

Piikani Nation Chief and Council

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Piikani Nation Community Update from Chief and Council Lethbridge Northern Irrigation District (LNID) Headworks January 30, 2023

As noted in our update published in April 2022, Piikani Chief and Council has been working constructively for years to resolve outstanding issues and ensure that Piikani's interests are preserved as they relate to the Lethbridge Northern Irrigation District (LNID) infrastructure on our land.

Since our last update, Council has continued to work with Alberta on a number of outstanding issues that have arisen as a result of the operations of the infrastructure, including past breaches by Alberta of the 2002 Settlement Agreement. Our discussions have been related, in part, to the work that Alberta will be doing to replace the canal liner over a four kilometre stretch. That work is scheduled to commence on Monday, January 30th, and will continue for approximately three months.

We are pleased to report that Council and Alberta have reached agreement on some preliminary issues, including financial support over a number of years for recovery of native aquatic species, restoration of riparian vegetation, and a Piikani guardian/monitor program. Each of these components is critical to repairing and restoring the damage done to our sacred river valley by the LNID infrastructure and its operations.

Alberta has also agreed to provide financial support for the Piikani irrigation project over the next three years.

As negotiations with Alberta will be continuing over the coming months to resolve the balance of the outstanding issues, Piikani Nation will provide cultural awareness training to designated Ministers and their staff, at Alberta's cost, to facilitate further understanding of our culture, which we anticipate will assist the continued negotiations.

We will keep members posted about these proceedings as events warrant. Questions regarding this matter may be directed to Corbin Provost, Chief Operating Officer, at corbin.provost@piikanation.com or (403) 965-3940.