



June 16, 2021

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

Dear Mayor Scott,

I am so pleased to inform you that design and construction of the Métis Cultural Centre on MacDonald Island is in full swing!

To date, McMurray Métis has spent over \$2,334,314 on the Centre and will spend in total at least \$18,768,829 of our own money.

We also have an approved grant of \$16.5 million from Alberta Infrastructure via the joint Canada and Alberta - Investing in Canada Infrastructure Plan.

The cutting edge design and systems in the project have attracted innovation funding from Emissions Reduction Alberta and Smart Sustainable Resilient Infrastructure Association.

Additionally, McMurray Métis is working with the Government of Canada to secure further funding of \$25 million towards realizing the first Zero-Carbon Building in Fort McMurray.

In 2020, the Regional Council provided the land on MacDonald Island to be the home of the Centre. This land transferred to McMurray Métis has a value of \$3.4 million.



We are requesting this presentation to Regional Council to ask for financial support towards the capital costs of the Métis Cultural Centre in the amount of \$13.1 million.

It is important to note, if this request is approved by Regional Council the total amount invested into the Métis Cultural Centre from the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo (RMWB) would be \$16.5 million, the same amount as Alberta Infrastructure and McMurray Métis. Having multi-level government support is essential to the success of this Centre.

The overall cost of the Métis Cultural Centre is \$74,714,949 and the budget is based on two Class C – cost estimates from independent firm *Turner and Townsend* and our local construction building firm *Casman*.

From an Architectural timeline the Schematic Design and Design Development phases are both complete. The Contract Documents phase is 40% complete, with foundations Issued for Construction, and core, shell and interiors ongoing. The Bidding and Construction Administration phases are both underway.

From the construction standpoint, General Conditions and Site Mobilization are complete and we are currently in Phase 1 of Construction, with both Civil and Concrete Foundations underway.

The carbon neutral Métis Cultural Centre will have a world class design with a green roof, solar cladding and roof-mounted solar panels, Carbon Cure Concrete technology, heat recovery ventilation, a biomass boiler, One Planet Living designation, and Zero Carbon Building Certification from Canada Green Building Council.



It has been amazing to see the continual support of local community organizations and committees, and we know that this is just the start of ongoing local partnerships. To date, we have gained community support from the Downtown Waterfront Committee, Fort McMurray Wood Buffalo Economic Development & Tourism, Northern Alberta Aboriginal Business Association, Regional Recreation Corporation of Wood Buffalo and Wood Buffalo Arts Council.

The development and programming of the Métis Cultural Centre falls into 8 areas in the Regional Council's 2018 - 2021 Strategic Plan. We believe as a new Strategic Plan is developed in the years to follow, that the Centre's purpose will continue to lineup and hit key targets.

Of the 94 Calls to Action in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the Métis Cultural Centre parallels 24 calls within the areas of legacy, education, and reconciliation.

The Métis Cultural Centre is not just for Métis Citizens, or Indigenous Peoples – it is for all residents of Wood Buffalo. It is a carbon neutral building and modern facility for weddings, community events and traditional gatherings.

Regards,

Section 17 (1) FOIP

Gail Gallupe
President
McMurray Métis