



DRIFTPILE CREE NATION

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FROM THE OFFICE OF CHIEF AND COUNCIL

DATE: February 14, 2020
TO: Membership
FROM: DCN Chief and Council
RE: Announcement CORP Approval – Industrial Park Infrastructure (NLC Campus)

Membership,

Driftpile Cree Nation Chief and Council are pleased to announce a new Industrial Park Infrastructure project. Today's announcement sets precedence for DCN as the only infrastructure project awarded to a First Nation in Alberta.

Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) approved the project for a maximum fixed contribution of \$1,940,000.00 under the Community Opportunity Readiness Program (CORP).

The impetus for our original CORP funding application came from a rare and significant opportunity to partner with the Northern Lakes College ("NLC") to establish a satellite college facility on our reserve lands – something the Nation had been trying to negotiate for some time. The Nation saw this as a once in a lifetime opportunity to establish an on-reserve Business Park having NLC as its flagship anchor tenant.

"We cannot stress enough the importance of this Project to our people, the community and surrounding area. The opportunity presented to the Nation by Northern Lakes College is not one that comes along every day and, considering the benefits it would bring to this area of Alberta, is an opportunity the Nation cannot afford to let pass" – Chief Dwayne Laboucan (direct quote in a letter sent to ISC)

Driftpile Cree Nation students will have the support in getting the best post-secondary education through accessing a modern post-secondary institution on-reserve.

"Driftpile Cree Nation supports our community to help students overcome barriers to success through cultural, community and family supports in order to reach their dreams. With the opening of Northern Lakes College we are able to provide these supports at home" – Chief and Council

Groundbreaking of the site has already begun and construction of the new facility is expected to start in spring 2020, the campus is projected to open in September 2020.

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Chief and Council