing key assets, their classification, optimizing the maintenance schedule, and developing a plan for new opportunities (i.e. the right assets in the right location for the right projects). The Mikisew Group of Companies will benefit from a professional consultant report, in plain language.

The scope of the project is substantial, such that a client would normally pay consulting fees in the tens of thousands of dollars. The Group of Companies may have to cover incidentals such as travel and accommodations, but the reward is much greater at approximately 200-hours of professional management consulting service.

Suncor's Regional Business Development team is proud to be a partner in this project. Our role isn't just about new business opportunities, it's also about growing business capacity.



Royal Roads
UNIVERSITY

Mikisew Cree First Nation Cultural Retreat

Five Suncor staff spent three days in August immersing themselves in local Aboriginal culture and heritage. The Mikisew Cree Cultural Retreat was an opportunity for industry partners to come together to learn about traditional teachings through instruction from local community members. Craft lessons, techniques to preparing and preserving wild game in addition to studying medicines derived from nature were all part of the experience.

"This retreat was a wonderful way to learn first hand about some of the traditional teachings that are part of our aboriginal communities," says Bryan Jackson, Director of Stakeholder and Aboriginal Relations, RMWB. "It was also an incredible gift to be able to meet and share the life stories with so many Elders over the three days."

The team took part in the cultural village, located at Dore Lake, which is the local camping

and recreation area for Fort Chipewyan residents.

Preparing a meal over an open fire and participating in local cultural games, including the Hand Games, were highlights of the stay.

Hand Games are traditional to most Dene communities, but are played in many Aboriginal communities with a focus on building trust amongst team members.



Suncor staff participating in Hand Games during the Mikisew Cree First Nation Cultural Retreat. From left: Bryan Jackson, Joanne Angel, Len Savoy and Kirsten Hudak.

Aboriginal Relations Contacts

Mark Prystupa

Manager, Aboriginal Relations
780-792-9545
mprystupa@suncor.com

Joanne Angel

Administrator Stakeholder & Aboriginal Relations
780-793-7837
jangel@suncor.com

Karen Olson

Team Leader Aboriginal Relations
403-296-7656
kolson@suncor.com

Joy Flett

Aboriginal Relations Advisor
780-788-2960
jrflett@suncor.com

Robin Aitken

Stakeholder Consultation Team Leader
780-762-4077
raitken@suncor.com

Adam Pommer

Senior Aboriginal Relations Advisor
403-296-3644
apommer@suncor.com

Kirsten Hudak

Aboriginal Relations Advisor
403-296-5281
khudak@suncor.com

Wisty Chaytor

Temporary Aboriginal Relations Advisor
403-296-4787
wchaytor@suncor.com

Wayne Beatty

Senior Aboriginal Relations Advisor
780-762-5040
wbeatty@suncor.com

Michelle Dennis

Aboriginal Relations Student
403-296-3727
midennis@suncor.com

Business Development Contacts

Shannon Schimmelmann

Regional Business Development Manager
780-788-8448
sschimmelmann@suncor.com

Rolando Inzunza

Regional Business Development Coordinator
780-743-6795
rinzunza@suncor.com

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Box 38, 112 – 4th Avenue S.W.
Calgary, Alberta T2P 2V5
toll-free: 1-866-SUNCOR-1
email: info@suncor.com
website: www.suncor.com

