



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY  
OF **WOOD BUFFALO**

## Council Meeting Presentation Request

Completed requests to make a public presentation must be received by 12:00 noon on the Wednesday immediately prior to the scheduled meeting. Presentations are a maximum of 5 minutes in duration.

Presentation Information	
Preferred Date of Presentation	June 11, 2019
Name of Presenter(s)	Bill Loutitt & Corey Hobbs
Organization Represented	FNMI Festival Planning Committee
Topic	2019 FNMI Festival Funding
Please List Specific Points/Concerns	Annual deadline of the Community Investment Program. Importance of National Indigenous Peoples Day.
Action Being Requested of Council	Requesting \$10,000.00 in funding towards the 2019 FNMI Festival.
<p>Are you providing any supporting documentation (ie: Powerpoint)? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p> <p>If yes, the documentation <u>must</u> accompany this request, as handouts will not be distributed at the meeting. To ensure that your documents meet minimum standards, please see presentation guidelines on the next page.</p> <p>Supporting documents may be e-mailed to <a href="mailto:Legislative.Assistants@rmwb.ca">Legislative.Assistants@rmwb.ca</a>.</p>	

*As per Procedure Bylaw No. 14/025, a request to make a presentation may be referred or denied.*



June 3, 2019

Mayor Don Scott & Council  
Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo  
7th Floor, 9909 Franklin Avenue  
Fort McMurray, Alberta  
T9H 2K4

Dear Mayor Scott,

In February of 2019, the McMurray Métis Board of Directors voted to move our annual Métis Fest, held in May for the past 9 years, to National Indigenous Peoples Day (NIPD), June 21, 2019. We have renamed the celebration the FNMI (First Nations, Métis, and Inuit) Festival.

As such, the McMurray Métis will hold and organize the only Fort McMurray event for National Indigenous Peoples Day. Our planning committee is comprised of previous years organizers including the Athabasca Tribal Council, Fort McMurray Multicultural Association, Fort McMurray Heritage Park, Indigenous Liaisons from the Catholic and Public School Boards and representatives from the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo's (RMWB) administration.

It has recently been brought to my attention some concerns regarding possible funding from the RMWB for the 2019 FNMI Festival. First, last year the RMWB supported in kind \$3,887.34 towards NIPD.

Second, the deadline to apply for the 2019 Community Impact Grant funding was November 16, 2018. We didn't apply at that time because we didn't know that Métis Fest was transforming into a new community based FNMI Festival on NIPD.

Thirdly, we see a flaw in the annual application process for Community Investment Program. We recommend that applications should be evaluated on a Quarterly basis and not once a year, as circumstances change, as is the case with this years NIPD.

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**Métis Nation of Alberta Association Fort McMurray Local Council 1935**

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Page 1 of 2



We are kindly requesting, once again in 2019, support from the RMWB via its Community Investment Program or another channel toward the FNMI Festival. At a level, equal too our Sash Level of sponsorship at \$10,000.00.

I would also like to note that the planning committee for the FNMI Festival voted unanimously to make this request to the RMWB Council. We are prepared to attend Council at its earliest opportunity to make our presentation.

We feel this is a fair request and worthwhile contribution towards the Indigenous Celebration for all the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples who make up ten percent of the Wood Buffalo population.

If you have any further questions or concerns please follow up directly with the Manager of Communications and Government Relations for the McMurray Métis, Corey Hobbs.

I thank you in advance for reviewing this matter as our only goal is to make this year's Indigenous celebration on the Summer Solstice, the best one ever!

Sincerely,

Bill Loutitt  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**McMurray Métis**



# **FNMI FESTIVAL PRESENTATION**

Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo Council





# HISTORY

- Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo organized the June 21, 2018, National Indigenous People Day (NIPD) in Fort McMurray at Heritage Park.
- Concerns regarding a non - Indigenous group organizing NIPD.
- February 2019, McMurray Métis Board of Directors voted in favor of moving Métis Festival to June 21, 2019.
- The McMurray Métis requested support from Athabasca Tribal Council, Nistawoyou Friendship Center, Heritage Park, Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo and the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo (RMWB) to chairing the 2019 NIPD Planning Committee.
- April 24, 2019, NIPD Planning Committee voted for the new name to be the FNMI Festival (First Nations, Métis and Inuit).



# COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM

- Deadline for the Community Impact Grant was November 16, 2018.
- McMurray Métis had a problem with the new Community Investment Program. As our Elders Christmas Celebration was held on December 6, 2018, in the grey zone.
- “....the CIP call for applications process, and we do understand the challenges, some organizations may experience with the singular, annual call for applications.” - Toni Elliott, Senior Manager, Community Services RMWB.
- We see a flaw in the annual application process for Community Investment Program and during 2020 budget considerations we will recommend Council consider having applications evaluated on a quarterly basis and not once a year, as circumstances change, as is the case with this year's NIPD.



# **FNMI FESTIVAL DAY**

- Over 700 Students attending from the Catholic and Public Schools in Fort McMurray. Kids activities include: Drum Making, Tattoo Tent, Rock Stick Race, Dream Catchers, Bouncy castle and more.
- Elder Tent, with crib tournament.
- Indigenous Cultural Tour of Elders Cabin, Trappers Tent, Educational Teepee, Canoes and Moose Hide Tanning.
- Vendors include Regional Recreation Corporation, Wood Buffalo Library, First Nations Health Consortium, Waypoints Outreach Team, Blood Pressure & Health Station and Indigenous Arts and Crafts.
- Opening Ceremonies and Grand Entry.
- Indigenous Performers.
- T-shirt for each student in attendance with the FNMI Logo and their Schools name.
- Complementary water bottle and food for all guests.



# BUDGET



- Currently raised via sponsors \$95,000.00
  - Budget \$130,000.00
  - Current deficit \$35,000.00
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- First FNMI Festival ever with extra costs and we are doing more in 2019 within the same budget of 2018.
  - Not included in the above numbers are the dozens of hours volunteered by members of the planning committee.
  - Also not included are the 5 employees of McMurray Métis working hundreds of hours full time on the FNMI Festival.



# REQUEST OF COUNCIL

- The FNMI Planning Committee voted unanimously on May 27, 2019 that a request be made to Mayor and Council for the support from the RMWB via its Community Investment Program or another channel toward the FNMI Festival at a level, equal to our top level of sponsorship at \$10,000.00.
- We feel this is a fair request and worthwhile contribution towards the Indigenous celebration for all the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples who make up ten percent of the Wood Buffalo population.
- In the 2018-2021 Strategic Plan, approved by Council, one of the four strategic priorities is Rural and Indigenous Partnerships and Communities.



# THANK YOU & QUESTIONS

- Welcome the opportunity to present to Council.
- Enjoy our positive working relationship.
- Pleased Mayor Scott will be representing Council at the FNMI Festival.
- Would like to invite all Councilors, all employees of Administration and all citizens of RMWB to attend our event on the Summer Solstice, June 21, 2019, from 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM on our Métis grounds in Gregoire.

