

Draft Lesser Slave Lake Region Friendship Accord



CEDI • IDEC

***Note that this Accord is in *draft* form and will need to be reviewed and adjusted prior to being passed and signed. It is included as an illustration of the workshop outcomes.**

WITH RESPECT THAT:

- The Reeve and Council of the Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No. 124, the Chief and Council of the Sawridge First Nation and the Mayor and Council of the Town of Slave Lake (“The Communities”) recognize and accept that they share common boundaries and interests, and agree that arrangements that support harmonization of these interests are beneficial for The Communities;
- The Communities wish to work together in a cooperative manner for the benefit of all residents of the region;
- That the Councils of The Communities have an existing relationship through the Lesser Slave Lake Region Tri-Council, which was formed in response to the 2011 Slave Lake wildfires; and
- That this Friendship Accord formalizes the existing Tri-Council relationship.

PURPOSE of this Agreement:

- The Lesser Slave Lake Region Friendship Accord provides the framework upon which The Communities, including their respective governments and residents, will collaborate with one another; and
- This principle-based Friendship Accord establishes commitments to make the Lesser Slave Lake Region a better place for all residents and visitors.

VISION to guide our work together:

To be developed (feedback = a vision less specific to Ec Dev)

PRINCIPLES AND VALUES to guide our relationship:

We, The Communities:

- Believe that the Lesser Slave Lake Region is served well through positive relationships between The Communities;
- Acknowledge the history, past experiences and differences that impact current perceptions and opinions;
- Respect each other’s customs and beliefs and share values and culture in spirit and practice;
- Listen to and consider concerns and suggestions expressed in good faith;
- Respect each others’ jurisdictions, governing authority and governance practices; and
- Believe in the value of equal participation of each community in the relationship of The Communities.

PROCESS

We, The Communities:

**to sustain our
relationship:**

- Agree that, based on the model of the existing Lesser Slave Lake Region Tri-Council, the Councils of The Communities will meet regularly, at least semi-annually, to promote open and constructive dialogue and to agree on common priorities (“Joint Council” Meetings);
- Agree that decisions of the Joint Council shall be made using a consensus decision-making process;
- Will establish working groups, from time to time, as required to work on identified common priorities and within a clear mandate;
- Agree that the Joint Council will develop a framework process to address any misunderstandings or disagreements between The Communities;
- Agree that this Friendship Accord will be regarded as a “living document” intended to evolve as The Communities’ relationship evolves;
- Agree that the Council of any of The Communities can initiate a change process to this Friendship Accord at any time, with the understanding that amendments must be mutually agreed by the Councils of each of The Communities; and
- Agree that any of The Communities may withdraw from this Friendship Accord at any time and that in such case, the remaining communities should re-establish the Accord with the revised participating partners.

**COMMITMENT
of each signatory
community:**

- We, The Communities:
- Commit to maintaining our relationship as outlined in this Friendship Accord;
 - Commit to open, frank, honest and straightforward interaction and communication; and
 - Commit to building and maintaining strong mutual trust and respect with one another.

**LIMITATION
of the agreement:**

- Nothing in this Friendship Accord will be construed:
- To abrogate or derogate from any Aboriginal, constitutional, legal or Treaty rights of The Communities;
 - To prejudice or affect any statutory power of decision or discretion of any of The Communities.

**SIGNING
AUTHORITIES**

For The Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No. 124	
_____ Reeve Murray Kerik For the Sawridge First Nation	_____ Date
_____ Chief Roland Twinn For the Town of Slave Lake	_____ Date
_____ Mayor Tyler Warman	_____ Date