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FORT CHIPEWYAN
COMMUNITY PROFILE
AND
ATTITUDES AND PERCEPTIONS
1995 - 1996

Special Acknowledgment

To the Elders of the Mikisew Cree First Nation, the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation and the Metis Local of Fort Chipewyan:

“Thou who art truly the living testament to the past, the wisdom of today and the vision of the future. The treasured foundation of all that we are today, the true spirit of the people and the portal to eternal existence. Thou art the essence of all thine legacies that exist today and the light of the dawning future.”

A special expression of gratitude for the Elders who so kindly and willingly participated in this project and whose experience and wisdom imparted a depth to the entire undertaking and the desired results.

To the people, the leaders and the stakeholder groups of Fort Chipewyan for their sincere input and comments in the spirit of mutual cooperation and community unity, this profile, I trust, will truly do justice for your contribution.

To the Suncor Inc., for your patience and understanding of the circumstances and situation under which this project was undertaken and completed.

To the Leaders and the People of the Mikisew Cree First Nation for your steadfast faith and trust in my abilities to undertake a responsibility of this magnitude. I trust and hope this profile will confirm and support your position.

A special thanks to Dawn Waquan for her contribution to the history section of the profile and whose insight and experience enhanced the input and wisdom of our Elders.

In closing, to mine Elder, Archie Simpson, my deepest gratitude for your quiet strength, encouragement, wisdom and the sanctity of your home. To his great-grand daughter, Kandi Simpson, a sincerest appreciation and love for your eternal youthful optimism and faith in my ability to fulfill the expectations of Suncor Inc..

*Joseph R. deCardinale
Technical Advisor
Mikisew Cree First Nation*

June 1, 1996

FORT CHIPEWYAN
COMMUNITY PROFILE & ATTITUDES AND PERCEPTIONS
1995 -1996

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I EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This project, initiated in October, 1995, was directed at two distinct areas of concern that are based on the common theme of, "The Fort Chipewyan Indigenous Community Perceptions". The first objective of this undertaking focused on the development of a comprehensive socio-economic "Community Profile" of Fort Chipewyan according to the project terms of reference. The second objective involved the exercise of determining and identifying the prevailing attitudes and perceptions of the Indigenous people wherein it concerned the Suncor Inc. and the existent relationship between the community and the corporate entity.

With respect to the prevailing trends and factors that constitute the history of Fort Chipewyan and that have culminated with the community of today, the project determined and established the correlations between such and the basis for the predominate and current attitudes and perceptions of the Indigenous residents. This information is provided to clearly illustrate the justification for the present attitudes and perceptions with consideration of all mitigating factors in a manner that precludes the potential for misconception or a narrow interpretation of the findings.

The primary desired end result of the aforementioned exercises is to provide enough relevant data and information to enable the Suncor Inc. to assess the Steepbank Mine project impacts on the community of Fort Chipewyan.

This report is structured according the ensuing components;

I Profile of the Community of Fort Chipewyan

A History of the Community

A comprehensive history of Fort Chipewyan is provided with the appropriate times lines to facilitate the depth of this section's presentation. Emphasis was placed upon the prevailing historical trends and factors that have contributed to the present community.

B Local Economics

A synoptic overview of the primary elements and trends of the economic base of Fort Chipewyan are detailed. Major economic activities and initiatives that are currently in process or important to the community are also included.

- C Community Human Resources
A detailed inventory of the primary employers in the community with a point form presentation of the major employment numbers and classifications. The existing human resources and desired enhancement of such is discussed in synoptic form.
- D Community Businesses
An inventory of the local businesses with an emphasis on those possessing an existing capability and the potential to enter into meaningful relationships with Suncor.
- E Local Demographics
Due to the absence of reliable and firm sources, the demographics of the community are restricted to specific target groups and general population figures presently available.
- F Community and Social Services
An inventory of the local community and social services that are currently provided with an emphasis on future developments.
- G Community Infrastructure
A detailed outline of the community infrastructure in point form with reference to future requirements and developments.
- H Current Land and Water Systems Usage
A brief illustration and reference to current use of the land and the water systems of the delta by the local residents.
- I Local Governments
The local government and social organization of the community are presented with a clear identification of the primary entities and major stakeholders.
- J Local Ethnic Cultures
A summary of the unique and different indigenous ethnic groups that make up the mosaic of the community. The different local bodies of authority and areas of governmental jurisdiction are presented.

II Attitudes and Perceptions

A Survey Study was conducted to identify and establish the current prevailing attitudes and perceptions of the local indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan in relation to Suncor Inc. The survey was restricted to personal interviews of only those people belonging to any of the following three indigenous groups;

- 1 Mikisew Cree First Nation
- 2 Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation
- 3 Fort Chipewyan Metis Local #124

The objectives of the survey sections are provided in the following;

- 1 Demographics
The demographics for the survey respondents are provided in this section with a reference to their educational and occupational backgrounds. A provision for identifying employment status was also included.
- 2 About Suncor
This section of the survey was directed at determining the extent of awareness and knowledge of the target groups where it concerns Suncor Inc. in general.
- 3 Cultural and Traditional
To establish the existence of cultural and traditional sites in the region surrounding the community. Further to this to determine the perception of Suncor Inc.'s impact on local culture and tradition.
- 4 The Local Economy
To determine the perception of Suncor Inc.'s impact on the local economy.
- 5 Local Businesses and Services
To identify and establish the businesses and services that existed prior to the establishment of Oil Sand companies. In conjunction with this, the determination of the perception of Suncor Inc.'s impact on local businesses and services.
- 6 Social Impact
To determine the perception of the impact of Suncor on the population, social fabric, community patterns, education, housing, community municipal services and transportation.

- 7 Environmental and Ecological Impacts
To determine the perception of the impact of Suncor on the Fauna and Flora of the region surrounding the community.
- 8 Lands and Waters
To determine the perception of the impact of Suncor on the Lands and Waters of the region surrounding the community.

III Conclusions

The conclusions provided in this section are derived from the summaries of the survey findings and results. They were developed in point form to facilitate the presentation of the extensive data and information contained in this report.

IV Recommendations

The recommendations, although general in nature, are intended to provide specific areas Suncor Inc. may consider to address and bring about a change in the negative attitudes and perceptions the indigenous groups of Fort Chipewyan may have toward or about Suncor Inc.

V Survey Result Summaries

The survey results are summarized according to the prevailing responses, attitudes and perceptions of the respondents. When possible, the primary results are provided according to the frequency of responses and in a summary context. The survey results are derived from personal interviews of the individuals from one hundred and nine (109) households in the community of Fort Chipewyan.

VI Bibliography

A complete bibliography of the sources of information and data are provided in this section. This is over and above the bibliography that is included the (A: History of the Community, I Profile of the Community of Fort Chipewyan)

CHAPTER ONE

HISTORY OF FORT CHIPEWYAN

HISTORY OF FORT CHIPEWYAN

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INTRODUCTION

Fort Chipewyan.....the oldest continuously inhabited settlement in Alberta.....had its beginning dating back more than 200 years. With its rich legacy, the study of its past has ever since peaked the curiosity of historians and been the subject of numerous books, theses, articles and reports.

For purposes of this Community Profile, it means condensing this vast amount of information into concise format where Fort Chipewyan's evolution can be readily understood. An historical time line noting those important events in and around Fort Chipewyan, from 1778 to the present, has been listed.

The history of Fort Chipewyan, though, is more than just a chronicle of dates and facts. Some events are straightforward and need no discussion. Other events need explanation because if they are just read at face value a true understanding of how and why Fort Chipewyan came to be will not be conveyed.

The time line listed is divided into five (5) historical periods:

- I ESTABLISHMENT OF FORT CHIPEWYAN: PRE-1778 TO 1821**
 - * Indigenous Peoples of the Region: Pre-1778
 - * For Trade: 1778-1821

- II SLOW GROWTH: 1822 TO 1898**

- III FORT CHIPEWYAN IN TRANSITION: 1899 TO 1945**
 - * Treaty 8: 1899
 - * Peoples of Fort Chipewyan: -Treaty Indians Belonging to the Cree and
-Chipewyan First Nations
-The Metis
 - * Wood Buffalo National Park: 1922 to 1926
 - * Requests for Treaty Reserves
 - * Bush to Settlement Living

- IV ACCELERATED GROWTH: 1945 TO 1969**

- V MODERN ERA: 1970 TO 1995**

Following each time period are discussions to elaborate on those particular events and influences responsible for determining the development of Fort Chipewyan. These narratives are brief, by no means definitive and are intended only to present an historical overview.

Format has been designed so the time line divisions and their discussions can be read together. In this way the role of the people, economics, ideas, policies, institutions and circumstances significant in shaping the fabric of Fort Chipewyan will be appreciated and further insight into the community's unique past gained.

Due to the time constraints imposed by this project, the volumes of records available and the need to be succinct, the method employed has been to use the works of others in whole or in part whenever practical. Credit to those works is provided in the bibliography.

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I ESTABLISHMENT OF FORT CHIPEWYAN: PRE-1778 TO 1821

- 1778** Peter Pond of the Northwest Company established fur trade post known as "Pond's House" or "The Old Establishment" near Embarras Portage some 40 miles from Lake Athabasca
- 1782** Crees and Beavers made lasting peace at Peace Point
- 1784** Smallpox epidemic
- 1788** Pond's House abandoned when Roderick MacKenzie established Fort Chipewyan on the south shore of Lake Athabasca at Old Fort Point
- 1789** Alexander MacKenzie voyaged to Arctic Ocean via his "River of Disappointment" (MacKenzie River)
- 1790-1792** Philip Turnor and Peter Fidler conducted first survey of Athabasca River, Lake Athabasca and Slave River
- 1792-1793** Alexander MacKenzie left Fort Chipewyan to voyage to Pacific Ocean via Peace River
- 1798** Fort Chipewyan relocated to site on the north shore of Lake Athabasca
- 1800** XY Company entered the Athabasca fur trade and set up a post at Little Island (Mission Point)
- 1802** Peter Fidler of the Hudson's Bay Company built Nottingham House on English Island
- 1804** XY and Northwest Companies merged and determined to oust Hudson's Bay Company
- 1808** Hudson's Bay Company left Athabasca fur trade to the Northwest Company and abandoned Nottingham House
- 1815** John Clarke of the Hudson's Bay Company established Fort Wedderburn on Coal Island (now Potato Island) opposite Northwest Company's Fort Chipewyan
- 1819-1822** John Franklin used Fort Chipewyan as a base for his Arctic explorations
- 1821** Rivalry ended for Athabasca fur trade when Hudson's Bay Company and Northwest Company amalgamated
- Fort Wedderburn abandoned in favor of Fort Chipewyan
- Fort Chipewyan became Hudson's Bay Company's headquarters for the Athabasca District

I ESTABLISHMENT OF FORT CHIPEWYAN: PRE-1778 TO 1821

A: Indigenous Peoples in the Region: Pre-1788

Long before Fort Chipewyan was even established, the influence of the fur trade economy, headquartered on Hudson Bay, was being felt. The impact on the original territorial ranges of the Indigenous peoples was so great that by the time Peter Pond arrived in 1778, warfare among the tribes, competing for strongholds in the fur trade industry, had resulted in major population changes and movements.

Historians generally agree the original territory of the Chipewyans was bounded by the Great Slave Lake on the north, Hudson Bay on the east, the Slave and Athabasca Rivers on the west and what is now north and central Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba on the south. The Beavers were situated at the western end of Lake Athabasca and on the Peace River while the Slaves and other tribes were to the northeast and northwest of the Chipewyans.

The Crees, an Algonkian speaking people, were newcomers to the Athabasca region. Starting their westward expansion from the Hudson and James Bay areas in search of new hunting and trapping grounds around the middle of the 17th century, they were middlemen in the fur trade and in the position to force distant tribes to trade with them. With the acquisition of guns they came into conflict with the Chipewyans and the Beavers. By the late 1800's they were situated on the upper reaches of the Athabasca River and what is now north and central Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Intent on ceasing the intertribal warfare, in 1715 the Hudson's Bay Company attempted to arrange a peace agreement between the warring groups as well as bring the Chipewyans into a trading relationship. Although a truce between the Crees and the Chipewyans was concluded, Cree expansion continued, pushing northward and westward and driving the Beavers from the Lake Athabasca area.

Following the establishment of Fort Churchill in 1717, the Chipewyans also obtained firearms from traders and engaged in their own campaigns. From the east and north they assaulted the Beavers, and around Great Slave Lake they dominated, preventing the Slaves and other tribes from trading directly with the Hudson Bay fort.

Peaceful relationships were fragile and in an effort to cease hostilities the Hudson's Bay Company again intervened. In 1717 a council was held with the Cree where Wa pa su, The Swan, made peace between the tribes of the Athabasca River valley. Known for bringing the first report of the tar sands to Fort Churchill, this Cree native leader later served the Hudson's Bay Company as a middleman and traded with both the Chipewyans and Beavers.

Warfare was not completely eliminated and around 1760 yet another armistice between the Crees, Chipewyans and Beavers was reached. Cree ascendancy in the Athabasca region would have continued had it not been for the smallpox epidemic which decimated its population. With the Beavers now in possession of firearms, warfare renewed until 1782. In that year the Crees and Beavers reached their historic peace agreement at Peace Point in present-day Wood Buffalo National Park on the Peace River. The agreement marked the territories of the Crees and Beavers and left the Crees inhabiting much of the lands in which the Mikisew Cree First Nation hunt, fish and trap today.

By the time of Peter Pond's arrival, both the Crees and the Chipewyans were living in relative co-existence in the Athabasca district, the earlier peace arrangements having some lasting effect. The Chipewyans were in control around Lake Athabasca and in the barren lands northward while the Crees were expanding down the Peace and Athabasca Rivers.

Unlike the Crees who already had a long period of contact with the outsiders, the Chipewyans would have experienced the most profound changes. At first they were forced to trade with the Cree middlemen. Once direct trade relations with Fort Churchill were begun in 1717 the Chipewyans, in turn, assumed the role of middlemen with tribes to the north and west of them.

The involvement of the Crees and Chipewyans in the fur trade, prior to Fort Chipewyan being founded, accelerated changes in their traditional ways. It created a dependency upon imported goods including the weapons they used to assert themselves against others. Their economies became mixed, based on a combination of subsistence living off the land and adaptation to commercial trapping, the former, though, always remaining the primary economic activity.

With their lives becoming an integral part of the capitalist world economy, the influence of the fur trade would be responsible for innovations in the social and cultural characteristics of the Indigenous peoples. Commodity trading would bring with it the introduction of new languages, intermarriages, education, Christian religion, disease and epidemics, changes in traditional governance and lands and the reason for which the settlement of Fort Chipewyan came into existence.

B: Fur Trade: 1778 to 1821

In 1778 Peter Pond travelled down the Methy Portage, gateway to the Athabasca-Peace-Mackenzie River system. He was the first European trader to set up a trading post and the first European settlement in what would be Alberta. Pond's House or the Old Establishment was built near Embarras Portage on the Athabasca River, about 40 miles south of Lake Athabasca.

Pond represented the Montreal based Northwest Company anxious to intercept the Hudson's Bay Company's system of trading. Except for the years when epidemics scourged the region, he did so profitably. Prior to this Cree and Chipewyan middlemen made the difficult trek to Forts Churchill and York on Hudson Bay, carrying goods and furs to and from the Athabasca district. Having penetrated inland, Pond's bold venture spared them the journey.

Ten years later, in 1788, Roderick MacKenzie, cousin to explorer Alexander MacKenzie, established a new post on the south shore of Lake Athabasca. Built on the peninsula on what is now called Old Fort Point, the post was named Fort Chipewyan after the native people inhabitants.

Sometime before 1799 Fort Chipewyan was again relocated, moved across Lake Athabasca to the northwestern shore, situated behind Little Island on what is called Mission Point. Explorations had revealed great trading areas to the north and west of Lake Athabasca would be more accessible from this central post. The location chosen saw earlier ice break-up so incoming and outgoing canoe-brigade activity was facilitated. Another factor was the new site was more convenient to those Chipewyans inhabiting the lands to the north and east of the lake, giving the Northwest Company another opportunity to divert their trade from the English.

Ideally situated, Fort Chipewyan was the depot from which all Northwest Company trade along the Peace, Athabasca, Slave and other rivers of the MacKenzie basin destined to and from Montreal, was conducted. Fort Chipewyan ranked second only to Fort William on Lake Superior. As the hub for transportation, it became the base of operations for expeditions led by Alexander MacKenzie (1789, 1792-3), Philip Turnor and Peter Fidler (1790-92), John Franklin (1819-22) and George Back (1833).

The Northwest Company would dominate the northern fur trade until the end of the 18th century. The trade was so successful, the Company improved its Fort Chipewyan post until it was "the completest inland house in the country". Later descriptions as Emporium of the North", "The Little Athens" and the "The Grand Magazine of the Athapiscow Country" illustrated the commercial center's significance.

The Northwest Company was not without competition. The short lived XY Company built its fort on Little Island in front of the Northwest Company post. In 1802 the first attempt by the Hudson's Bay Company to begin active trading in the Athabasca country was with the establishment of Nottingham House on English Island. The following year the Northwest Company decided to relocate Fort Chipewyan eastward from Mission Point, to the place where it would stand for over a century, to circumvent its rivals.

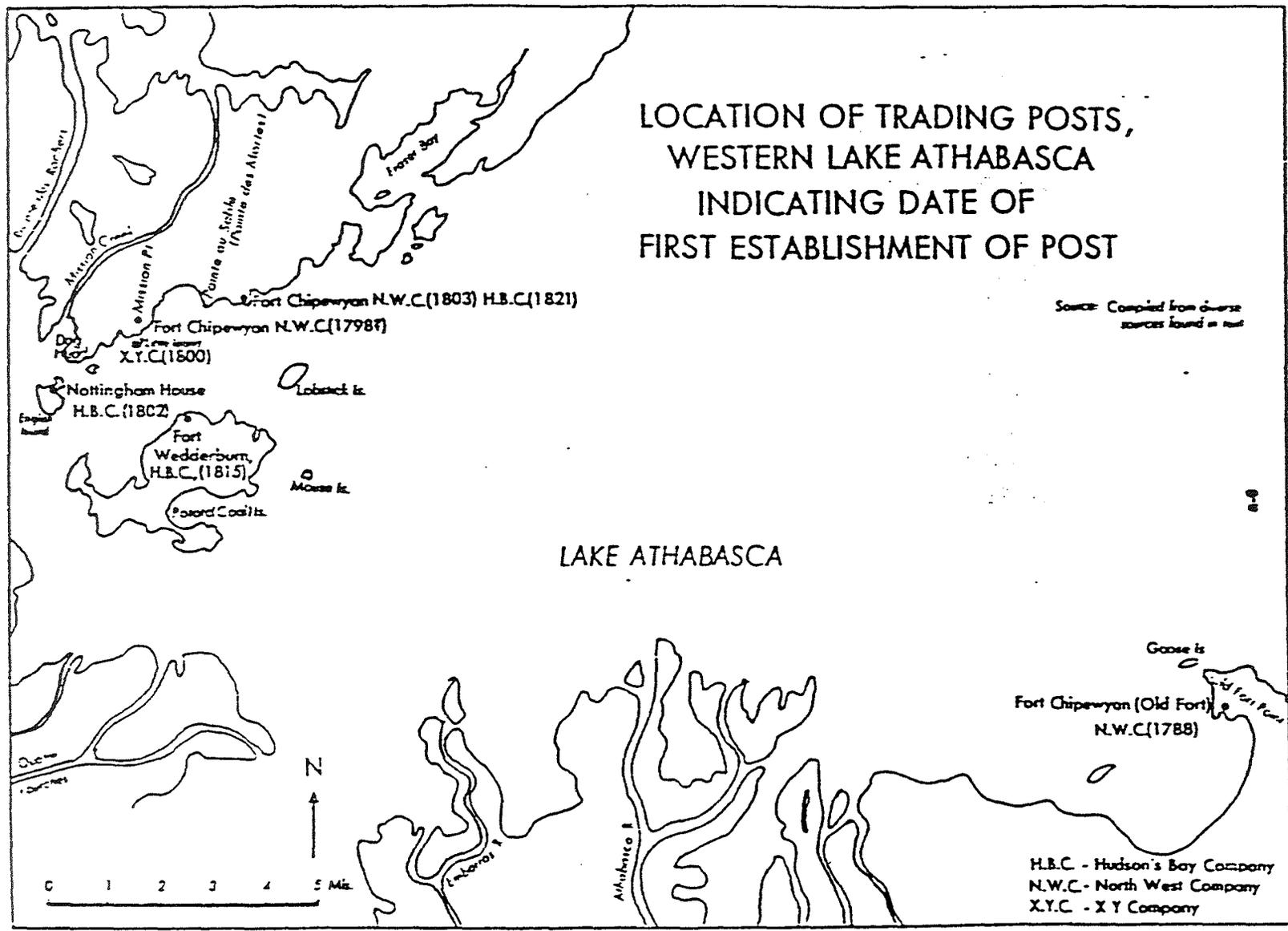
The XY Company imitated the move eastward and the Hudson's Bay Company planned to do likewise. By 1806 the XY Company had been absorbed by the Northwest Company and with combined forces succeeded in forcing out the Hudson's Bay Company.

The Hudson's Bay Company returned in 1815 to once more try and break the Northwest Company's monopoly. It constructed Fort Wedderburn on Potato Island (then called Coal Island). The next years were the scene of bitter rivalries, armed confrontations and captures until in 1821 both interests amalgamated under the Hudson's Bay Company.

By comparison with Fort Wedderburn, Fort Chipewyan was a magnificent structure and after the union of the companies it became the Hudson's Bay Company headquarters for the Athabasca district. Fort Chipewyan was built on a rocky point where it had a commanding view of both Lake Athabasca, which it faced, and of the hinterland behind it, the riches from which had given it birth.

LOCATION OF TRADING POSTS, WESTERN LAKE ATHABASCA INDICATING DATE OF FIRST ESTABLISHMENT OF POST

Source: Compiled from diverse sources found in text



LAKE ATHABASCA

H.B.C. - Hudson's Bay Company
N.W.C. - North West Company
X.Y.C. - X Y Company

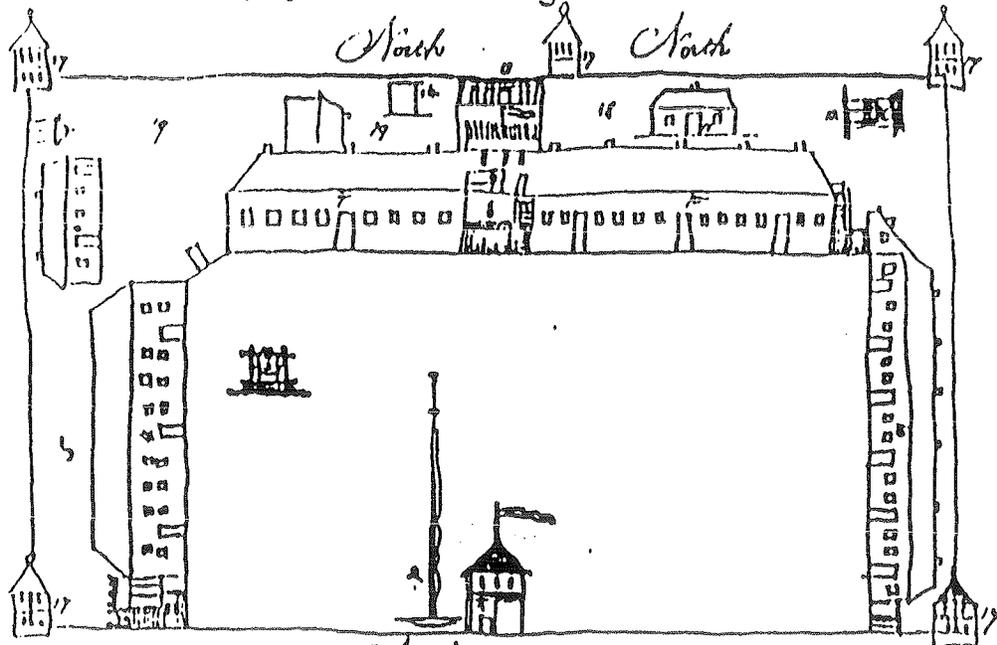
II SLOW GROWTH: 1822 TO 1898

- 1822** First York boats used in the north built in Fort Chipewyan
- 1825** John Franklin's second voyage of exploration
- 1826** Hudson's Bay Company withdrew liquor from the fur trade in the Athabasca District
- 1833** George Back led expedition toward the Arctic coast
- 1837** Thomas Simpson left Fort Chipewyan to survey Arctic coastline for the Hudson's Bay Company
- 1841** First Methodist missionary, and creator of syllabic writing of Indian languages, Reverend James Evans visited
- 1843** J. Lefroy conducted magnetic survey at Fort Chipewyan
- 1847-1848** First Roman Catholic missionary, Father Alexander Tache, o.m.i. (later Bishop) chose site for the mission
- 1849** Father Henri Faraud, o.m.i. became first resident priest
- 1851** Roman Catholic Nativity Mission dedicated
- 1857** First prayer books in Cree and Chipewyan printed
- 1858** First Anglican minister, Archdeacon James Hunter, arrived
- 1862** Father Faraud became Apostolic Vicar of the Athabasca-MacKenzie District with headquarters at Fort Chipewyan
- 1867** Canada's Confederation
- 1869** Hudson's Bay Company monopoly of fur trade ended when it surrendered Rupert's Land to Canada
- First scows from Lac La Biche reached Fort Chipewyan
- 1870** Fort McMurray established by H.J. Moberly
- 1872** Hudson's Bay Company trading post reconstructed by Roderick MacKenzie
- 1874** Reverend Arthur Shaw became first resident Anglican minister, and mission and school founded
- Grey Nuns opened Holy Angels convent, orphanage and school (15 pupils in an old mission shed)
- 1875** Geological Survey of Canada explored region
- 1879** St. Paul's Anglican Church and mission permanently established

- 1881** Small pox epidemic
- 1882-1883** "S.S. Graham", the first steamwheeler used in the north, constructed in Fort Chipewyan for Hudson's Bay Company
- 1883** Hudson's Bay Company constructed trail from Edmonton to Athabasca Landing, a new route north
- 1884** Anglican Church completed
- Construction began for the Roman Catholic residential school and new rectory
- Fort Chipewyan declined in importance when Athabasca Landing established as the new transportation terminus
- 1886** Methy Portage water route no longer used and transportation by York boats ended
- Independent traders arrived in Fort Chipewyan
- 1887** Great famine
- 1887-1888** Senate Committee on the "Great MacKenzie Basin" surveyed mineral and agricultural potential of the whole MacKenzie drainage system
- 1893** Paddlewheeler "S.S. St. Joseph" built at the Roman Catholic Mission
- 1893-1898** Klondike Gold Rush hopefuls passed through Fort Chipewyan
- 1898** Extension built on to Holy Angels residential school to accommodate more students
- 1898-1899** First Royal Northwest Mounted Police outpost established, opened until 1917 and reopened in 1923
- Extension built on to the Holy Angels school to accommodate more students

2d Plan or Rough Sketch of Fort Chipewyan Depot of the Hudson's Bay Territories.

Lat: 58 22 W. Long: 110. 20. 30.



References

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Front Gate 2. Flag Staff 3. Parking Place 4. Stores with Ice Cellars 5. Powder Magazine yard 6. Artillery & Gunner's House 7. Mr. Chipewyan's Office & Summer House 8. Covered Forge 9. Watch House & Observatory 10. Major's Summer House 11. " " " " " " " " " " " " 12. " " " " " " " " " " " " 13. Lumber | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14. Captain's Kitchen 15. Mr. Chipewyan's Kitchen 16. Officers' Houses & Blacksmith's Shop 17. Black Houses or Kitchens 18. Summer Quarters & woodyard 19. Wagon Yard & " " " 20. Store Yard |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boat Yard 1 Cones of " " " 1 Stable 1 Dry Dock Yard | } | are within the Fort |
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Source: Memo. 1085, Hudson Bay Company Archives 0.92/a.182

II SLOW GROWTH: 1822 TO 1898

The end of the conflict in 1821 heralded what one historian penned "five decades of peaceful monopoly rule". Another author described life in the nineteenth century Fort Chipewyan as one of slow growth. The settlement's development, although affected by the activities and influences of "agents of the outside culture", did not speedily unfold.

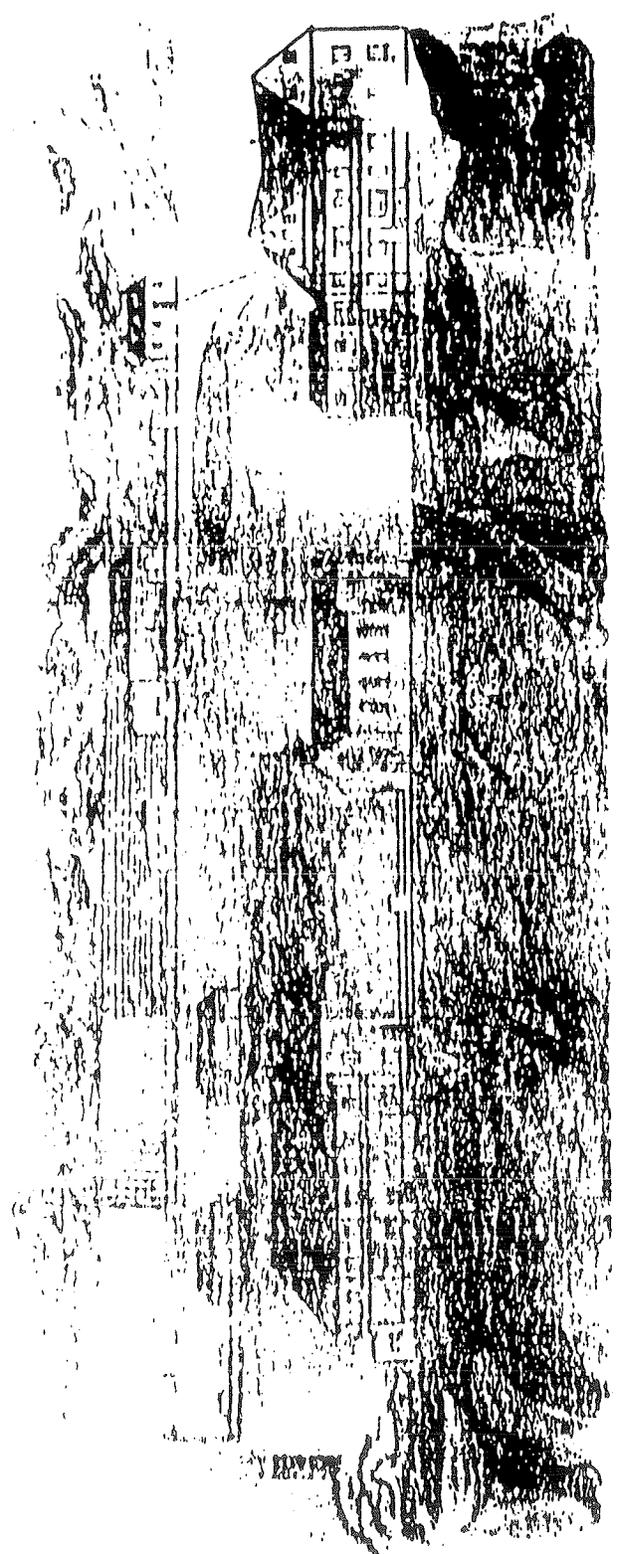
In 1821, the settlement of Fort Chipewyan was truly limited to the confines of the fort. An early sketch showed the fortified structure with block houses or bastions on all four corners. Enclosed within its compound were a watchhouse/observatory, kitchens, powder magazine yard, blacksmith shop, stores, and summer and winter residences. Outside of the fort was storage for boats and canoes, similarly enclosed with stockades, the stable and dog kennels. An area of ground outside its walls was cleared for native encampments.

Those actually residing in Fort Chipewyan were Bay Company officers and their families, clerks, guides, servants, interpreters and boatmen. The Bay relied mostly on experienced French, Scottish and Englishmen and local Metis for its labor force. The latter were familiar with the languages and customs of both traders and trappers often having cemented trade relations through intermarriage with native women. Post journals up to 1870 showed the population of Fort Chipewyan remained fairly constant and rarely passed one hundred souls.

The seasonal nature of the fur trade did bring about periodic increases in the fort's population. In the spring furs were brought into the Company and in the fall the Cree and Chipewyan trappers were outfitted for winter. At these times those who traded at the post camped along the lake shore.

For the Cree and Chipewyan people living off the land, the end of the fur trade competition meant return of stability. Population counts fluctuated widely given the frequent outbreaks of disease, some reaching epidemic proportions, and the migratory nature of hunting and trapping. Company records showed 600 Chipewyans and about half that number of Crees lived in the area served by the Fort Chipewyan post in 1821-1822. In 1862 Catholic Church records indicated 900 Chipewyans and 300 Crees. By 1900 about 600 natives in all resorted to the settlement.

Taking advantage of the Bay's transportation routes and boats, missionaries travelled north and opened their missions close to the post where food and provisions were readily available. The Roman Catholic Mission was built in 1849 located near Mission Point, about a mile west of the post. Much later, in the 1870's, the Anglican missionaries constructed their church and school just a few hundred yards west of the fort compound.



Both religious orders were concerned with ministering to the spiritual needs of their parishioners. Since the native population was predominantly of Catholic persuasion it meant journeying out to their camps and locations. Fearing settlement life would corrupt them, the Church encouraged them to come to Fort Chipewyan only to trade and to spend some time in religious and social activities. This fit well in with Company opinion that, other than for trading and provisioning purposes, there was no good economic reason for the native peoples to frequent Fort Chipewyan.

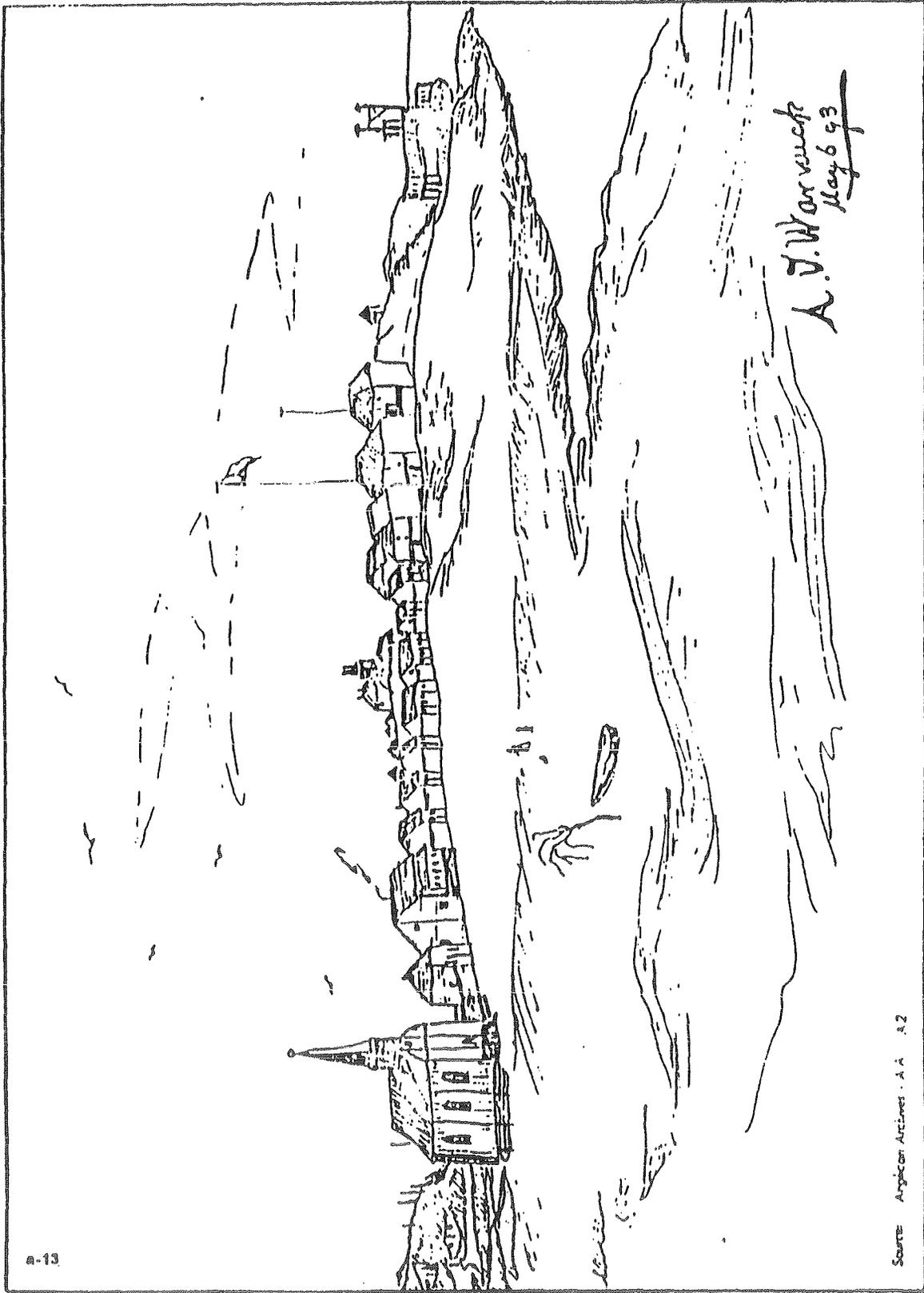
Missionary presence, though, did provide incentives for the native people to come more often to the settlement and to remain longer. The Catholic and Anglican Churches provided education through either residential or day schools, health care, assistance to the aged, orphaned and infirm, and wage employment. In times of emergency and destitution the missions gave refuge and assistance. Eventually a few small semi-permanent shacks and cabins sprung up around the mission and post walls.

The creation of the Holy Angels school in 1874 by the Roman Catholic Church was especially important. As a residential school it relieved Cree and Chipewyan parents of supporting young children who were not economically productive in the bush, and therefore provided an immediate economic and educational benefit. The Anglican Church had no residential school and could not cater to the children of nomadic parents. In other ways over the years, more so into the 20th century, that Catholic educational system negatively influenced the young people. Having been exposed to another lifestyle with new and different values, some would grow accustomed to the amenities of settlement living and show no desire to follow their parents' way of life.

Possibly the most profound effect of missionary activity was on the socio-economic structure of Fort Chipewyan. The economy of the fur trade had been the decisive factor in the shaping of Fort Chipewyan, with the foremost distinction being between settlement and bush living. Now, with separate organized religions, each having their own doctrines, schools, language of instruction and followings, social, cultural and ethnic differences were becoming more pronounced.

Relationships were changing and distinctions between Roman Catholic or Anglican, French or English, native or non-native were being defined. These distinctions were seen in the physical growth and layout of the settlement. Two geographic centers had developed.....the trading post area under Anglican influence on the east and the Roman Catholic Mission area on the west....expressing the settlement and bush living division and reinforcing those differences between them. Even the cemeteries, located adjacent to one another, separated Catholics and Anglicans.

The post itself had been entirely rebuilt on its original site during the 1870's, even retaining the bastions belonging to an earlier period of trade. At the opposite end of Fort Chipewyan was the Catholic Mission site. Its presence, seemingly not to be overshadowed or outdone, was a massive array of buildings housing the church, chapel, orphanage, hospital and other structures. This was where native people tended to temporarily congregate on their visits.



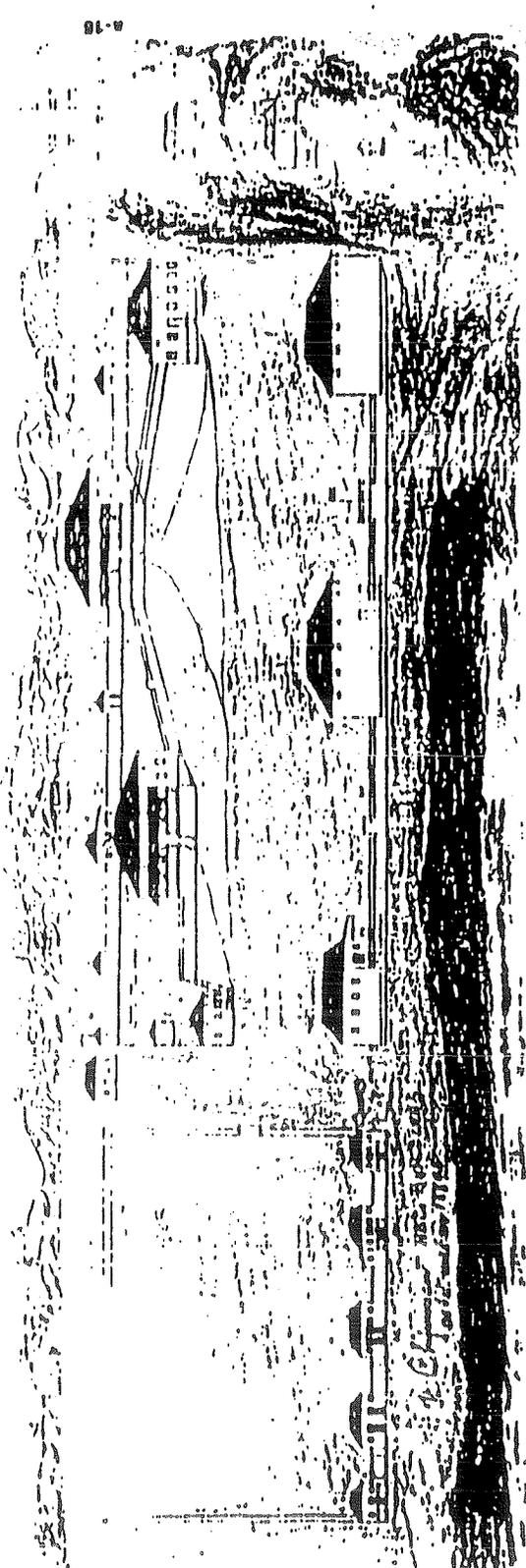
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Source: Argentine Archives, A.A. A.2

Between the two areas, but immediately adjacent to the post, was a row of housing for Hudson's Bay Company personnel. Next to these homes were the Anglican Church and school. Whatever other buildings existed in the settlement, were likely owned by free traders, mainly belonging to the Metis, who had set up their own stores and trading posts, and other local Metis people.

In 1896 an account described "the real dwellers" of Fort Chipewyan as the mission people, Company personnel and freemen who had served their enlistment with the Bay, those who lived "within the company's gates" being mainly "halfbreeds". For the most part, the permanent residence for the native population remained elsewhere than Fort Chipewyan.

By the end of the 19th century the appearance of Fort Chipewyan differed little from its early fur trade days. But, this meant it was not unaffected by the changes taking place around it. When in 1869 Canada purchased the Hudson's Bay Company's rights to its territories, opening the fur trade to competition, the free-traders had been attracted to the settlement. Use of scows, barges and steamboats ended the era of canoes and York boats, and the southern development of roads and railways declined Fort Chipewyan's importance as the northern regional point of transportation. In the mid-to-late 1890's the Klondike Gold Rush was at its peak. An unprecedented number of gold seekers passed through the area, causing friction among the native population. The Government of Canada showed its interest in the Athabasca region through geological and exploratory surveys. Under its 1894 legislation prohibiting the killing of buffalo and imposing closed seasons on fur bearing animals it began to exert its control over the economy and natural resources of the area. In 1898-99 the Northwest Mounted Police opened its post and became the first government agency in Fort Chipewyan.



SECRET

III FORT CHIPEWYAN IN TRANSITION: 1899 TO 1945

- 1899 Treaty No. 8 signed with the Cree and Chipewyan peoples
Scrip paid to the Metis
- 1905 Province of Alberta created
- 1909 Consecration of the actual Roman Catholic Church under the patronage of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 1911-1913 Fort Chipewyan settlement surveyed
- 1912 First post office opened
- 60th parallel established as the boundary between Alberta and the Northwest Territories
- 1914 Money replaced "Made Beaver" as the medium of exchange in trading and Hudson's Bay Company retail operations began
- 1915 First automobile brought and used to haul fish
- 1916 Some Fort Chipewyan men recruited for World War I
- 1919 Ryan Brothers began transport system using horses to freight mail and goods from the south
- 1920 Leases for commercial fishing on Lake Athabasca granted
- Spanish flu epidemic lasting until 1921
- 1922 Wood Buffalo National Park, with the Peace River as its southern boundary, established
- 1926 Wood Buffalo National Park southern boundary extended to the 27th baseline to provide additional territory for buffalo, shipped north from Wainwright, Alberta, which had crossed the Peace River
- Large scale commercial fishing by McInnes Fish Company began on Lake Athabasca
- 1928 First seaplane, piloted by Punch Dickens, landed
- 1929 First airmail brought by Wop May and Archie McMullen
- Western Canada Airways began regular scheduled service between Fort McMurray and Fort Chipewyan

- 1931** Seven (7) small reserves surveyed for the Athabasca Chipewyan Band along the Athabasca River in partial fulfillment of its Treaty No. 8 reserve land entitlement
- 1932** First Indian agent stationed
- 1934** Prospectors passed through Fort Chipewyan enroute to Goldfields, Saskatchewan, and Yellowknife, NWT
- 1935** Indian Reserve #201 surveyed for the Chipewyan people in the Athabasca River Delta to protect their trapping interests
- Northern Transportation Company Limited began barging operations
- 1937** First cafe built, still in operation
- 1939** All Hudson's Bay Company buildings from the fur trade era, except for the Chief Factor's residence, demolished
- 1940** Registered trapline system on provincial lands completed by Alberta
- 1942** American troops passing through Fort Chipewyan to Norman Wells to construct the Canol Pipeline to Whitehorse built the station and house for the wireless Signal Corps
- 1944** New Holy Angels Residential School built to accommodate even more students
- Chipewyan people living in Wood Buffalo National Park transfer their membership to the Cree rolls
- 1945** Anglican schooling came under provincial control and the public school district created
- Family Allowance Act came into effect

III FORT CHIPEWYAN IN TRANSITION: 1899 TO 1945

This time period started off maintaining the status quo between settlement and bush living, between Fort Chipewyan as the trading center and the native people as the trappers, their actual residence patterns reflecting the same. The same, though, could not be said for the effect of Treaty 8 on the relationships created within that division in Fort Chipewyan.

Within the following two (2) decades Fort Chipewyan and the immediate region began to undergo transition. The Province of Alberta was formed in 1905. Until the Natural Resources Transfer Agreement of 1930 there was conflict between it and the Federal Government over the authority of lands and resources in the Athabasca area. The depression years of the 1920's and 1930's brought economic hardship. The Government of Canada was pressed to establish reserves for the Crees and Chipewyans promised under Treaty. Wood Buffalo National Park was created. Mining and other commercial opportunities were pursued. After World War II Canada's "social safety net" came into being. Improvements in transportation and communication made Fort Chipewyan less isolated.

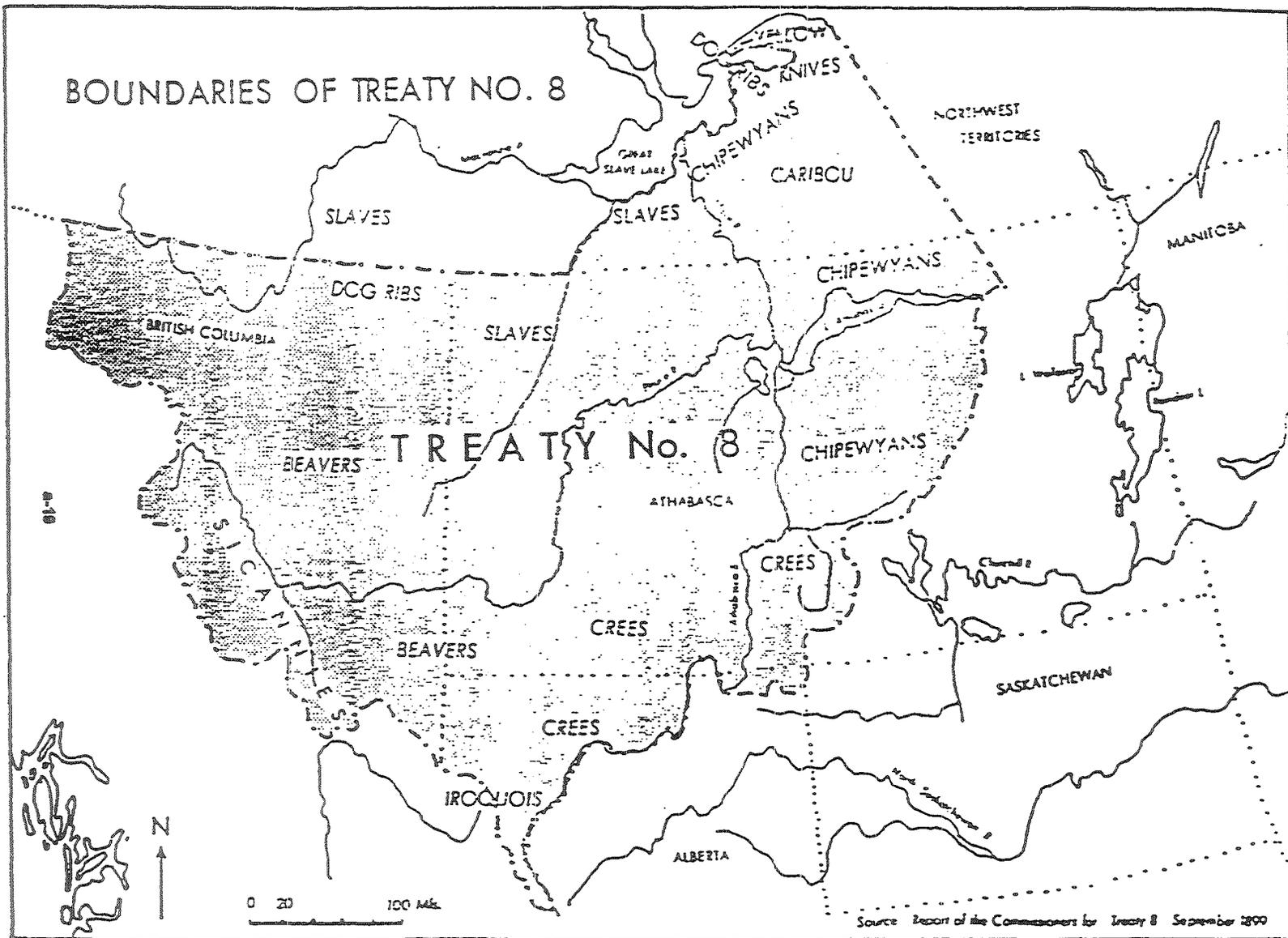
The transition was rapid and affected every facet of life in and around Fort Chipewyan. The impact felt was twofold. On the bush residence lifestyle and economy of the Crees and Chipewyans it hastened their movement from the land to the settlement. On the settlement of Fort Chipewyan itself it caused changes in its function and speeded up its physical development.

So many influences and decisions were simultaneously impacting on the economic and social conditions in and around Fort Chipewyan, they are dealt with by subject heading below, beginning first with Treaty 8 and commentaries on the peoples:

A Treaty 8: 1899

The means to regularize the relationship between the native and non-native populations was with Treaty 8 signed in 1899. About 200 Crees and 400 Chipewyans entered into Treaty. Under the terms of the Treaty, the Federal Government promised to provide education and health care as well as economic development assistance. As the native people's way of life depended upon the land and the resources on it, their hunting, fishing and trapping rights were re-affirmed. Reserve lands would be set aside in the future for their protection.

Treaty 8 created two (2) legal entities, called "Indian Bands" under the Indian Act. Although reports in 1899 attested there was little definite organization among the native groups, the creation of Bands was for the Government's administrative convenience. Bands were usually named after the location where native people had gathered to sign Treaty. Therefore the Cree people around Fort Chipewyan became the "Cree Indian Band" and the Chipewyans of the area included in the "Chipewyan Indian Band."



What the conclusion of Treaty 8 did to Fort Chipewyan was cut across the social, ethnic and economic organization of the settlement and region, leaving a lasting impact on the structure of the community as it was developing. Where the activities of the churches had begun to formalize the distinctions and differences in society, Treaty 8 legalized them.

The first distinction was between native and non-native people. Only native people, or Indians could enter into Treaty relations with the Government. Since two (2) kinds of native rights were recognized, the second distinction was between Treaty Indians and non-Treaty Indians. Due to their native ancestry and because many followed a similar way of life, those of mixed blood were made to choose between Treaty Indian or Metis status. The third legal distinction forced Treaty Indians to choose their identity with either the Cree or Chipewyan Band. Since Bands were paper creations, historical research has shown those designations and affiliations with them may have intended to, but more often did not, take into account personal preferences of the individuals involved or their language or place of residence.

As the 20th century began, the settlement and bush living characteristic of Fort Chipewyan's developing socio-economic structure would see three (3) distinct groups in addition to the non-native segment still primarily represented by Company and Church personnel: Treaty Indians belonging to the Cree Indian Band (now the Mikisew Cree First Nation), Treaty Indians belonging to the Chipewyan Indian Band (now the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation) and the Metis.

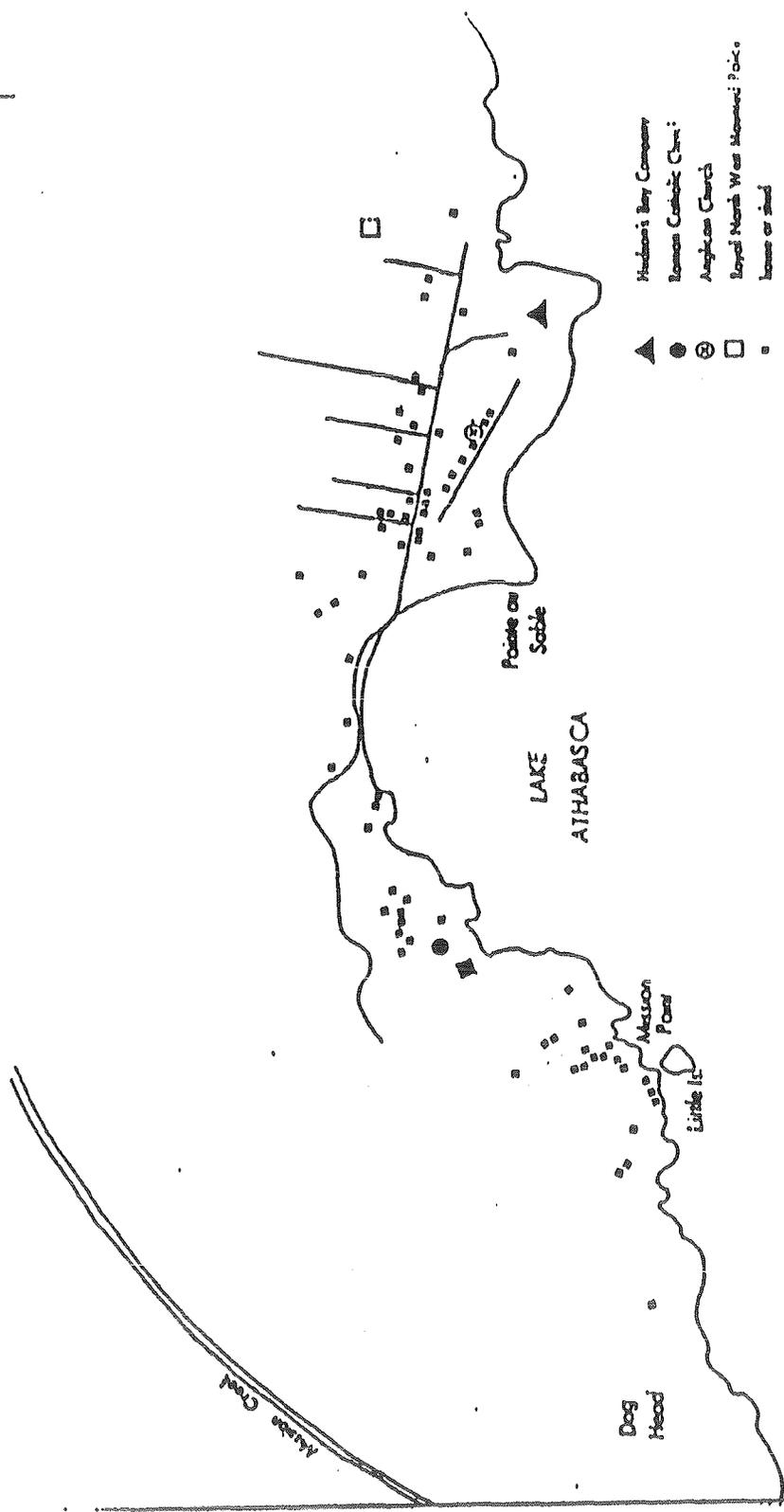
B **Peoples of Fort Chipewyan:**
 Treaty Indians Belonging to the Cree and Chipewyan Indian Bands

The ancestors of the Cree Indian Band were Woodland Cree people belonging to the Algonkin language group. The word "Cree" was anglicized from the French word "Cris" or "Kris" abbreviated from "Kristenaux".

The Chipewyan Indian Band derived its name from the Cree word "Chipwayanawok" which apparently described the pointed deerskin shirts worn as clothing. Another interpretation speculated their name was derived from the peculiar method by which they dried beaver skins. The Chipewyans belonged to the Athabaskan family of languages.

Although the Crees and Chipewyans were, and still are today, distinct entities, their respective histories and roles in the development in and around Fort Chipewyan were so related they are treated together whenever feasible in the following sections. For brevity, the entities are still described as Crees and Chipewyans.

FORT CHIPEWYAN SETTLEMENT PLAN, 1913



Source: Survey by H.S. Day, 1911; E.J. Meade, 1912. Date of Interior Publication 1913

For both the Crees and Chipewyans, Treaty 8 was the way their hunting, fishing and trapping lifestyle would be protected and continued in the face of the economic changes taking place around them. Most still lived in the bush rather than the fort. For them, the fur trade economy was still secondary to their subsistence economy although trade provided them with many goods that had become necessities including the traps, knives, ammunition, twine nets, foods and domestic supplies on which they had come to increasingly depend for their subsistence activities.

Through intermarriages and from economic necessity it was not unusual for the Crees and Chipewyans to share one another's hunting and trapping territories even though they had distinct areas within those territories. Generally, the Crees traditionally inhabited the Lakes Claire and Mamawi areas, Embarras River, Peace Point and lower Peace River areas, Athabasca Delta and those lands to the western edge of present-day Wood Buffalo National Park. The Chipewyans occupied the Delta lands, Old Fort, Jackfish Lake, Lake Athabasca, the area immediately to the west of Lake Claire, Athabasca River and its upper reaches south to Fort McKay. Hunting and trapping ranges would take both groups into what is now the Northwest Territories. Any animosity long put aside, their first request in 1922 for the reserves promised to them under Treaty 8 was done jointly.

At first the Government's attitude towards the Cree and Chipewyans could be described as one of neglect but this stance actually strengthened their traditional ways. They had been told by the Commissioners during the Treaty 8 negotiations they were expected to continue hunting, fishing and trapping. Likewise urged by the Roman Catholic Church, that meant living off the land and remaining in the bush.

Here, the legal distinctions imposed by Treaty took on greater meaning. Not only were the Crees and Chipewyans made separate in the eyes of the law. With their traditional role reinforced, they were made separate in their relations with Fort Chipewyan and effectively left out as participants in the socio-economic development taking place in the settlement.

In the early post-Treaty years there was indeed very little interference with their lives. Contact with Fort Chipewyan was minimal. Gatherings in the settlement still revolved around spring and fall trading and provisioning, religious celebrations at Christmas and Easter, visits to their children at residential school and now the annual Treaty distribution payments.

This separation affected the settlement because Fort Chipewyan diminished slightly in its role and function as the focus of the trading economy. A somewhat stationary lifestyle came into being for the Crees and Chipewyans as evidenced by the many bush settlements formed at various and scattered locations usually on or near major water routes. Many individuals and families resided at those points, cabins were built and semi-permanent communities and camps developed. Both the Hudson's Bay Company and freetraders would "trip" out to those locations to trade with the trappers rather than wait for them to come to them. Small independent trading posts set up at those sites further diverted direct trade away from Fort Chipewyan.

In other ways, too, the legal distinctions brought on by Treaty had made the Crees and Chipewyans separate and different from the rest of the people of Fort Chipewyan. Under federal jurisdiction every aspect of their lives became regulated by the Indian Act and they were treated as wards of the Government unable to manage their own affairs. Their authority was undermined by Indian Agents, the first stationed in Fort Chipewyan in 1932. The elective form of government would replace traditional leadership. Possession and consumption of alcohol was illegal. Voting was prohibited (until 1961). The Catholic Church, now federally subsidized, took over the rearing of their children, often forbidding native languages to be spoken. Even the Government's rules on membership and "descent" gave an outside authority the power to decide who could or could not hold membership within the Bands.

C The Metis

The word "Metis" was from the French and when translated meant "mixed blood", originally denoting French and native parentage. It eventually came to describe any intermarriage between native and non-native people. The term "Half-Breed" was also used.

Those Metis who opted out of Treaty 8 were compensated with scrip provided by the Half-Breed Commission concurrently working with the Treaty 8 Commission. It was a one-time payment issued in certificates for either land scrip or money scrip good for a certain number of dollars worth of land. Each Metis man, woman and child were entitled to it. Once scrip was received, the Metis got nothing more from the Government of Canada.

In 1899, 130 money scrip and 2 land scrip certificates were issued by the Commission in Fort Chipewyan. Their dispositions are not known but several sources indicate many Metis sold their scrip.

Without surveyed lands, it was not possible to redeem any scrip certificates. "The presence of native squatters", one historian noted, was what precipitated the first survey of the Fort Chipewyan settlement in 1911-13. Without it, land titles could not be obtained. From the field notes of the surveyor, 51 of the 71 buildings in the settlement were houses of which only 3 belonged to Treaty Indians. The remaining 48 houses would have been divided between the Metis and non-native population.

Many Metis, because of kinship ties and for economic reasons, like the Crees and Chipewyans, still lived off the land. In earlier days it was difficult to determine their exact numbers since population reports by the Hudson's Bay Company, Catholic Church or the Government had the tendency to count as Cree or Chipewyan any Metis who lived in the bush rather than in Fort Chipewyan. In spite of the legal distinctions imposed by Treaty 8, there was considerable fluidity in Band memberships. Persons and families "living the Indian mode of life" were often added to Treaty rolls.

Throughout Fort Chipewyan's history the Metis had formed a significant part of the fur trade force, filling intermediary roles between trappers and traders as guides and interpreters, and suppliers of food to the Company post. Many were support workers to the missions. From this bridge between native and non-native peoples and the sharing of languages and customs for their mutual benefit developed a distinct cultural identity.

Those Metis who lived in the settlement generally resided in the eastern area. Many remained Protestant in faith, mainly Anglican, having taken the religion of their paternal lineage. Some would become landowners in Fort Chipewyan, presumably following the official settlement survey. Their employment patterns showed more affinity towards non-traditional activities and they were more active participants in the commercial and transportation developments taking place. Some were independent traders and some later worked with the Wood Buffalo National Park Rangers in enforcement. It had been said in 1918 operations of the Hudson's Bay Company trading post were manned entirely by Metis, implying they were assuming more control of the economic affairs of Fort Chipewyan.

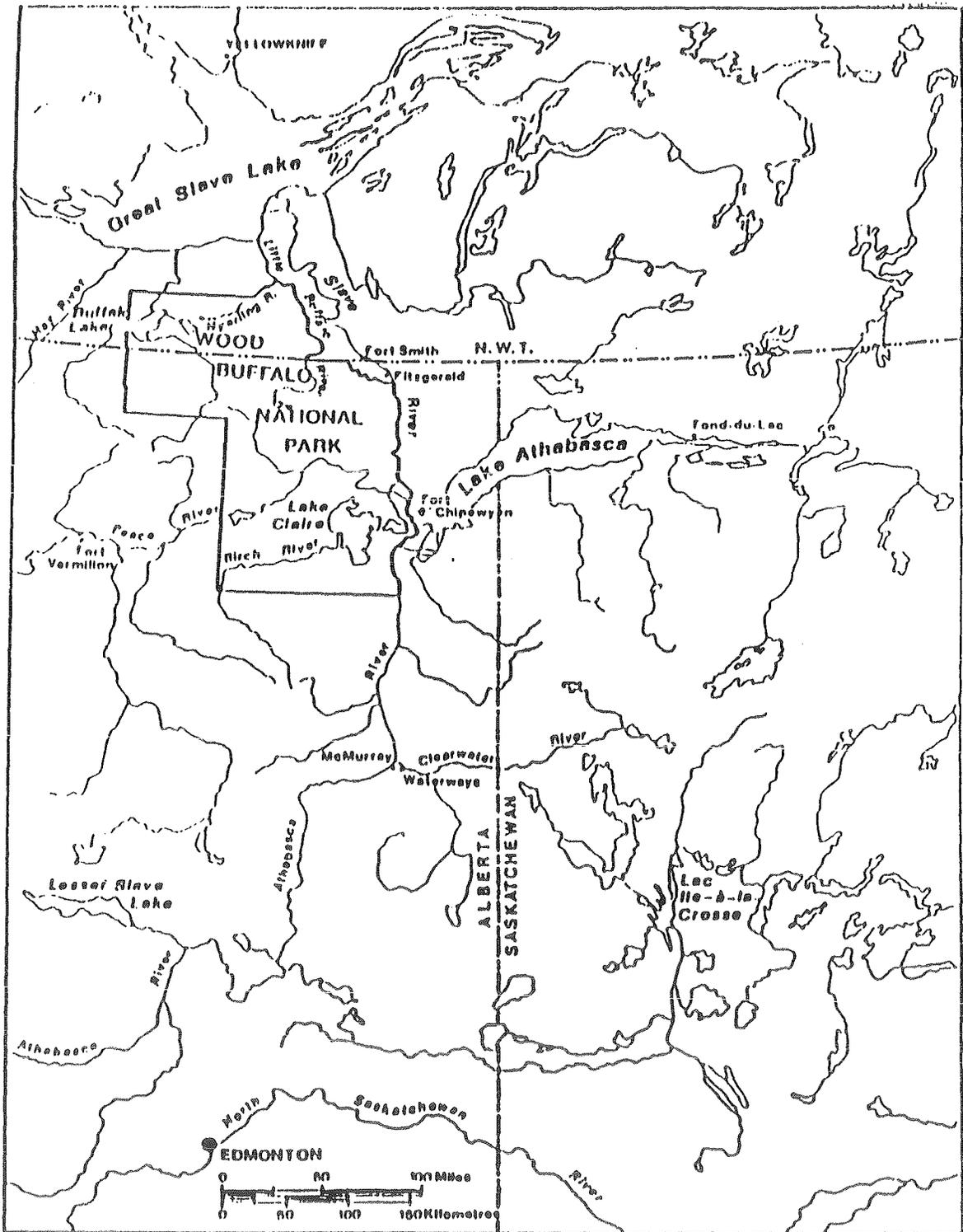
Coming under provincial jurisdiction, the Metis were not afforded the same treatment as Treaty Indians. They had no promise for health care nor did they have reserve lands. Had they fallen victim to unscrupulous scrip speculators they were completely without a land base. As far as education was concerned, there were no subsidies for Metis children. When the Province of Alberta was created in 1905 and the School Act came into being the Metis were again left out. Education was made compulsory but only in organized school districts of which Fort Chipewyan was not one. In comparison to the Crees and Chipewyans, they were looked upon as more independent and not in need of "civilizing" and "assimilating" as it was believed Treaty Indians were.

D Wood Buffalo National Park: 1922 to 1926

In 1922, a matter of months after the Cree and Chipewyans jointly asked for their reserve lands, the Federal Government created Wood Buffalo National Park. The southern boundary of the sanctuary was the Peace River and their request which preceded the existence of the Park could have been acted upon. So as not to violate the promises given in Treaty 8, those Crees and Chipewyans who had hunted and trapped on the lands north of the Peace River were allowed to continue.

Three (3) years later buffalo from Wainwright, Alberta were shipped north to the Park. Historical documentation revealed the transfer had been undertaken to ease the overcrowded park conditions at Wainwright and to ensure a "future source of food supply" for the local hunters and trappers.

By 1926 some of the buffalo had migrated southward, crossing the Peace River into the Lake Claire area, necessitating the southern expansion of Wood Buffalo National Park to its present size. The extension had been vehemently opposed by the Crees and Chipewyans, by the Catholic Church and independent traders in Fort Chipewyan fearing it would create problems for those who lived and worked on the land. The enlargement included the traditional lands of the Crees and went against what they had been guaranteed by Treaty.



When the Crees and Chipewyans first asked for their reserve land entitlement in 1922, the Government of Canada had done nothing. Canadian law did not allow for any reserves within a national park. But, it was believed the reassurances given when the park was established and later annexed, and subsequent legislation would be enough for them to continue their hunting, fishing and trapping pursuits. The Cree people would confine their activities to their lands within the Park to avoid competition from Metis and non-native trappers who had migrated northward in the 1920's.

E Requests for Treaty Reserves

While one arm of the Federal Government was intent on creating the sanctuary for the buffalo, the other arm was concerned with setting aside reserve lands for the Crees and Chipewyans. The Cree people already within the boundaries of the Park found it provided some measure of protection for their livelihood and some security on the lands where they made their homes. By 1928 Cree Band requests for reserves would stop asking for lands outside the boundaries of the Park.

The position of the Chipewyans was different. Under the permit system introduced in 1926 it was illegal to access or use the Park without proper authority. That divided the Chipewyans into two (2) groups: the Park Chipewyans, with access to the Park and the Delta Chipewyans, without. Those delineations were not used officially but are a good description of what had taken place. Those Park Chipewyans would eventually be transferred to the Cree Band lists.

By the 1920's the Athabasca Delta area where the Chipewyans were situated was one of the most intensively trapped in Alberta. The influx of trappers from the south turned to that area when they were excluded from the Park. Poison was in use, over trapping threatened the depletion of the fur resources and the Chipewyans grew increasingly restive over the trespass on their trapping grounds. The game regulations set down by the Alberta Government further aggravated matters.

In 1931, the Delta Chipewyans finally got their reserve lands promised under Treaty. Seven (7) parcels, five (5) along the eastern edge of the Athabasca Delta and two (2) on the Athabasca River at Point Brule and Poplar Point were surveyed. In 1935 the balance of its land entitlement was fulfilled when a large area of water, marsh and reeds in the Peace-Athabasca Delta was delineated. All reserve lands were outside the boundaries of the Wood Buffalo National Park.

Under prevailing Indian Affairs policy, the purpose of reserves was to provide an alternate economic base for Treaty Indian people, and what that meant at the time was agricultural development. But the reserves lands set aside for the Chipewyans were not intended to be the farming reserves typical of southern Treaty areas. The seven (7) smaller reserve allocations were only accessible by water and had been selected to take in homes, gardens and cemeteries. The much larger Reserve #201 in the Delta had no farming potential. Yet, it was "the best revenue producing tract in the north country" for fur bearing animals and game birds which afforded sustenance and revenue to the Chipewyans.

F Bush to Settlement Living

The rules of the game, so to speak, were drastically changing and brought related changes in population movement off the land and into the Fort Chipewyan settlement. Increasingly restrictive Park management policies were among the first agents to seriously influence relocation of the Cree people:

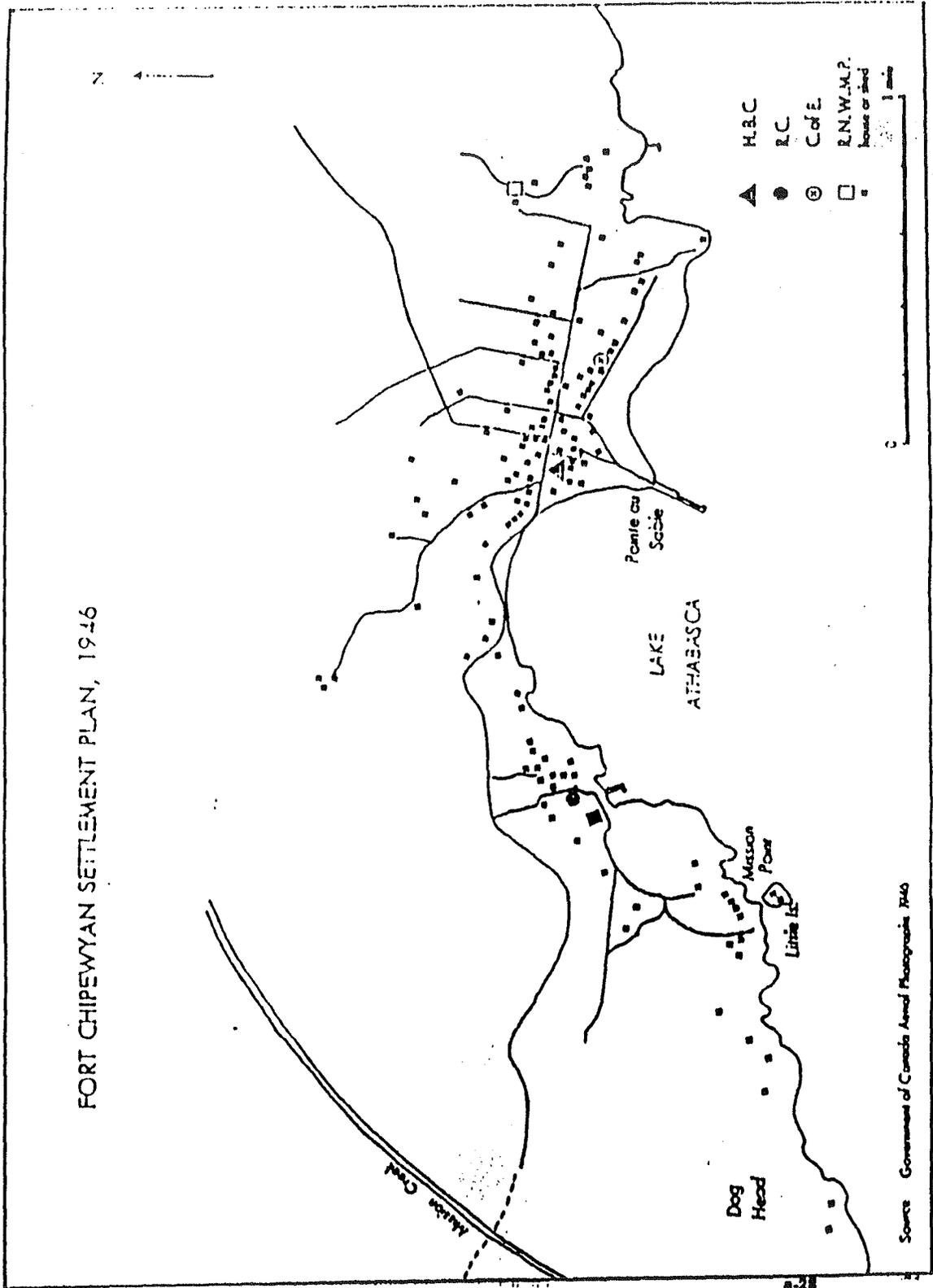
- * Permit system controlling access to the Park
- * Residency rules of eligibility to hunt and trap
- * Strict enforcement resulting in fines, imprisonment and expulsions from their homelands
- * Restrictions on the building of cabins
- * Arbitrary regulations and decisions without consultation
- * Individual and group trapping areas contrary to communal traditions

Although Park management did see muskrat rehabilitation programs and other conservation measures in the 1920's to 1940's in order to improve the renewable resource base, the interests of other users were allowed. Exploitative activities such as commercial fishing on Lakes Claire and Mamawi contributed to the depletion of fish stocks. Commercial logging, under the rationale of forest management, was allowed. The effects on the wildlife habitat and waterways, for which no trappers received compensation, were given secondary importance to the revenues the Park received.

Conditions were worsened by the drought in the 1930's. The trapping economy was unstable with fluctuations in the number of muskrat and other furbearers. On average muskrat contributed about 70% of the value of all furs taken in the Fort Chipewyan area but in 1930 it was reported that Chipewyan people could not find any place to trap rats. Demand slumped and, in turn, so did prices when fur farms in southern Alberta gained popularity. By 1940 Alberta had blanketed all available provincial lands with registered traplines.

The depressed economic condition coupled with the Park regulations halted the operations of several of the smaller trading posts scattered throughout the Park. Trading became more focused again in Fort Chipewyan where trappers were compelled to take their furs. The bush communities and camps eventually died out. Trappers had no other choice but to use the settlement as the base of their hunting and trapping operations, if given the instability of the industry they were able to get credit to get outfitted.

FORT CHIPEWYAN SETTLEMENT PLAN, 1946



Due to the inability of the traditional resource base to sustain them, wage employment provided attractive opportunities. The Indian Agent in Fort Chipewyan encouraged wage labor in the commercial fishing and logging operations. They provided a more stable income, supplementing and eventually replacing trapping as a living source as did the recently started gold mining operations in Saskatchewan. Park management provided employment with its brushing, road building and later in the construction of the corrals and abattoirs for the buffalo slaughter program.

One historian, in her doctoral thesis concluded "1944 and 1945 stand out as the years when Indians were forced into wage labor because the land could no longer support them. Jobs were usually obtained through the Indian Agent". In his report on the visit to the Chipewyan reserve in the fall of 1945 Agent Stewart wrote "most of the men are away working". Commenting further, he observed "The Indians are very hard up in this district".

One of the duties of the Indian Agent was dispensing family allowance, coming into effect in 1945, followed shortly by Old Age Pension. To qualify for family allowance children had to be attending school and living at home in the settlement. No allowance was given for children at the Holy Angels Residential school. This economic incentive starting mothers leaving the traditional bush settlements and taking up residence in Fort Chipewyan. To accommodate their wives and children, trappers eventually built shacks for them and themselves stayed for longer periods.

The availability of medical assistance helped make Fort Chipewyan appealing. From 1932 to 1942 all the agents were physicians. Administrative duties further entailed acting as mediator and advisor on hunting and trapping issues in dealings with the Park, persuading parents to put their children in school and monitoring attendance reports.

The role of the local Indian Agent had grown significantly and touched on every facet of the lives of the Cree and Chipewyan people. Other responsibilities included issuing rations and assistance to the aged, sick, widowed and needy. Often the agent, as would the resident priest, appeal to the Park authorities for the re-instatement of canceled permits. Unable to support themselves, the "punishment" of those Cree trappers had left them and their families destitute and forced to rely on rations and financial aid from the agent.

IV ACCELERATED GROWTH: 1945 TO 1969

- 1947** 50% of the area of Wood Buffalo National Park burned by forest fires
- 1948** McInnes Products started commercial fishing operations on Lakes Mamawi and Claire in Wood Buffalo National Park
- 1949** Group and individual registered trapping areas introduced in Wood Buffalo National Park
- 1950** First local phone line installed
- 1950-1967** Wood Buffalo National Park buffalo slaughter program in effect
- 1951** Peace River Sawmill opened in Wood Buffalo National Park
- 1953** Mining operations began in Uranium City, Saskatchewan
- 1954** Federal Department of Indian Affairs assumed responsibility for schooling of Roman Catholic students
- 1955** Nursing services set up in the Indian Affairs office
- Swanson's sawmill began operations in Wood Buffalo National Park
- 1957-1958** Five year plan of road construction began in Wood Buffalo National Park
- 1958** First health center/nursing station established
- Hudson's Bay Company fleet ended 135 years of service on the Athabasca-MacKenzie navigation system
- 1958-1959** Indian Affairs began its residential off-reserve housing program
- 1959** Department of Indian Affairs opened Bishop Piche School as a day school
- Canadian Utilities Limited, now Alberta Power Ltd., built first central power generator, replacing small generators to individual buildings
- 1960** Holy Angels Residential School remodelled into a full student residence
- 1961** Electric lights installed in some homes
- Northland School Division formed
- Alberta Department of Lands and Forests built an airstrip south of the present location of the curling rink
- First show hall opened
- 1963** Vocational wing jointly sponsored by Indian Affairs and Northland School division added to Bishop Piche School

- Circa 1964** Community Development Association formed
- 1966** Airport, at its present site 7 kilometers northeast of the settlement, officially opened
- Pacific Western Airlines began thrice-weekly service to and from Edmonton
- Circa 1967** Winter road between Fort Chipewyan and Fort Smith opened
- 1967** Water levels on Lake Athabasca lowered and a chain reaction in the entire ecological system resulted from the regulation of water by the W.A.C. Bennett Dam completed on the headwaters of the Peace River in British Columbia
- Cremetchip co-op store opened and Athabasca Fishing Cooperative formed
- Official opening of GCOS plant north of Fort McMurray, renamed to Suncor in 1979
- 1968** First waterline and treatment plant established
- 1969** Townsite survey completed
- Adult upgrading, Newstart program, inaugurated by Advanced Education, closing 2 years later

IV FORT CHIPEWYAN: ACCELERATED GROWTH 1945 TO 1969

From the beginning the fur trade was the reason for Fort Chipewyan's existence. Based on the relationship between trader and trapper, the trading economy in Fort Chipewyan was heavily dependent upon the subsistence economy. When troubles in the subsistence economy made it unproductive and unprofitable, the relationship was disrupted severely affecting the other sector and its purpose as the trade center.

The function of the Fort Chipewyan trading post had become outdated. In 1923 the watch tower built about 1812 was dismantled and in time "the palisades were replaced by fences". In 1939, except for the chief factor's residence, the Hudson's Bay Company's fort buildings were torn down. In their place, a short distance to the west of the original trading post, a modern retail store was built. With the introduction of the cash economy by some free traders and the disappearance of "Made Beaver" as the means of exchange, the system of credit and bartering had broken down.

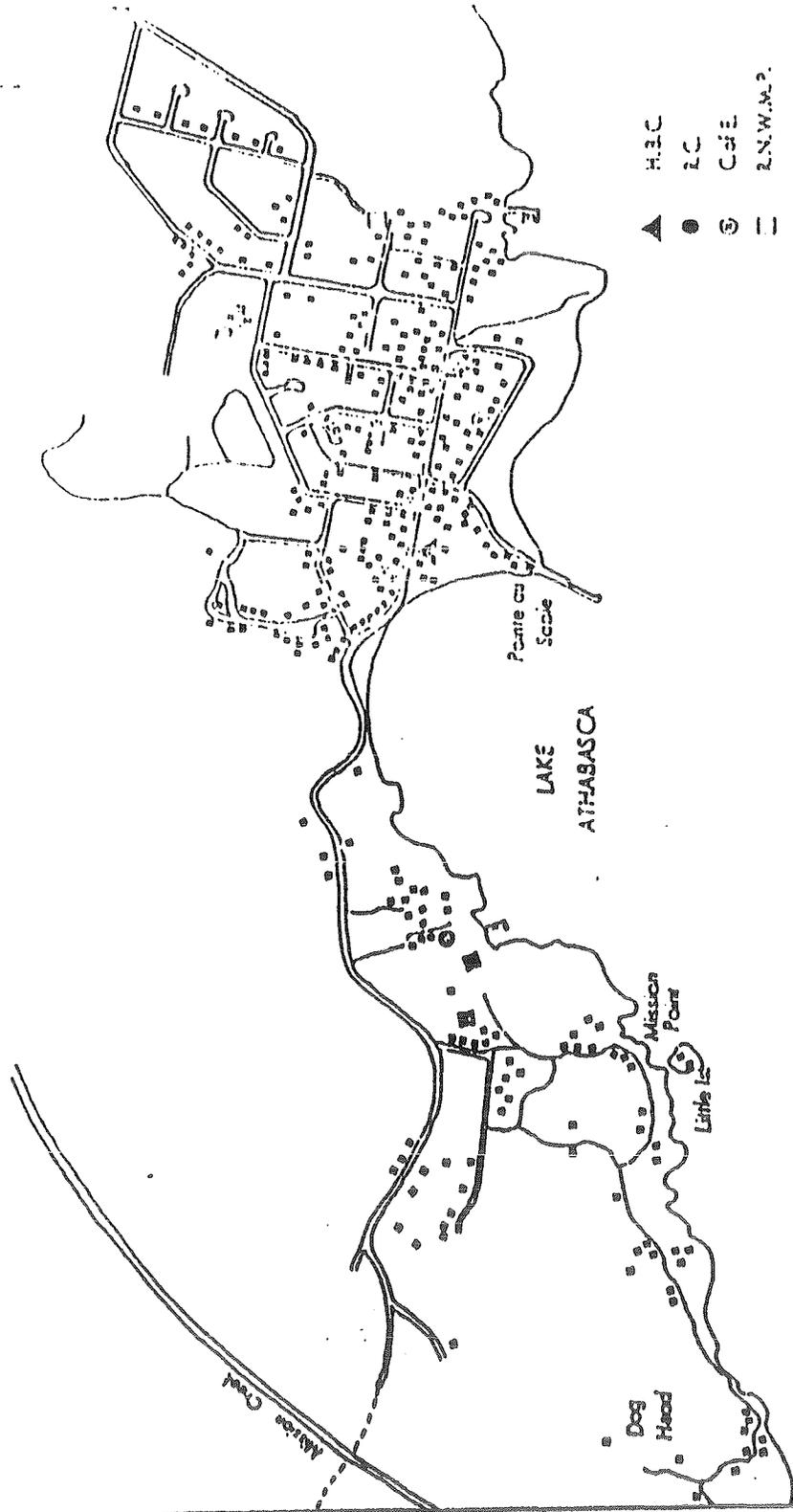
The fur trade had overshadowed practically all other economic activities and had set the pattern of socio-economic life and development in Fort Chipewyan. Now that it was obvious the fur resources could not be completely depended upon, Fort Chipewyan had to adjust. Commercial fishing, forestry and mining operations and brushing and road building programs in the Park not only provided semi-permanent employment opportunities but gradually changed the function of Fort Chipewyan into that of a service center.

By the 1960's, indicative of the more active involvement of government in northern affairs, a number of agencies and offices were established. They included the federal Departments of Indian Affairs, Transport, Health and Welfare, Parks and Public Works, and the provincial Department of Lands and Forests. Work for these agencies and offices would become a significant sector of the local economy although most of the management and supervisory positions were initially taken up by non-local personnel.

The transition experienced by Fort Chipewyan showed in the make-up of the population and in the spatial growth of the settlement. Historical records indicated in 1941 the socio-economic structure differed little from earlier times. A small number of Hudson's Bay, church and government persons were permanent residents, some 400 to 500 of "mixed ancestry" were semi-permanently living in the settlement "during some seasons" while the Crees and the Chipewyans lived away most of the time.

The settlement in the eastern area showed the beginnings of a street plan. Around and to the west of the western Mission site, the buildings were spaced irregularly upon the rocks with footpaths linking them to the main road.

FORT CHIPEWYAN SETTLEMENT PLAN, 1971



Source: Government of Canada Aerial Photographs, 1971

By the late 1960's Fort Chipewyan's settlement patterns showed a dramatic increase in population. It indicated a denser concentration of homes in the eastern segment where Fort Chipewyan's developing service infrastructure was concentrated....electricity (1959-61), telephones (1962), airstrip (1966), and first waterline and treatment plant (1968). Situated also were the Indian Agent's office, health care nursing station and the hospitality and recreation services provided by the cafe and showhall. In 1969 Fort Chipewyan was laid out as a regular townsite with surveyed lots, key-hole crescents and main street.

In the less developed area to the west, the number of houses around the Mission had risen in number. More were found along the lakeshore and among the granite areas to the north of the Mission. Houses were expanding into the area known as Doghead.

For the first time in its history, persons of non-native origin formed a declining proportion of the settlement's resident population. Since 1944 when memberships of many of the Chipewyan Band members were transferred to the Cree rolls, the Cree people have remained the largest population in Fort Chipewyan.

Possibly the most single agent of influence during the transition years was the Department of Indian Affairs. In addition to the small number of elderly, sick and infirm who had begun to build small cabins in the settlement around the Mission or the fur trade compound, gradually the Cree and Chipewyan people had shifted their residence to Fort Chipewyan to access the medical, educational, relief and financial assistance from the Agent. With the availability of welfare as an alternative to the land-based way of life, residence sharply increased to settlement living.

Throughout those years of economic and social change, Indian Affairs brought about its own systems to support the new economy and lifestyle. Fort Chipewyan essentially became the reserves of the Cree and the Chipewyan people and infrastructure more commonly associated with conventional reserve development took place in the settlement. In the case of the Chipewyan people, reserve development was displaced from their reserves since the nature of those lands and the distance involved rendered it costly and impractical. In the case of the Cree people, reserve development occurred in the absence of their reserves, predating their reserve establishment by almost half a century.

To meet housing demands, Indian Affairs began its residential housing program in 1958-1959. Funding provided for the construction of houses that met certain minimal standards and favored places in the settlement where schools, medical facilities and utility services were available or feasible to install. Since the inception of the program Indian Affairs became the principal landowner of Crown lots in Fort Chipewyan on behalf of the Crees and Chipewyan members. Off-reserve residential lots for the "Treaty houses" were purchased throughout the settlement.

When the 1951 Indian Act made education compulsory, Indian Affairs built Bishop Piche School, a day school, and teacherages on the property purchased from the Catholic Church adjacent to the Mission site. Much later (1978) the educational complex had a waterline, sewage treatment facility and fuel tank farm installed at its expense as well as development of the road connecting the school with the rest of the settlement.

Reminiscent of earlier fur trade days when Fort Chipewyan was divided along bush living and settlement lines, most of the development undertaken by Indian Affairs occurred in the west end and reinforced that division and the differences between them. Education was where Fort Chipewyan became split among Roman Catholic and Protestant factions. In 1945 Anglican schooling came under provincial control when the public school district was formed. Secularization meant school taxes supported the public school and the Catholic residential school lost its provincial subsidy for Metis and non-Treaty students. Three (3) schools less than (2) miles apart were in operation under the authorities and decisions of Indian Affairs, the Roman Catholic School Board and the newly formed Northland School Division.

V MODERN ERA: 1970 TO 1995

- 1970** Commercial fishing on Lake Athabasca closed due to low water levels
- 1971** Northland School Division built new public school
- Peace-Athabasca Delta Project initiated by the Government of Canada, Alberta and Saskatchewan to investigate the low water levels in Lake Athabasca, their cause and their effect upon the Delta and the local people.
- 1972** First pre-school program organized
- Dore Lake recreation area made accessible to the public
- Environment office opened to monitor fluctuations in water levels throughout the Peace-Athabasca Delta
- 1973** Curling rink built
- 1974** Holy Angels Residential School closed after 100 years
- 1975** Main dock completed
- Opportunity Corps began service
- Weirs built on the Rocher and Coupe Rivers to control and regulate drainage of Lake Athabasca
- First high schooling offered at Bishop Piche School (grades 4 to 12) while the public school offered grades 1 to 3
- 1976** First grade 12 graduation in the community
- First TV reception via satellite on CBC Vancouver
- Holy Angels school demolished
- 1977** Keyano College of Fort McMurray started upgrading program for adult students
- 1978** Roads paved from the airport, the main road as far as Bishop Piche School in the west end
- Indian Affairs installed waterline from the downtown core to Bishop Piche School, and constructed teacherages, its own sewage treatment plant and fuel tank farm
- New RCMP barracks and post office completed
- Official opening of Syncrude oil sands plant north of Fort McMurray
- 1979** Mikisew Cree First Nation and Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation organized as separate administrative entities
- Education North Society formed

- 1981** New nursing station and apartment residence, forestry office and Mamawi Community Hall opened
- Sidewalk built from the downtown settlement to Bishop Piche School
- Bishop Piche School destroyed by fire and replaced by another
- Suncor oil spill in Fort McMurray affected water and fish
- 1982** Water and sewage systems hooked up except for the western portion of the community
- Commercial fishing canceled due to oily taste in the fish attributed to an oil spill
- Ayabaskaw Senior Citizen's Home officially opened
- Northern Transportation Company Ltd. discontinued most of its barge service on Lake Athabasca
- 1983** Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation proceeded with its first ever election, ending the hereditary system of leadership
- Modern water treatment facility completed
- 1985** Justin Martin/Alexander Laviolette Multiplex, housing the administrative offices of the Mikisew Cree and Athabasca Chipewyan First Nations, Keyano College and numerous provincial government departments opened
- Delta Native Fishermans' Association opened fish packing plant
- Athabasca Delta Community School, modelled after the Hudson's Bay Company trading post, consolidated kindergarten to grade 12. Tuition agreement between both First Nations, Indian Affairs and Northland School Division reached so all Treaty Indian students could attend.
- 1986** Mikisew Cree First Nation concluded its Treaty 8 Land Entitlement Settlement, ending more than 60 years of negotiation with the Federal Government. Terms included nine reserve sites, one in the west end of Fort Chipewyan known as Doghead, one at Peace Point in Wood Buffalo National Park and one to the northeast of the settlement; hunting and trapping rights re-affirmed to 3 million acres in the southern portion of the Park known as Traditional Lands; and, financial compensation in lieu of not taking all lands to which it was entitled.
- Residents of Fort Chipewyan bulldozed through 200 kilometers of bush, snow and ice to build the winter road to Fort McKay
- 1987** Fort Chipewyan Tourist Lodge opened
- 280 kilometer winter road from Fort Chipewyan to Fort McMurray opened
- 1988** Nunee Health Authority established offering community based health awareness and preventative programs as well as regular medical and referral services
- Athabasca Tribal Corporation (ATC) formed

Athabasca Native Development Corporation (ANDC) formed with Syncrude, First Nations from Fort Chipewyan, Fort McKay, Fort McMurray and Anzac, and 6 Metis locals in northeastern Alberta to expand business, employment, education and training opportunities

- 1988-1989** Survey of Mikisew Cree First Nation lands completed
- 1990** Interpretive Center (museum) opened on the site where original Fort Chipewyan post stood
- 1991** Water Conference held in Fort Chipewyan attended by leaders and community members, Federal and Provincial Governments, environmental and native organizations resulting in the creation of the Northern Rivers Basin Study
- 1992** Water treatment facility upgraded
- 1993** Peace-Athabasca Delta Ecosystem Management Program (PAD) created consisting of the Mikisew Cree and Athabasca Chipewyan First Nations, the Metis Local, the Governments of Canada and Alberta and BC Hydro to look at ways to restore the role of water in the Delta
- Way of Life Study between the community of Fort Chipewyan and B.C. Hydro formed to identify the social, economic and cultural impacts of the Bennett Dam and reach agreement on appropriate B.C. Hydro contribution to Fort Chipewyan
- 1994** Better Education Society for Tomorrow (BEST) created to investigate community control of local education
- 1995** Municipality of Wood Buffalo formed including Fort Chipewyan and region in Ward 2: Local Advisory Board under Improvement District 18N dissolved
- Contact Air solely owned by the Mikisew Cree First Nation operated regional airline in northeastern Alberta with regularly scheduled passenger and freight service, and courier, charter and medivac services
- Roman Catholic priest departed, ending more than 150 years of residency
- Sahpohtawahk ("a way through") Training Center, registered as a private accredited school, opened by the Mikisew Cree First Nation
- Satellite campus of Saskatchewan Indian Federated College established with Bachelor of Education Program at the Sahpohtawahk Training Center
- Fort Chipewyan without staples such as milk and bread when smoke from southern forest fires grounded regional air freighting

V MODERN ERA: 1968 TO 1995

Fort Chipewyan as it unfolded was the conclusion of a series of historical events influencing, persuading and forcing the development of the community. In a matter of a couple of decades Fort Chipewyan was transformed into a modernized settlement.

Historical development of Fort Chipewyan had certainly created distinctions between the Cree, Chipewyan and Metis people. The differences had been real enough, maintained in socio-economic, educational and religious activities, residence patterns and in cultural expression. But, when it came to the relationship amongst the people themselves, the dividing lines between the groups were not absolute.

Community spirit was shown in the 1960's with the Community Development Association. The Cremetchip Association succeeded in having the townsite survey completed, the CO-OP store opened in competition with the Hudson's Bay Company outlet, and the Athabasca Fishing Cooperative (1967) was started. In later years, cooperative efforts among the groups realized infrastructure expansion as the community hall (1981), seniors citizens home (1982) and the interpretive centre/museum (1990).

Although the influence of governments is still present, the groups have worked together and are involved in the delivery of education for the benefit of everybody regardless of the distinctions imposed by law. From the earlier pre-school and adult training and upgrading programs to the Athabasca Delta Community School (1985) to the Bachelor of Education program (1995), the once pronounced differences have little meaning. Schooling incorporates the best of both worlds, combining academic curriculum with relevant programming including Cree and Chipewyan languages and native skills and crafts. Although Northland School Division remains the head office for education, the locally elected school board provides for community input. The recent Better Education Society for Tomorrow (BEST) is representative of community members pooling their efforts for full local control of the education system.

Fort Chipewyan had been slow in diversifying into other economic activities mainly due to the lack of a sound alternative base, start-up dollars, absence of managerial skills, and the high cost of transportation. Some joint efforts between the groups met with success, like the tourist lodge built in 1987 and the fishermen's association, and some did not, like the granite quarry. Overall Fort Chipewyan has benefitted minimally from regional development and the "boom" times in and around the larger centers to the south. Until recently residents had to relocate to Fort McMurray to take advantage of employment opportunities in the oil sands industry. Commercial fishing continues each year, and trapping is marginal. The greatest asset possessed by Fort Chipewyan, made all the more attractive by inaccessibility by all-weather road, is eco-tourism and marketing of the natural resources.

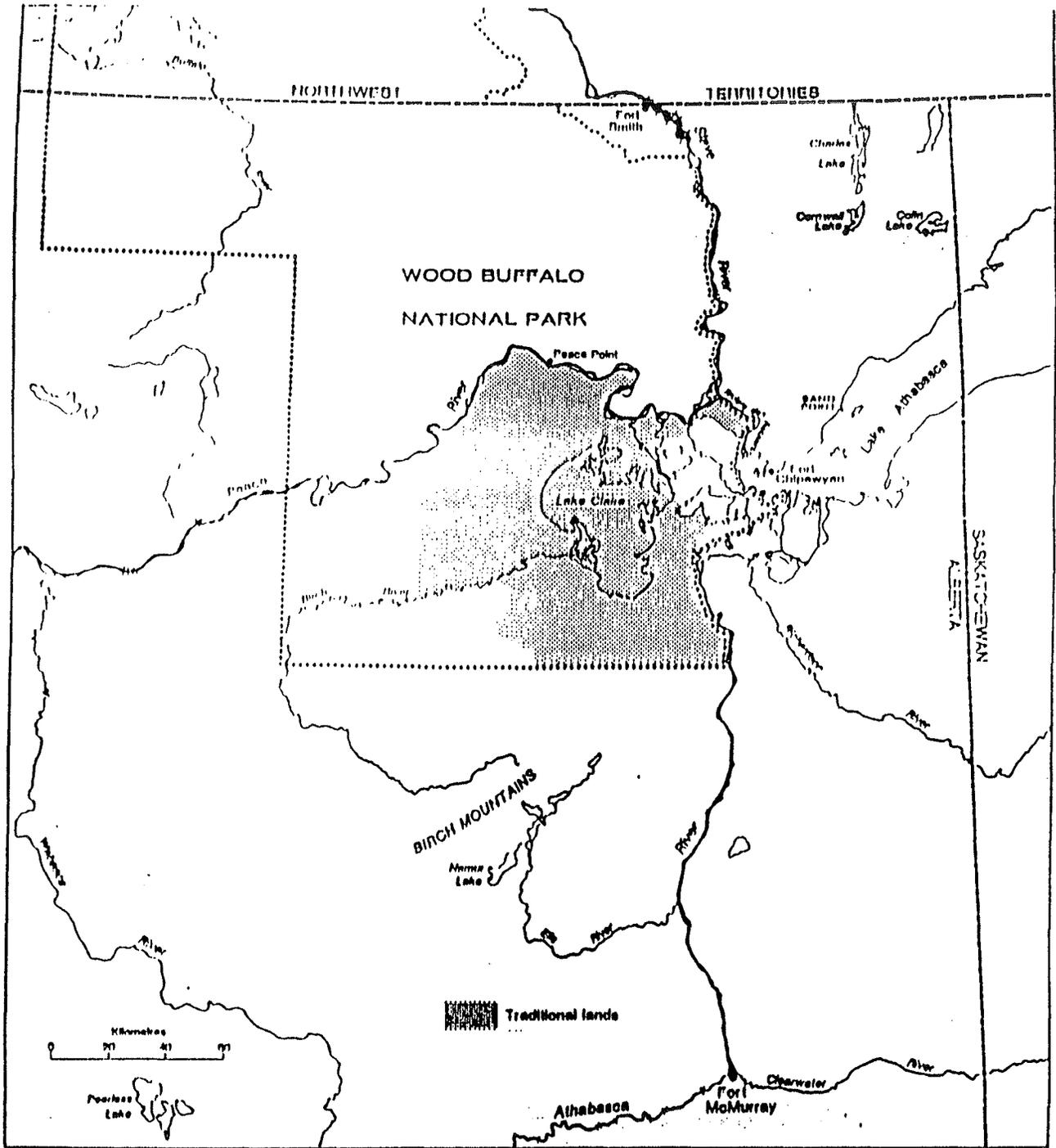


Figure 1.
 Traditional Lands (area granted for the exercise of traditional hunting, fishing and trapping rights)
 a-40

Politically the three (3) groups in the community have their own identities. The Cree people belong to the Mikisew Cree First Nation, named after their first Chief "Mikisew" or "Eagle" in 1899. Since its 1986 Treaty Land Settlement this First Nation's substantial financial resources has enabled it to become what has been referred to as the "mover and shaker" in Fort Chipewyan. Driven by its Vision 2000, it is the active owner of and participant in numerous business ventures both in Fort Chipewyan and in the region, primarily for its own membership but continually aware its socio-economic initiatives benefit the whole community. Its newly established Sahohtawahk Training Center (1995), a private accredited school, is one example of the Mikisew Cree First Nation's dedication to the human resource development of Fort Chipewyan.

The second largest group is the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation. Like its Cree counterpart, the designation "First Nation" has been adopted to shed the trappings of old Indian Affairs Band terminology. Similar to the Mikisew Cree, this First Nation's mandate is to realize self-government. Joint undertakings between the First Nations have been in real estate, housing, office development such as with the Multiplex (1985) and in the area of education.

The Metis are the smallest group forming Local #124 of the Metis Association of Alberta. Recent changes in the 1985 Indian Act have resulted in the reinstatement of status to many Metis people to either the Cree or Chipewyan memberships.

Distinct as they are legally and culturally, in the political arena the emergence of strong leaders from each of the groups has united Fort Chipewyan on many fronts. Viewpoints may differ but through representation on boards, dialogue and open communication the interests and concerns of the community are addressed. One only has to look to the Justice Advisory Committee, the Nunee Health Authority or the numerous other boards and associations formed which have increasingly assumed and continue to assume, the management and decision-making responsibilities once held by outsiders. Until the recently amalgamated Municipality of Wood Buffalo, the elected Local Advisory Board determined development in the community.

Despite the enormous changes and the growing pains Fort Chipewyan has gone through in a relatively short period of time, the one predominant thread in the fabric of Fort Chipewyan is respect for the environment. Alternative economic opportunities may present themselves and the socio-economic structure of the settlement has accordingly been undergoing transformation. But, in the hearts and minds of the Cree, Chipewyan and Metis people who call Fort Chipewyan and area their home, their relationship with the land, the water, the wildlife and the resources, upon which their entire history, and future, is premised, remains their first and foremost priority.

The agendas of the political leaders are very often taken up with matters concerning the environment. The groups are involved with the Northern Rivers Basin and other studies. There is tripartite involvement in remedial projects aimed at restoration of water in the Peace-Athabasca Delta and their active participation in numerous socio-economic assessments is indicative of their stakeholder status.

History has taught valuable lessons. The development of Fort Chipewyan was determined by outsiders who looked upon the lands, its resources and water merely as commodities to be exploited. With the WAC Bennett Dam completed in 1968 in British Columbia as a contemporary case in point, there was no consultation with the people of Fort Chipewyan nor, in hindsight, did there appear to be much consideration even shown towards their interests. B.C. Hydro's actions so severely deteriorated water levels in the Peace-Athabasca Delta the effects of the chain reaction on the entire ecosystem are still being felt today and attempts to rectify some of the damages are being tried.

Especially since the Bennett Dam disaster, plans for the hydro-electric dam on the Slave River, the anticipated Alsands project, the construction of pulpmills upstream on the Athabasca River and proposed expansions to the oil sands plants have understandably been viewed with hesitancy and question. When it comes to their concerns about the environment and protection of its precious ecosystem, there are no dividing lines between the groups in Fort Chipewyan.

VI SUMMARY REMARKS

The historical development of Fort Chipewyan was indeed fascinating. Its direction and growth were the cumulative effects of decisions and policies in which the peoples of Fort Chipewyan were not consulted or actively involved. Given the prevailing political, economic, social and religious thinking in earlier years, those decisions and policies, although well-intentioned in some respects, were not always in their best interests.

Today, the hamlet of Fort Chipewyan has a population of roughly 1400....800 Cree people, 250 Chipewyan, 180 Metis and 170 making up the balance of the populace comprised of the RCMP, Parks, Fish and Wildlife, Forestry, teaching and nursing citizens. There is no all-weather road access to the community nor is there a local newspaper or radio station. Unless a satellite dish is owned, the extent of television reception is CBC North from Vancouver. There is no resident doctor or dentist nor are there many of the businesses and services most people elsewhere take for granted. Amenities are confined to the eastern end of the community while the western end still relies on trucked water and sewage facilities. Some of the street names, like Bannock and Lard Avenue, serve as reminders of its colorful past.

This does not mean to imply Fort Chipewyan is a museum showpiece nor is it anyone's intention to make it one. What it means is that links to the past are strong and form an integral part of present affairs and development of the community. Its history was interesting, not only because of the physical way it evolved but because of the Cree, Chipewyan and Metis groups which emerged from that process. The groups were made to be distinct. But, throughout Fort Chipewyan's historical development, it was the sobering reality the groups lived together and many of their problems and concerns were the same that made, and continues to make, their role and relationship unique.

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CHAPTER TWO

LOCAL ECONOMICS

LOCAL ECONOMICS

The economics of Fort Chipewyan has an origin that predates the establishment of the community (1788) and understandably is just as complex as its history. However, there are four predominant factors that have greatly influenced the evolution and development of the present economic basis of the community. These factors, in turn, do shed light on the economics of Fort Chipewyan and provide some measure of insight into the dynamics surrounding this area of interest. The factors are presented with consideration and illustration of major historical trends leading up to modern times. With this in mind, these factors are presented as follows:

1 Regional Characteristics

Originally, the region was characterized by vast tracts of virgin northern forests on the rugged geography of the Canadian Shield. Situated in the heart of the third largest delta in the world, the area was a maze of waterways, rivers and lakes that supported an abundance of wildlife, birds and fish. Remote but accessible by numerous primary rivers and chains of lakes, the region attracted and sustained the interests of early explorers and trappers (pre-1778). In short, the area once served as the basis for a substantial fur trade industry and continued exploration of the north.

The economics of the region was driven primarily by the fur trade industry well into the early part of the 1900's. By the mid-1900's the regional fur trade industry had lost most of its momentum due to several mitigating factors. With the gradual development and industrialization of the south came the inevitable pollution and waste from the numerous communities established on the main tributaries leading to Lake Athabasca (the Athabasca and Peace Rivers). This pollution and waste that was dumped into the rivers had a cumulative destructive effect on both the ecology and the environment of the region. This negative impact was further aggravated with the opening of the Bennett Dam in 1968 which dramatically affected the water levels of the delta. Together with the anti-fur lobby groups and the subsequent decline in the demand for fur products spelled the end to the once illustrious fur industry of the region. By the early 1970's, the community that had served for nearly two hundred years as the headquarters for the regional fur industry and its residents who were primarily involved in such, were forced to change and develop alternate economic activities and pursuits.

2 Geographical Location

Situated in the heart of the Athabasca Delta which in the past served as the regional basis for a host of fur trading companies and explorers, Fort Chipewyan eventually lost its prominence to the massive settlement and development of the south. The geographical characteristics which were once so conducive to the development of the settlement and the fur industry presented barriers that made the infrastructure development of the region economically unfeasible. Since its establishment, the community could only be reached by long canoe trips that were often interrupted by numerous and arduous portages. From then in 1788 to the 1990's this situation had not changed much except today Fort Chipewyan is accessible by plane and motorized water crafts in the warm seasons and a winter road in the cold seasons for vehicular travel.

Although the geographical factor translated into higher costs for goods, services and community infrastructure, the local economy has evolved on a regional basis. Albeit, the local economy is primarily driven by providing goods and services for the residents and the numerous government agencies based in the community, it is also greatly influenced and developed by the regional interests of the different stakeholder groups of Fort Chipewyan. Over time, the difficulties of the isolation factor have been largely overcome by the specific principal entities of the community who are now beginning to realize substantial economic benefit from invested interests in the region, specifically in the city of Fort McMurray. In a ironic twist of fate, the community has evolved from a base for a fur trade industry to one with an economy that is becoming more and regionally integrated.

3 The Indigenous People

The presence of the Indigenous people in the region has played a direct role in the development of the unique economic nature of the community. The original people once played a major role in the fur trade industry and the exploration of the region. With the development of Canada as a country came the establishment of treaties with the Indigenous people and unique legislation to govern this particular area of interest. In the later part of the 1890's Treaty #8 was signed between the indigenous people of this region and the Canadian Government.

During the early part of the 1990's, the first Indian agents arrived and soon after programs and services directed at the Indigenous target group were instituted in the community. Over the years the Federal Government Department of Indian and Northern Affairs provided a substantial amount of funds for programs, services and community infrastructure development in Fort Chipewyan on a continuous basis for the Indigenous groups. The economy of Fort Chipewyan during the 1920's to the 1960's had gradually changed from servicing the fur trade industry to a government agency based one that provided employment, goods and services for the Indigenous people. By the 1990's these Indigenous groups had evolved to the point where they manage their own affairs and resources. Comprising 90% of the local population, these principal entities have a great bearing on the local and regional economics. Today, the Indigenous people again, as in the past, are the major principals, participants and basis for the local economy.

4 Regional Resources

In the late 1880's and early 1990's both the Federal and Provincial Governments recognized the value of the rich and vast resources of the region. It was during this period numerous departments and agencies from both levels of government established offices in Fort Chipewyan to administer, service and protect regional resource interests. This had a tremendous impact and influence on the local economics of Fort Chipewyan in terms of increased demand for goods and services and the creation of employment opportunities for the residents. A tightly administered and controlled agenda of regional resource exploitation and development by these government agencies over the years had some spin off economic benefits for the community. Other than the oil sands projects of the immediate south, there has been no sustained resource development in the region.

It should be noted that during these times, the Indigenous groups of Fort Chipewyan have initiated comprehensive plans for the eventual development of the local tourism industry to take advantage of the greatest resource of the region, the natural beauty of the heart of the Athabasca Delta, the third largest of its kind in the world.

Notwithstanding all of the aforementioned, the economy of Fort Chipewyan can best be summarized as one that is predominately government and community service industry based. The local economic base of the community can be illustrated through the following sectors:

Governmental Industry

Seemingly complex on the surface, this is the first and major industry of the local economic base of the community. The best approach to illustrating the nature and dynamics of this sector is to present it by the different governmental entities existent in Fort Chipewyan at present.

1 Federal Government

This level of government maintains a presence in the community and directly impacts on the local economics through the following agencies:

a Wood Buffalo National Park

Provides permanent employment for several local residents in addition to an average annual number of twelve seasonal positions. This agency also employs up to eight permanent positions for people who are from outside the community. Maintaining offices and facilities in Fort Chipewyan the operations of this agency pumps roughly 1.5 million dollars into the local economy.

b Health and Welfare

Through the local Nunee Health Authority, Health and Welfare provides funds to ensure the health and health related requirements of the residents are addressed. This agency provides over twenty permanent positions and adds 1.4 million dollars annually into the local economy.

c Royal Canadian Mounted Police

A long time resident federal agency that employs one local person on a full time basis and provides part time work for four others. Usually complimented with a staff of four constables this agency contributes approximately half a million dollars annually to the local economy.

Indirectly, the Federal Government impacts on the local economy through the following entities;

d Department of Indian and Northern Affairs

Provides the programs, services and O & M funds to the Mikisew Cree First Nation and the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation who are based in the community. On an annual basis, this federal department provides a combined annual total of nine million dollars to these First Nations' respective governments and sustains close to one hundred permanent employment positions. The operations of the two First Nations provides the greatest spin-off economic benefits and impacts for Fort Chipewyan. (O & M -Operation & Maintenance)

e Coast Guard Canada

Despite the fact this federal agency contributes nothing to the local economy directly, it does provide a service that has a major impact and bearing. It is responsible for ensuring the Athabasca River is dredged to allow the summer season barging service Fort Chipewyan relies on for transporting needed materials and goods from Fort McMurray to the community. The locally owned barge service employs 5 - 7 people on a seasonal basis.

2 Provincial Government

The Alberta Provincial Government maintains a strong presence in the community and directly impacts on the local economics through the following agencies:

a Alberta Forestry

Responsible for administering, managing and protecting those forest tracts in the region under provincial jurisdiction, this agency provides permanent employment for three people and up to fifty seasonal positions. Annually this agency can impact on the local economy from five hundred thousand dollars to two million dollars depending on the number of forest fires occurring during that particular year.

b Alberta Environment

An agency that is primarily responsible for monitoring the annual levels and quality of the delta water systems. Employing several people, this agency contributes half a million dollars into the local economy.

- c Alberta Fish and Wildlife**
Primarily responsible for enforcing provincial hunting, fishing and trapping regulations and compliance with such this agency employs one full time position and adds roughly one hundred thousand dollars into the local economy.
- d Alberta Transportation**
Employing several people on a full time basis and up to five seasonally, the mandate of this agency is to maintain the permanent roads of Fort Chipewyan. It also contributes one million dollars annually to the local economy.
- e Other Alberta Provincial agencies**
The Alberta Solicitor General, Social Services, Heritage and Child Welfare, Motor Vehicle Registration and Health Care all constitute a part of the provincial participation in the local economy and collectively provides permanent employment for several people.

3 First Nations

By far the largest contributors and participants in the economics of Fort Chipewyan, the impact of the two First Nations is illustrated as follows:

- a Mikisew Cree First Nation**
Alone, this First Nation commands the largest share of the local economy. Over and above the Federal Government's contribution to its operations, programs and services the Mikisew Cree First Nation's socio-economic portfolio has a combined net worth of over thirty five million dollars that is increasing at an average annual rate of seven percent. With several of its businesses already firmly entrenched in the community, the Mikisew Cree First Nation has been aggressively and astutely developing a regional agenda. Currently, several of its' corporations are performing and operating at excellent levels in the city of Fort McMurray. Collectively, the business interests of the Mikisew Cree First Nation employ close to two hundred people which translates into an annual impact on the local economy of roughly five million dollars. With a focus on the tourism industry the Mikisew Cree First Nation continues to explore those opportunities that will enhance its vision of economic and social independence by the year 2000.

b Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation

The Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation has utilized innovative methods of establishing its presence in both Fort Chipewyan and Fort McMurray. Outside of the funding it receives from the Federal Government, this First Nation has succeeded in developing and establishing significant business interests on one of its' reserves and in Fort McMurray. The businesses of this First Nation employs a total of approximately twenty people with an annual impact of close to half a million dollars to the local economy.

4 Education

Through a master tuition agreement between the two First Nations, the Federal Government (Indian Affairs) and the Provincial Government (Northlands School Division) community education is a prime component of the local economic base of Fort Chipewyan. Together with the Keyano College and the Mikisew Cree First Nation's Sahnpohtawahk Training Center, the education sector provides permanent employment for close to sixty people and contributes approximately three million dollars to the local economy of the community.

The remainder of the economic base of Fort Chipewyan can be described as quite mixed and as a rule small in terms of size and impact. The elements of this part of the economy can be illustrated in the ensuing:

Traditional

The history and impact of this sector is well described and chronicled in the previous chapter. Today, the number of residents involved in traditional occupations is very minimal, although interestingly enough, a majority of the employable residents maintain ties with such through ownership of permanent traplines and cabins on the delta. The fur trade, trapping, hunting and fishing industries are still existent today and continues to comprise a marginal part of the local economy and as a supplement source of income to the full time jobs of the participants. Characteristic of this sector is its seasonal nature with up to thirty people involved in commercial fishing in the spring and roughly a hundred people in the trapping industry during the winter seasons. Combined the contribution of traditionally based industries contributes close to half a million dollars to the local economy.

Local Businesses

Not including those owned and operated by the Mikisew Cree First Nation there are over thirty community based businesses. With the exception of the Northern store, they are quite small in terms of their operations and gross annual revenue. Seven are retail in nature and the remainder are in the service industry. Combined they impact on the local economy in the range of 3 to 3 1/2 million dollars annually with the bulk of their combined performance being the result of the Northern Store's operations and retail sales. The total of the labor force of these businesses is approximately one hundred people.

Conclusion

In summation, Fort Chipewyan, as a whole, is committed to strengthening socio-economic ties and involvement in the region. The priority of the principal groups of the community is to continue to enhance their position as major stakeholders in the region for the purpose of maintaining awareness of any socio-economic opportunities that may arise and to ensure some measure of participation in these and long term benefits from such.

Acutely aware of the tourism industry potential of the immediate area, the principal groups of the community have already laid the ground work required for its proper development. The Mikisew Cree First Nation is actively exploring opportunities for the major development of primary businesses at the local level, specifically in the communications sector.

The principal groups of the community are committed to the development of their local human resources to assume, first, their own affairs and business, secondly, the administration and management of the many government agencies based in Fort Chipewyan.

The economy of Fort Chipewyan can best be described as closely related and interwoven, vibrant and healthy. Growing at a significant annual rate Fort Chipewyan, through its people, will eventually achieve an economic presence and role in the region that will better that of its past.

CHAPTER THREE

EMPLOYMENT AND WORK FORCE

EMPLOYMENT AND WORK FORCE

If the extreme socio-economic changes Fort Chipewyan has experienced over the last one hundred years is considered in its' full context, the present employment situation of the community can be viewed as a testament to the resilience and resourcefulness of the residents. Like the history of the community, there are prevailing factors that have a major bearing on the present employment and work force circumstances of Fort Chipewyan.

These factors, in turn, must be referred to and taken in full consideration in the determination and development of any socio-economic demographic reporting for the community. Currently there are serious variances between the available employment and work force figures that are reported for the community by numerous governmental agencies. This is indicative of the fact conventional information gathering methods, instruments and processes that were utilized could not capture this data which has resulted in the major differences in all areas of socio-economic statistical reporting for Fort Chipewyan. In all fairness, the determination of the present employment and work force situation of the community was, in all likelihood, beyond the scope and budget limitations of the numerous and different population related studies that have been conducted over the last four years.

A comprehensive analysis and research exercise that took into consideration the most critical socio-economic factors was conducted for this report to determine and develop the most accurate employment and labor force statistical report possible within the budget and time restraints of this project. The two factors that were incorporated illustrated in the following two sections;

a Relocation Trends

The existence of the relocation trend or factor is often referred to by many population studies which at the same time do not offer any statistical figures for such. In the majority of the studies indication of this factor was utilized to justify either the potential softness or variances in the figures reported. Also, this trend is often referred to as the transient element of the total population of the community. The relocation trend is an important factor that was treated with full consideration of the impact it can have on final statistical reporting.

Analysis of this part of the local population revealed that the primary reason for their relocation movements was to take advantage of employment opportunities located outside of Fort Chipewyan or the region. In respect to this fact, the majority of these jobs were temporary in nature at the end of which the local would relocate back to their hometown of Fort Chipewyan.

The research conducted for this section was based upon an time consuming and exhaustive analysis of the membership lists of both First Nations and the identification of those members who had recently moved out of the community within the year. The findings of this analysis revealed the following had relocated during the last year for employment reasons;

i	Mikisew Cree First Nation	85
ii	Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation	30
iii	Metis Local	5

The end total of **120** residents who had relocated for employment reasons is taken into full consideration in the illustration of the final figures for the employment and work force of the community. A fact that must be emphasized at this point is the fact the majority of these positions (**82**) are based in the city of Fort McMurray.

b **Seasonal Employment Trends**

A factor that had to be indicated for this report is the predominate seasonal employment trends that have always been characteristic of Fort Chipewyan. The seasonal figures had to be factored in the final illustration of this section to provide a clear understanding of why the employment and labor force data is so variant. These trends are based on the following two sectors of the local economy;

i **Commercial Fishing Season**

Usually opened during the middle of May and ending by the end of June of each year, the commercial fishing season provides temporary seasonal employment for an annual average of **30** local commercial fishermen.

ii **Fire Fighting**

Alberta Forestry provides forest management and protection services for this region and on an annual average, depends on the numbers and severity of the forests fires, employs **35** resident professional firefighters. The fire season for this region is usually from the spring to fall months of the year.

1 **The Local Work Force**

The base figure for the total work force of Fort Chipewyan that was determined and developed for this report is as follows;

- a **750 (+/- 50) employable persons**
- b **Base population of 1500 (+/- 50) residents.**

2 **Total of Existing Local Employment Positions**

A comprehensive study was undertaken to identify and inventory the total of the existing jobs in the community according to the following sectors; The actual inventory is provided at the end of this chapter.

a	Government Agencies	58 (35)
b	Mikisew Cree First Nation	103
c	Community Businesses	84 (30)
d	Community Agencies	21
e	Community Education	31
f	Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation	7

The figures in the brackets are the seasonal figures factored in. The total of these employment positions are presented both with and without the seasonal factors adjusted in;

i)	Total Positions	304
ii)	Seasonal Adjusted Figure	369

3 Total Adult Student Figure

The total number of adult residents currently enrolled in the community education institutions is **145** and are enrolled in either of the following;

a	Sahpohtawahk Training Center (MCFN)	93
b	Keyano College	52

4 Syncrude Employees

A total of **27** residents are employed by Syncrude Canada Ltd. who are rotated in and out of the community on a regular basis.

5 Traditional Occupations

The total number of residents who are involved in traditional occupations trapping and non-commercial fishing either on a full or part time basis is approximately **40 (+/- 5)**.

A The Local Employment Rate

The employment rate that was determined and developed for this report is illustrated through the following two positions that are based upon the incorporation or exclusion of the relocation factor into the totals of the figures provided in the aforementioned 2 through to 5 inclusive (516). Also, the rates for each position are presented to reflect both non-seasonal (**ns-516**) and seasonal (**s-581**) employment adjustments.

The high, medium and low figures are provided to emphasize the variance factor that is characteristic of Fort Chipewyan's population.

#1 Inclusion of the Relocation Factor

The employment rate that incorporated the Relocation Factor of 120 and treated this number as part of the total work force. The scope of the range is from a high of 920 to a low of 820 employable people.

a	High	(920)	56.1% ns	63.2% s
b	Medium	(870)	59.3% ns	66.8% s
c	Low	(820)	62.9% ns	70.8% s

#2 Exclusion of the Relocation Factor

The employment rates provided in this section utilizes a total work force number that is less the Relocation Factor of 120 people resulting in a high of 800 to a low of 700 employable people.

a	High	(800)	64.5% ns	72.6% s
b	Medium	(750)	68.8% ns	77.5% s
c	Low	(700)	73.7% ns	83.0% s

1 Averaging

An averaging of the medium work force figures provided in #1 (870) and #2 (750) was carried out to provide a percentile that in the opinion of the author would reflect the most accurate employment rates that currently prevails in the community of Fort Chipewyan. Averaging of these figures based on a work force of 810 employable people resulted in the following;

a	Non Adjusted Employment Rate	63.7%
b	Seasonally Adjusted Employment Rate	71.7%

B The Local Unemployment Rates

The unemployment rate situation of the community of Fort Chipewyan is provided as follows;

a	Non Adjusted Unemployment Rate	36.3%
b	Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate	28.3%

Although the unemployment rates of Fort Chipewyan are substantially higher than the national unemployment average of 14% what must be pointed out that there is no industrial, commercial or manufacturing industries in the local economic base of the community. The only real connection to industries of any nature is through an inter-regional network that is characterized by costly transportation factors which are greatly offset by a combination of local ownership of an airline, excellent stakeholder relationships and the success of community based corporations that primarily service the oil sands industries.

C Classification of Local Employment Positions

The classification of the community employment inventory was conducted according to acceptable industry standards and in conjunction with the designation groupings utilized in the Local Employment Inventory. The minimum basic education and/or skill requirements for each positions was determined and classified accordingly. The findings of this study is provided in the following summaries;

1	High School Diploma or Equivalent		38
2	Trades (Journeyman/Apprentice)		43
	a Journeymen	28	
	b Apprentices	6	
	c Cooks	9	
3	Technical/vocational		47
4	Heavy Equipment Operators		11
5	Post Secondary		67
	a Education	20	
	b Engineering	2	
	c Social Work	3	
	d Social Sciences	5	
	e Administration/Commerce	9	
	f Resource Management	7	
	g Health Sciences	7	
	h Criminology/Law Enforcement	4	
	i Anthropology	2	
	j Unknown	8	
6	Specialized Training		38 (35)
	a CHR's	3	
	b Addictions Counseling	3	
	c Membership Clerks	3	
	d Bookkeeping	8	
	e Travel Industry	1	
	f Fire Fighting Training	(35)	
	g Loss Management	1	
	h Building Supplies Sales	1	
	i Inventory Control	3	
	j Outdoor Guide	1	

7	Computer Training		3
	a	Desk Top Publishing	1
	b	Computerized Accounting	2
8	No Education Requirements		47 (30)
	a	Custodial	10
	b	Commercial Fishermen	(30)
	c	Facility Maintenance	2
	d	Security	3
	e	Office Clerks	3
	f	Store Clerks	2
	g	Cashiers	1
	h	Waitresses	2
	i	Construction Labor	5
	j	Drivers	7
	k	Secretarial	1
	l	Baggage Handler	1
	m	Chamber Maid	1
	n	Dispatchers	2
9	Unknown		10

D Summaries of Community Sector Inventories

The inventory of the total number of employment positions currently existent in the community of Fort Chipewyan was developed according to the sector of origin. The seasonal factor adjustment figures were duly noted in brackets to preclude any likelihood of misinterpretation of the final figures for each corresponding sector. The findings are provided in synoptic form in the summaries for the following sectors of the community;

1 Government Agencies

There is a total of nine government agencies with offices established in the community. Of these, the Federal Government has three agencies and the Province of Alberta has six agencies.

Combined these agencies provide a total of **58** permanent positions.

The Alberta Forestry hiring of an average of **35** fire fighters on an annual basis contributes to the seasonal adjustment factor for this sector of the community. The seasonally adjusted employment inventory for this sector is **93**.

These totals are classified by employment requirement designations according to the following;

a	High School Diploma	3	
b	Trades	8	
c	Technical/Vocational	10	
d	Heavy Equipment Operators	4	
e	Post Secondary	22	
f	Specialized Training	8 (35)	
g	Computer	0	
h	No Education Requirement	2	
i	Unknown	1	
>	Number of positions occupied by a local		38
>	Number of positions occupied by an outside person		20
>	Number of positions applicable to oil sands industry		22

2

Indigenous Groups

a Mikisew Cree First Nation (MCFN)

The largest single employer in the community, this First Nation employs a total of **103** people through the following sectors of it's community;

i)	MCFN Government	31
ii)	MCFN Businesses (6)	55
iii)	MCFN Education Department	17

The total of these figures are illustrated in the following summaries;

a	High School Diploma	18
b	Trades	19
c	Technical/Vocational	15
d	Heavy Equipment Operators	4
e	Post Secondary	23
f	Specialized Training	16
g	Computer	3
h	No Education Requirement	6
>	Number of positions occupied by a local	83
>	Number of positions occupied by an outside person	20
>	Number of positions applicable to oil sands industry	78

b Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation

Considerably smaller in size both in terms of population and economic resources than the MCFN, the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation is nevertheless a major stakeholder in the community and employs a total of seven people. The classification for these positions is as illustrated;

a	High School Diploma	1
c	Technical/Vocational	4
e	Post Secondary	1
f	Specialized Training	1
>	Number of positions occupied by a local	7
>	Number of positions occupied by an outside person	0
>	Number of positions applicable to oil sands industry	0

3 Community Businesses

There are **36** businesses currently based and operating in Fort Chipewyan. However, for this section the six MCFN corporations are excluded in the statistical reporting and the summaries are based upon an analysis of the remaining **30** local businesses. The corresponding **55** MCFN corporate employment inventory statistics are provided to ensure the situation for this area is presented in it's entirety. Combined, the community and MCFN businesses support **139** positions. The thirty businesses provide employment for 84 people with a seasonal adjustment of **30** that is directly attributed to the local commercial fishing industry that operates for only a few months of the year. The statistics for this sector are provided in the ensuing summaries; (*13 unknowns)

	Community Businesses (30)	MCFN (6)	Totals	
a	High School Diploma	15	15	30
b	Trades	11	19	30
c	Technical/Vocational	9	4	13
d	Heavy Equipment Operators	3	4	7
e	Post Secondary	4	7	11
f	Specialized Training	4	4	8
g	Computer	0	0	0
h	No Education Requirement	25 (30)	2	27
>	Number of positions occupied by a local	62	46	124
>	Number of positions occupied by an outside person	22	9	29
>	Number of positions applicable to oil sands industry	16	43	115

4 Community Agencies

There are five community agencies operating in Fort Chipewyan that provide a combined total of 21 positions. The classification of these in turn is provided in the following summaries;

a	High School Diploma	1
b	Trades	2
c	Technical/Vocational	5
d	Heavy Equipment Operators	0
e	Post Secondary	2
f	Specialized Training	3
g	Computer	0
h	No Education Requirement	8
>	Number of positions occupied by a local	19
>	Number of positions occupied by an outside person	2
>	Number of positions applicable to oil sands industry	3

5 Community Education

Although there are four community based education institutions the Sahnpohtawahk Training Center was included in the MCFN inventory to underscore the significance of this First Nation as a stakeholder and contributor. The corresponding MCFN Education inventory statistics are included to present this sector of the community in its' entirety

The remaining three employ a total of 31 people whose positions are classified as provided in the following summaries;

	Community Education		MCFN	Totals
a	High School Diploma	2	1	4
b	Trades	3	0	3
c	Technical/Vocational	3	4	7
d	Heavy Equipment Operators	0	0	0
e	Post Secondary	15	7	22
f	Specialized Training	2	2	4
g	Computer	0	1	1
h	No Education Requirement	6	2	8
>	Number of positions occupied by a local	17	12	29
>	Number of positions occupied by an outside person	14	5	19
>	Number of positions applicable to oil sands industry	0	4	4

E Local Labor Force Relevancy to the Oils Sands Industry

The summary results of the research directed at the determination of the relevancy of the community's local labor force to the oil sands industry indicates that of the 304 positions a total of 120 are applicable. These results are presented as a point of reference in the following summaries;

1 Relevancy Totals by Designation

a	High School Diploma	17
b	Trades	31
c	Technical/Vocational	22
d	Heavy Equipment Operators	11
e	Post Secondary	17
f	Specialized Training	11
g	Computer	2
h	No Education Requirement	9

Additionally, these results are expanded to show their respective community sector origin to support the premises of the interpretations provided in the discussion. A summary of the expanded results are illustrated;

Legend

1. Designations:

a	High School Diploma	hs
b	Trades	t
c	Technical/Vocational	v
d	Heavy Equipment Operators	ho
e	Post Secondary	ps
f	Specialized Training	st
g	Computer	c
h	No Education Requirement	ne

2. Sector Origin:

1	Government Agencies	ga
2	Mikisew Cree First Nation	mcfn
3	Community Businesses	cb
4	Community Agencies	ca

2 Relevancy Totals by Sector Origin

<u>Designation</u>	<u>ga</u>	<u>mcfn</u>	<u>cb</u>	<u>ca</u>	<u>Totals</u>
hs	0	16	1	0	17
t	6	18	5	2	31
v	10	9	2	1	22
ho	4	4	3	0	11
ps	1	15	1	0	17
st	1	10	0	0	11
c	0	2	0	0	2
ne	0	4	5	0	9
Totals	22	78	17	3	120

Statistical Relevancy Percentile:

a	Non Adjusted Employment Rate Relevancy	39.5%
b	Seasonally Adjusted Employment Rate Relevancy	32.5%

3 Determination of the Applicability Factor

A perfunctory review of the applicability figure result totals of **120**, either by designation or sector origin, would appear to indicate that a significant percentage of the total employment inventory (**ns-304** and **s-369**) of Fort Chipewyan have the required prerequisites to be relevant to the oil sands industry.

However, a more definitive approach based on the current background status of each of these positions was applied to develop a more accurate indication of the relevancy numbers. The background criteria utilized to establish position's applicability was based on one or a combination of the following;

- a** Public Servant (Federal, Provincial and First Nation)
- b** Keyman
- c** Employment Marketability

The findings of this exercise is illustrated in the following summaries;

The adjusted Statistical Relevancy Percentile at this point is as illustrated; (67 minus 6 = 61)

- (a) Non-Adjusted Employment Rate Relevancy **20.1%**
- (b) Seasonally Adjusted Employment Rate Relevancy **16.5%**

c **Skill Level**

Of the remaining **61** applicable positions **22** fall into the low entry employment market levels and these in turn are broken down into the following;

- i) For 16 positions, the employees are working on a part-time basis toward obtaining high school diplomas to qualify for entry into the apprenticeship program of their career objectives. All of them are employed on a full time basis as trades helpers until they qualify for their apprenticeship programs. In light of the fact all of these employees do not have their high school diplomas, they cannot be counted because they do not meet the minimum oil sand industry employment entry standards.

- ii) 6 positions do not set any education prerequisites and are classified accordingly;
 - 1 bus driver
 - 2 Janitor/custodians
 - 3 security guards

The current practice of the oil sand industries is to contract for these types of services. The 6 positions were also excluded because they are not directly applicable.

d **The Actual Statistical Relevancy Percentile**

The totals of the following were deducted from the original applicability figure to determine the actual Statistical Relevancy Percentile for the employment inventory and work force of Fort Chipewyan to the oil sand industries; (120 minus 81 = 39)

- i) Public Servants **53**
- ii) Keyman **6**
- iii) Skill Level **22**

- (a) Non-adjusted Employment Rate Relevancy **12.8%**
- (b) Seasonally Adjusted Employment Rate Relevancy **10.5%**

F Local Work Force Enhancement Requirements

With respect to the unique economic and work force situation of Fort Chipewyan, the enhancement requirements of such demands a two point discussion to address the objectives of this profile project. The deficiencies of the local work force, in general terms, is categorized as per the following;

- a Local Enhancement Requirements (Local work force)
- b Relevancy Enhancement Requirements (Oil sand industry)

1 Local Enhancement Requirements

A prevailing characteristic of the local work force is the fact that **26%** or **78** out of **304** positions is staffed by an employee who is not originally from Fort Chipewyan. Further to this, there are **67** positions classified as professional with a majority of these in the administrative and management categories. The most dominant indicator of this classification is the fact that **68%** or **46** out of the **67** are staffed by an outside person.

At one point in the history of the community all of the key administrative and management positions were held by outside people. These people were making decisions and enforcing policies that did not provide inclusion for local input or participation in the decision making process. Over the years this has changed significantly, most notably in the early sixties when both First Nations took charge of their own administration from the department of Indian Affairs. By 1995, considerable progress had been achieved by the community stakeholders in the staffing of the key decision and management positions with their own people. However the prevailing intent of the community stakeholders is the enhancement of the local work force toward the eventual takeover of the key decision and management positions in all sectors of Fort Chipewyan.

In retrospect, the "Outsider Factor" has always made Fort Chipewyan difficult to understand in terms of discerning the prevailing trends and establishing genuine community consensus. The objective of the local stakeholders to change this situation should insure primary decision making and the management of community affairs and evolution toward the desires of the indigenous inhabitants.

2 Relevancy Enhancement Requirements

It is important to note, for the purpose of this report, the prevailing intents socio-economic agendas of the respective community stakeholders. Albeit, the indication of the areas wherein the local skills and training requirements toward the oil sands can be illustrated by correlating the data of local work force inventories to the labor force of the oil sand industries, it is the opinion of the author the prevailing community economic philosophies, presented hereinafter, would be more applicable to this report.

a Regional Stakeholders

The common denominator in the socio-economic philosophies of the primary entities of Fort Chipewyan is the objective of advancing and entrenching their positions as primary stakeholders in the region. The underlying purpose of the community stakeholders achieving this level of status is to ensure their desired degree of participation and input in the regional policy formulation and decision making process in governmental and private sectors.

b Regional Presence

Developing and maintaining a strong regional presence is critical to the stakeholders of Fort Chipewyan in view of their socio-economic needs. With respect to the absence of any significant type of industrial or manufacturing elements to the local economy, the impetus to developing and instituting strong regional bonds becomes clear. This presence, in turn, is critical to supporting both the level of awareness of socio-economic opportunities and ensuring the potential for participation in such.

c Regional Economic Priorities

The parallels between the dominate economic objectives of the stakeholders of Fort Chipewyan to the primary industries of the region are quite pronounced and alike in nature. A case in point, the economic strategies of the different community entities are mainly focused on meaningful and equitable participation in the oil sand industries which serve as the major elements of the regional industrial sector. Thus, the regional economic priorities of the stakeholders of Fort Chipewyan are motivated and driven by the oil sand industries.

G The Emerging Work Force of Fort Chipewyan

In point form the emerging work force of Fort Chipewyan, those residents who will be attaining the employment age of 18, is illustrated by the major stakeholder groups of the community. The justification for utilizing the age of 18 as the employment entry level starting point is based on the Provincial legal definition for an adult. These figures are derived from the community demographic data provided in Chapter Five of this report.

a	Mikisew Cree First Nation	40
b	Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation	13
c	Metis of Fort Chipewyan	9
d	Rest of the population	8

It is estimated that the total of the new additions to the local work force by the end of 1996 will be approximately **70 (+/- 5)** people.

H Local Employment Inventory

1 Designations

a	High School Diploma	hs
b	Trades (Journeyman/apprentice)	t
c	Technical/Vocational	v
d	Heavy Equipment Operator	ho
e	Post Secondary	ps
f	Specialized Training	st
g	Computers	c
h	No Education Requirement/Laborer	ne
i	Unknown	u

j	Original or permanent resident	L
k	Person not from the community	O
l	Skill requirements applicable to oil sands industry	A

m	Education/Training Requirement	Ed/Tr
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A Government Agencies

No.	Position Description	Local	Outsider	Applicable	Ed/Tr
1. Wood Buffalo National Park					
1-5	Park Wardens	L (1)	O (4)		ps
6-7	Maintenance Workers	L (2)		A	t
8	Secretary/Receptionist	L		A	v
9	Custodian	L			ne
2. Health & Welfare (Nunee Health Authority)					
1-3	CHR	L (3)			st
4	Secretary/Receptionist	L		A	st
5	Medical Filing Clerk	L			hs
6	Administrative RN		O		ps
7-11	RN's		O (4)		ps
12-13	Addictions Counsellor	L (2)			st
14-15	Mental Health Counsellor		O (2)		ps
16	Youth Addictions Counsellor	L			st
17	Intervention Worker	L			ps
18	Secretary	L		A	v
19	Bookkeeper	L		A	v
20	Administrator		O	A	ps
21	Maintenance	L			t
3. Royal Canadian Mounted Police					
1	Staff/Sergeant		O		ps
2-4	Constables		O (3)		ps
5	Auxiliary Constable	L			hs
6	Secretary/Receptionist	L			v
7	Guard	L			ne
4. Alberta Forestry					
1	Senior Forestry Officer		O		ps
2	Forestry Officer		O		ps
3	Secretary	L		A	v
4	Firefighters (Seasonal -35 positions)	L			st
5. Alberta Environment					
1	Administrator	L		A	v
2	Hydrology Technician	L		A	v
3-4	Field Maintenance	L (2)		A	t
5	Secretary	L		A	v
6. Alberta Transportation					
1	Manager	L		A	v
2-4	Operators	L (3)		A	ho
5	Equipment Maintenance	L		A	ho

No.	Position Description	Local	Outsider	Applicable	Ed/Tr
<u>7. Wood Buffalo Municipality</u>					
1	Secretary/Receptionist	L		A	v
2	Water Treatment Maintenance	L		A	t
3	Sewage/Lagoon Maintenance	L		A	t
4	Services Maintenance	L		A	t
<u>8. Alberta Fish & Wildlife</u>					
1	Wildlife Officer		O		ps
<u>9. Alberta Heritage (Museum)</u>					
1	Manager/Curator		O		ps
2	Assistant Curator	L			u
3	Secretary	L			hs

B Indigenous Groups

No.	Position Description	Local	Outsider	Applicable	Ed/Tr
1. MIKISEW CREE FIRST NATION (MCFN)					
a <u>MCFN Government Organization</u>					
1-3	Secretary/Receptionist	L (3)		A	v
4-5	Executive Assistant	L (2)		A	v
6	Membership Clerk	L		A	v
7-8	Financial Controller		O (2)	A	ps
9-12	Bookkeepers	L (4)		A	st
13	Bookkeeper -Acct Receivable		O	A	st
14-16	General Bookkeeper	L (3)		A	st
17-18	Department Director		O (2)	A	ps
19	Office Clerk	L		A	hs
20	Secretary/Data Processor	L		A	c/v
21-22	Managers	L (2)		A	ps
23	In House Publishing	L			c
24	Program Coordinator	L			v
25	Social Worker Assistant	L			st
26	Policy Analyst	L		A	ps/st
27	Technical Advisor/Writer		O	A	ps/st
28	Chief Executive Officer	L		A	ps
29-31	Custodians	L (2)		A	ne
b <u>MCFN CORPORATIONS (Fort Chipewyan)</u>					
1. <u>Mikisew Capital Corp</u>					
1	President/CEO	L		A	ps
2	Coordinator -Tourism	L			ps
3	Financial Analyst		O	A	ps
4	Executive Assistant	L		A	ps
2. <u>Fort Petroleum Corporation</u>					
1.	Manager	L		A	v
2	Bookkeeper	L		A	v
3	Fuel Truck Operator	L		A	ho
3. <u>Contact Air (Air Mikisew) Ltd.</u>					
1	Ticket Agent	L			st
2	Baggage Handler	L			ne
4. <u>MCFN Creations & Property Mgt</u>					
1	Manager	L		A	hs

No.	Position Description	Local	Outsider	Applicable	Ed/Tr
5. MSD Corp					
1	CEO		○	A	t
2	Controller		○	A	ps
3	Manager		○	A	t
4-5	Engineers		○ (2)	A	ps
6	Project Supervisor		○	A	t
7	Loss Management Coordinator	L		A	st
8	Cabinet Maker	L			t
9	Cabinet Maker Apprentice	L		A	t
10-18	Carpenter Laborer	L (9)		A	hs
19-22	Journeyman Carpenter	L (4)		A	t
23-24	Apprentice Carpenter	L (2)		A	t
25	Journeyman Plumber	L		A	t
26-28	Apprentice Plumbers	L (2)	○ (1)	A	t
29	Journeyman Electrician		○	A	t
30-31	Equipment Operators	L (2)		A	ho
32	Mechanic	L		A	t
33	Sales Rep	L			st
34	Surveyor	L			v
35	Fencing Tradesman	L		A	t
36	Tool Crib Tradesman	L		A	t
37-41	Laborers	L (5)		A	hs
42	Water/Sewer Operator	L		A	ho
43	Custodian	L			ne
6. Mikisew Coop					
1	Manager	L			v
2	Fur grader/buyer	L			st
c MCFN Education Department					
1	Director		○		ps
2	Office Manager	L		A	v
3	Dean/Principal		○		ps
4-5	Instructor (university)	L (1)	○ (1)		ps
6-7	Ed Facilitators	L (1)	○ (1)		v
8-9	Life Skills Counsellors	L (2)			st
10-11	Coordinator	L (1)	○ (1)		ps
12	Counsellor	L			ps
13	Bookkeeper	L			v
14	Office Clerk	L			hs
15	Computer Technician	L		A	c
16	Custodian	L		A	ne
17	Driver	L		A	ne
**	93 Students				

No.	Position Description	Local	Outsider	Applicable	Ed/Tr
2.	Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation				
a	<u>ACFN Government Organization</u>				
1	Band Manager	L			v
2	Bookkeeper	L			v
3	EDO	L			v
4	Membership Clerk	L			st
5	Secretary/Receptionist	L			hs
6	Housing Coordinator	L			v
7	Social Services Officer	L			ps

C Community Businesses

No.	Position Description	Local	Outsider	Applicable	Ed/Tr
<u>1. Northern Store</u>					
1	Manager		O		ps
2	Assist. Manager		O		u
3	Purchasing		O		u
4	Inventory Management		O		u
5	Bookkeeper	L		A	v
6	Accounts Clerk	L			u
7-11	Cashiers (5)	L (4)	O (1)		hs
12-19	Clerks	L			hs
20	Driver	L			ne
<u>2. Alberta Treasury Branch</u>					
1	Teller	L			st
<u>3. Fort Chipewyan Lodge</u>					
1	Manager		O		v
2	Assist Manager/Bookkeeper	L			v
3-5	Cooks	L (1)	O (2)		t
6	Chamber maid	L			ne
7-8	Bar Tenders	L (2)			st
9	Janitor	L			ne
<u>4. Lakeside Sports</u>					
1	Small Engine Repair Mechanic	L			t
<u>5. Michael Cardinal's Heavy Equipment</u>					
1-2	Heavy Equipment Operators	L (2)		A	ho
<u>6. Clarke Enterprises</u>					
1	Mechanic	L		A	t
2	Heavy Equipment Operator	L		A	t
<u>7. Gerard Enterprises</u>					
1	Barge Operator	L			v
2	Transport Driver		O		u
3	Laborer	L			ne
<u>8. Chadi's Store</u>					
1	Manager		O		u
2	Cashier	L			ne
3	Clerk	L			ne
<u>9. Nugget Restaurant</u>					
1	Cook		O		t
2	Waitress		O		ne

No.	Position Description	Local	Outsider	Applicable	Ed/Tr
<u>10. Mah's Cafe & Arcade</u>					
1	Manager/Cook/Waitress		O		u
2	Arcade/hall manager		O		ne
<u>11. Eli's Arcade</u>					
1	Manager	L			u
2	Cashier	L			hs
<u>12. Eli's Taxi</u>					
1	Dispatcher	L			ne
2-4	Drivers	L (3)			ne
<u>13. Northern Lite's Taxi</u>					
1	Dispatcher	L			ne
2-3	Drivers	L (2)			ne
<u>14. Joe's Laundromat</u>					
1	Owner/Manager	L			u
<u>15. Doghead Store</u>					
1	Owner/Manager	L			v
2	Cashier	L			ne
<u>16. Majic Country Arts & Crafts</u>					
1	Owner/Manager	L			v
<u>17. First Look Hair Salon</u>					
1	Owner/Manager	L			t
<u>18. Sammy's Janitorial Services</u>					
1	Owner/Manager	L			ne
<u>19. Quik Stop</u>					
1-3	Short Order Cooks	L (3)			st
<u>20. Jackfish Lake Potato Farm</u>					
1	Owner/Manager	L			ne
<u>21. J. Rigney Tours</u>					
1	Owner/Manager		O		ps
2	Assist. Mgr/Bookkeeper	L			ps
<u>22. C. Voyageur Tours</u>					
1	Owner/Manager	L			ne
2	Partner	L			ne

No.	Position Description	Local	Outsider	Applicable	Ed/Tr
<u>23. Contact Tours</u>					
1	Owner/Manager		O		v
2	Commercial Pilot		O		st
3	Guide	L			st
<u>24. Mamwai Development</u>					
1	Owner/Manager	L		A	t
2	Bookkeeper	L		A	ps
<u>25. V & L Video</u>					
1	Owner/Manager	L			v
2	Cashier	L			ne
<u>26. Cree/Chip Development/Realty</u>					
1	Manager		O	A	v
2	Secretary/bookkeeper	L		A	hs
3-4	Janitors	L (1)	O (1)	A	ne
5-6	Security Guards	L (2)		A	ne
<u>27. D. L'Heaux Garage</u>					
1	Owner/Mechanic		O	A	t
<u>28. D. Horkas (Carpenter Contractor)</u>					
1	Carpentry Contracting		O	A	t
<u>29. J. Chrupalo (Carpenter Contractor)</u>					
1	Carpentry Contracting		O	A	t
<u>30. Delta Native Fisherman's Assoc (seasonal)</u>					
				30***	
1.	Manager	L			st
2	Bookkeeper	L		A	hs
3-30	Commercial Fishermen	L (30)			ne

D Community Agencies

No.	Position Description	Local	Outsider	Applicable	Ed/Tr
<u>1. Abayaska Elders Home</u>					
1	Manager	L			v
2-3	Cooks	L (2)		A	t
4-5	Housekeepers	L (2)			ne
6-7	Night Security Personnel	L (2)			ne
8	Janitor	L			ne
<u>2. Kewatinok Recreation Society</u>					
1	Manager	L			v
2	Secretary/Receptionist	L			v
3-4	Maintenance Worker	L (2)			ne
<u>3. Fort Chipewyan Employment Outreach</u>					
1	Employment Counsellor	L		A	v
2	Intake & Referral Worker	L			hs
<u>4. Fort Chipewyan DayCare</u>					
1	Manager	L			v
2-4	Day Care Workers	L (3)			st
<u>5. FCSS</u>					
1	Director		O		ps
2	Seniors Coordinator	L			ne
3	Child Welfare Worker		O		ps

E Community Education Institutions

No.	Position Description	Local	Outsider	Applicable	Ed/Tr
1. Athabasca Delta Community School					
1-8	Teachers		○		ps
9-10	Teacher Aids	L (2)			st
11	Principal		○		ps
12	Secretary/Receptionist	L			v
13-16	Custodians	L (4)			ne
17-19	Cooks	L (3)			t
20	Librarian	L			hs
21	Native Liaison Worker	L			hs
22-23	Bus Drivers	L (2)			ne
2. Keyano College					
1	Director		○		ps
2	Secretary/Receptionist	L			v
3-6	Instructors		○ (4)		ps
7	Life Skills Counsellor	L			v
3. Indian Education Authority					
1	Director	L			ps

G MCFN Corporations (Outside of Fort Chipewyan)

For the purpose of this report the corporate and business interest of the Mikisew Cree First Nation must be noted to underscore the importance of the regional stakeholder position, presence and priority cited in part 2, Relevancy Enhancement Requirements, on page c-16 of this chapter.

In synoptic form, the Mikisew Cree First Nation corporate portfolio is controlled and managed under the Mikisew Capital Corporation, which is headquartered on the Allison Bay Reserve, located 7 kilometers from Fort Chipewyan. This portfolio is scheduled to expand significantly during the course of the 1996 but currently includes the following;

- a. Several Corporations wholly owned and managed by the MCFN
- b. Joint ventures with several other firms.
- c. A major investment portfolio

Collectively these corporations and joint ventures provide permanent employment to 100 plus people of which 64 are members of the Mikisew Cree First Nation.

CHAPTER FOUR

THE BUSINESSES OF FORT CHIPEWYAN

THE BUSINESSES OF FORT CHIPEWYAN

There is currently 36 businesses based and operating in Fort Chipewyan. These local enterprises provide a wide range of services and goods that adequately meets the needs of the residents and community entities. The majority of these businesses share a common characteristic which is their adaptability and flexibility toward taking advantage of new economic opportunities. The principal reason why these local businesses are succeeding and able to maintain their continued viability is discussed in the following;

a Regional Network

In addition to deep rooted ties with the community the success of these enterprises is also largely due to their developing and maintaining a comprehensive network throughout the region. The purpose of this networking is to ensure they can, first, sustain an understanding of prevailing regional economic trends, second, ascertain any economic opportunities that arise.

b Regional Participation

A significant number of the local business have achieved a participating role of some degree in the regional economic activity. The most important fact to note is all of the local businesses with regional ties are either directly or indirectly involved with the oil sand industries;

A Inventory of Community Businesses

1 Construction

- a Mistee SeePee Development Corp. (MSD Corp.)
 - i) General Contracting Division
 - ii) Mechanical Division
 - iii) Electrical Division
 - iv) Millwork Division
 - v) Tool & Equipment Rental Division
 - vi) Ready-Mix Concrete Supply Division

- b Fort Chipewyan Building Supplies (subsidiary of MSD Corp.)

- c Clarke Enterprises
- d Michael Cardinal Heavy Equipment
- e Mamwai Developments
- f D Horkas Contracting
- g J Chrupalo Contracting

2 Commercial

- a Delta Native Fisherman's Assoc.

3 Financial Institutions and Services

- a Alberta Treasury Sub-Branch

4 Hospitality

- a Fort Chipewyan Lodge

5 Management and Consulting Services

- a Mikisew Capital Corporation
- b Mamwai Development

6 Real Estate

- a MCFN Property Management Ltd.
- b MCFN Creations Ltd.
- c Cree-Chip Development & Realty

7 Restaurant and Lounges

- a Fort Chipewyan Lodge Restaurant and Trappers Lounge
- b Nugget Restaurant
- c Mah's Cafe & Lounge
- d Quik Stop (fast food outlet)
- e Alice's Restaurant (located in the Multi-plex)

8 Retail

- a Fort Chipewyan Building Supplies
- b Lakeshore Sports
- c Northern Store
- d Chadi's Store
- e Mikisew Coop

9 Services

- a MSD Corp.
- b Lakeshore Sports
- c Clarke Enterprises
- d Joe's Laundromat
- e First Look Hair Salon
- f Mamwai Development
- g D L'Heaux Garage
- h Sammy's Janitorial Services

10 Tourism

- a MCC Tourism Corp.
- b Fort Chipewyan Lodge
- c Contact Charters
- d Lakeshore Sports -Boat Rentals
- e MSD Corp. -Vehicle Rentals
- f J Rigney Delta Tours
- g C Voyageur Delta Tours
- h Mamwai Development -Self Contained 2 bedroom unit
-Delta Tours

11 Transportation and Shipping

- a Contact Air Ltd.
- b Gerard Enterprises -Barging
-Shipping
- c Eli's Taxi
- d Northern Lights Taxi

12 Wholesale

- a MSD Corp.
- b Fort Petroleum Corp.
- c Delta Native Fisherman's Assoc.
- d Jackfish Lake Potato Farm

13 Traditional Industry

- a Majic Country (local arts & crafts retail outlet)

14 Video Rental

- a Northern Store
- b Fifi's Video
- c V & L Video

15 Arcade and Pool Hall

- a Lepine's Place (Arcade & Confectionary)
- b Mah's Hall

B Relevancy to Oil Sand Industries

The subject of local businesses relevancy to the oil sand industries is addressed through the two ensuing sections for the purpose of emphasizing real applicability and effect. These discussions are directed at providing clear indication of those local businesses that have a true relevancy and/or potential applicability. The impact and effect of the oil sand industries on the community enterprises is discussed in correlation with relevancy and is presented in terms of whether it is real or there is a potential for such.

1 Direct Relevancy

The analysis of this target area was directed at determining those businesses that fall into either of the two categories;

i) Latent Potential

Those businesses that either provide a service or have human resources skills that are applicable to the oil sand industries.

ii) Real Participation

The local businesses that not only provide a service or have human resources skills that are applicable but who are also currently indirectly or directly involved with the oil sand industries.

In light of the fact that the determination of the potential of local businesses to participate in the oil sand industries is beyond the scope of this project, direct relevancy is restricted to only those who are presently participating, whether directly or indirectly, in the oil sand industries. A list of the community businesses that are in this category is provided;

- (a) MCC -MSD Corp. (Fort McMurray Office)
- (b) MCC -Contact Air Ltd.
- (c) MCC -2000 Plus Ltd.

2 Impact and Effect

The discussion of these factors is based on the direct correlation of regional economic climate to the over-all performance of the oil sand industries. In simple terms, the oil sand industries are the major economic entities of the region. Additionally, they are largest single contributors to the regional economic base in terms of the following;

- > Employ the greatest number of people
- > Pay the largest amount of taxes to all levels of government
- > Spin-offs directly and indirectly support a major percentage of the regionally based suppliers of goods and services

Therefore, for the purpose of this report, the businesses of Fort Chipewyan that are susceptible or vulnerable, to any degree, to the performance of the oil sand industries are:

- i) MCC -MSD Corp. (Fort McMurray Office)
- ii) MCC -Contact Air Ltd.
- iii) MCC -2000 Plus Ltd.
- iv) Clarke Enterprises
- v) Michael Cardinal Heavy Equipment
- vi) Gerard Enterprises

C Community Business Requirements

The determination of the types of businesses that are required by Fort Chipewyan as a whole is based upon the prevailing socio-economic trends which are beyond the project mandate to discuss and present. These businesses needs are identified and classified according to the following sectors;

1 Retail

A larger number of retail outlets is required in the community to create a more competitive climate which in turn would have a positive impact and lowering of the present pricing schedules for such. Also, a more comprehensive inventory of goods in all categories is needed to meet consumer demand and to encourage the residents to buy locally. Most important, an increase in community retail capabilities would prevent, to a great extent, local consumer spending for goods outside of the community and substantially improve the flow of monies in the local economy.

2 Leisure and Recreation

With respect to prevailing social trends of the community, there is a need for more commercial leisure and recreation types of businesses that are youth and family orientated.

3 Wholesale

Due to the geographical location and the isolated situation of Fort Chipewyan, the cost for transporting and shipping consumer goods and services for the residents is substantially higher than the regional averages. This translates into a cost of living that is one of the highest in the country. A wholesale business that specialized in the bulk sale of goods, materials and supplies would have a tremendous impact on the current cost of living levels. The economic benefit to the community could translate into improved living standards and increased employment.

CHAPTER FIVE

DEMOGRAPHICS OF FORT CHIPEWYAN

DEMOGRAPHICS OF FORT CHIPEWYAN

A considerable amount of energy and research was devoted to determine the demographics required for this project. In view of the fact the last complete census of the community was conducted in 1990 by the then Alberta Municipal Affairs, it is the opinion of the author the demographics of that time are too outdated to be utilized. The findings of the 1990 census are provided in the last section of this chapter to provide, albeit quite dated, some insight into the community. Although resource and time constraints precluded the development of a complete demographic study and presentation, an analysis of current data sources produced the information required to substantiate and justify the data presented in this report.

It is important to note that the demographics for the following target groups of the community are fairly recent but restricted to population, age and gender;

- > Mikisew Cree First Nation
- > Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation

Due to the age or the extreme variances of the figures reported for the following two target groups, this project focused only on the determination of their current population;

- > Fort Chipewyan Metis
- > Outsiders

Where possible the current statistics are illustrated with the 1990 figures to emphasize the change and growth Fort Chipewyan has experienced over the last six years.

The Alberta Municipal Affairs has planned a census project for Fort Chipewyan for the 96-97 fiscal year. However, the exact date for the provincial census initiative has not been determined at this time of writing. It is important to note that a great degree of energy and time was devoted to developing data and information for the other sections of this report that are beyond the scope of this project. This approach was adopted to compensate for the lack of current demographic information on Fort Chipewyan and, most important, to provide the insight demanded by the project terms of reference.

A Community Population by Ethnic Origin

<u>Target Group</u>		<u>Resident</u>	<u>Total Membership</u>
1	Mikisew Cree First Nation	1,027	1,713
2	Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation	332	553
3	Metis Association Local	150	150
4	Non-Indigenous	80	80
TOTALS		<u>1,589</u>	<u>2,494</u>

B Community Population by Gender

<u>Target Group</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	Mikisew Cree First Nation	821	892	1,713
2	Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation	<u>252</u>	<u>301</u>	553
TOTALS		1,073	1,193	

C Community Indigenous Population by Age

<u>AGE</u>	<u>MIKISEW CREE</u>	<u>ATHABASCA CHIPEWYAN</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
0 - 5	162	40	202
6-10	192	52	244
11-20	333	110	443
21-45	490	153	643
46-65	390	145	535
66-70	48	22	70
71-80	30	5	35
81+	63	26	89

D Fort Chipewyan 1990 Census

1 Total Population by Gender

GENDER	TOTAL	PERCENT
Male	354	49.9%
Female	356	50.1%
Unknown	198	
TOTAL	908	

2 Housing

DOMICLE TYPE	NUMBER	(%)
Single Detached	197	64.6%
Duplex	19	6.2%
Multi-family	12	4.0%
Business Suite	2	0.7%
Mobile Home	74	24.3%
Collective Dwelling	1	0.3%
TOTAL	305	

3 Density

DENSITY	(%)
>Average Persons per dwelling unit (total)	3.1
>Average Persons per occupied dwelling unit	3.4

4 **Population by Age**

<u>AGE</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>(%)</u>
New Born - 4	46	40	12.1%
5-9	39	43	11.5%
10-14	31	40	10.0%
15-19	26	38	9.0%
20-24	39	39	11.0%
25-29	32	28	8.5%
30-34	29	31	5.1%
35-39	16	20	2.4%
40-44	9	8	4.2%
45-49	15	15	4.4%
50-54	18	13	3.8%
55-59	17	10	2.8%
60-64	9	4	2.3%
65-69	7	0	1.8%
70-74	4	4	3.7%
75+	17	9	0.7%

5 **Length of Residency**

<u>TERM (years)</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>(%)</u>
Less than 1	105	11.8%
1-2	46	5.1%
2-5	71	7.9%
5-10	86	9.6%
10+	589	65.7%
Unknown	13	

6 **Employment Location**

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>(%)</u>
Fort Chipewyan	324	90.5%
Wood Buffalo National Park	12	3.4%
Fort McMurray & area	20	5.5%
At Home	2	1.1%

7 Employment Status

STATUS	NUMBER
Full Time	256
Part Time	102
Unemployed (seeking work)	50
Homemaker	74
Unemployable	5
Retired/other	80
Student (16+)	50
Under 15	288

8 Type of Industry

TYPE OF INDUSTRY	TOTAL	(%)
Forestry (fishing & trapping)	14	3.9%
Mining	14	3.9%
Construction	7	2.0%
Transportation	5	1.4%
Business & Commerce	46	12.8%
Government Agencies	257	71.8%
Hospitality	12	3.4%
Other	3	0.8%

E Linguistic Overview

There are three primary ethnic groups indigenous to the community of Fort Chipewyan;

- 1 Woodland Cree (Mikisew Cree First Nation)
- 2 Denesoline (Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation)
- 3 Metis (Fort Chipewyan Metis Local)

Of these three groups the Metis have no predominate indigenous language other than the fact a good percentage can speak and understand Woodland Cree.

The indigenous language of the Mikisew Cree First Nation is Woodland Cree which is a linguistic branch of the Algonkin language. As noted in the history of this area, the Denesoline residing in the Wood Buffalo Nation Park became members of the Mikisew Cree First Nation at that time. Subsequently, a notable percentage of the oldest generation of the Mikisew Cree are fluent in both Woodland Cree and Denesoline Chipewyan languages. Many of the elders in the community are trilingual, speaking Cree, Chipewyan and English.

The Denesoline people or the members of the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation speak a language that is a branch of the Athabaskan language. In the more commonly accepted vernacular, their language is referred to as Chipewyan.

Despite the fact that the indigenous tongue of the Mikisew Cree and the Athabasca Chipewyan are not widely spoken except by the oldest generation groups, both of these languages are currently taught in the local school and included in the general curriculum.

F Population Trends

To develop an understanding of the population trends that are characteristic of Fort Chipewyan both a long range and short range view must be taken. From a historical perspective, it is a widely accepted fact by the residence that the people from outside of the community used to play a major role in local affairs. With the development of the local population in terms of education and employment skills, the influence of the outsiders, as they are commonly referred to, has substantially decreased. This is an important fact to note because this has some bearing on the population trends outlined in the following sections.

1 Government Agencies

An overview based on longer periods of time, the government agencies based in the community have, since their respective establishment, always contributed greatly to the population movement trends. Typically, a government agency employee is posted to Fort Chipewyan for an average of two years and then transferred out to another posting. Although statistics are not currently available to establish the average number of government employees posted and transferred out of the community on an annual basis, it is estimated that a yearly average of 8 would be acceptable.

2 Education

Despite the fact there are educational institutions based in the Fort Chipewyan, a significant number of residents to relocate to further their education and enhance their employment skills in other larger urban centers. On an annual basis the average number of residents enrolled in outside education centers is 45. Statistics are not available to establish the number of these students who have families and those who are single. It is assumed that the education preferences and requirements of these residents is a major contributing factor to the annual population movement trends of the community.

3 Employment Opportunities

With the emergence of the respective community stakeholders in a more regionalized position and role, the number of residents relocating to take advantage of employment opportunities, primarily with the oil sand industries based in Fort McMurray, is significant. For example, the total membership of the Mikisew Cree First Nation presently over 1800 with several hundred residing outside of Fort Chipewyan. Close to three hundred live in Fort McMurray of which 120 are employed either directly or indirectly by the oil sand industries, mainly Syncrude. When employment opportunities arise in Fort Chipewyan, these original residents relocate back to the community to apply for these positions. Until such time, the local economic base can generate and sustain the number of employment positions required the population movement trends motivated by outside employment will remain characteristic of the community.

CHAPTER SIX

HUMAN SERVICES

HUMAN SERVICES

Geographically located 280 kilometers north of Fort McMurray and accessible only by air in the summer months and an arduous winter road in the winter season, this is an isolated hamlet that offers a surprisingly wide range of human services for its' residents. Further analysis established the fact both the standard and quality of these services is excellent in terms of effectively addressing the human service demands and requirements of the residents. All indications are this was accomplished over time, by the community stakeholders, through careful planning and ensuring a high degree of qualification, professionalism and ethnic sensitivity in the recruitment strategies.

A common characteristic of all the services currently offered in Fort Chipewyan is their community focus and extraordinary degree of flexibility in delivery. Despite the high cost of living in the community and the present national economic climate, the level of human services provided in Fort Chipewyan has remained stable. These services are illustrated in the inventory provided in this Chapter.

A Education

1 Athabasca Delta Community School (ADCS)

Built in the mid-eighties, a modern educational facility that a full compliment of classrooms and administration area in addition to a health nurse and student counselling offices, library, gymnasium and kitchen facilities. The ADCS offers K-1 to grade twelve. Cree and Chipewyan language enrichment courses are offered as part of the standard curriculum. The school receives its' funding through a tuition agreement between the Mikisew Cree First Nation, the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, the Northlands School Division and the Department of Indian Affairs. This agreement is administered by the Fort Chipewyan Indian Education Authority whose Board of Directors whose members are representatives of both First Nations.

Contact: (403) 697 - 3933

2 Keyano College (Fort Chipewyan Satellite Campus)

Offers adult upgrading and courses leading to general education diplomas and post-secondary preparation. This satellite campus of Keyano College is located in the Multi-plex building and has five classrooms, a small library, administration offices and instructors area. Provides educational courses and services to an average annual enrolment of fifty students. A Native Liaison Worker based at the main campus located in Fort McMurray visits the satellite campus once a month.

Contact: Dan Creuer, Director

 Telephone: (403) 697-3767
 Fax: (403) 697-3873

3 The Sahohtawahk Training Center

An educational institution with strong community ties, whose name in Cree means "the Way Through", that offers a wide range of education courses, programs and services. Implemented by the Mikisew Cree First Nation in February, 1995, this provincially accredited center offers a high school diploma and up-grading programs that are based on the Josten Learning system. Cultural, traditional, Indigenous languages and recreational programs are offered in addition to a Bachelor of Education under the auspices of the Indian Federated College based in Regina, Saskatchewan. The services offered to the students are quite comprehensive and include counselling, life skills and extra-curricular activities. The Center has a full complement of computer terminals and an internet facility. The current student enrolment is 98. The Center is also located in the Multi-plex building.

Contact: Director

 Telephone: (403) 697-3185
 Fax (403) 697-3789

 Address: P.O. Box 180
 Fort Chipewyan, Alberta, T0P 1B0

4 Indian Education Authority Ltd. (IEA)

Established September 2, 1987, the IEA is responsible for administering a tuition agreement between the Mikisew Cree First Nation, the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, the Northland School Division No. 61 and Her Majesty the Queen in the Right of Canada represented by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Incorporated and jointly and equally owned by the Mikisew Cree First Nation and the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, the IEA Ltd. ensures educational services and programs are delivered in the community for First Nation Children. The current tuition agreement provides for a community Native Liaison Worker to facilitate educational concerns between the parents, students and school.

Contact: Rita Marten (403) 697-3929

B Health

Under the auspices of the Medical Services Branch, Health Canada and the Nunee Health Authority which is a community based agency, health services are provided to all residents with the exception of where access restricted according to the Non-Insured Health Benefits program. At present, the following health services are available in Fort Chipewyan;

1 The Isobel and Noel McKay Healing Center

Headquarters for the Nunee Health Authority and that provides the following health services;

a Public Health

- Maternal and child health services
- Immunizations
- School health services
- Communicable disease control
- School initiatives for parenting and sexual health education

b Alcohol and Drug Counselling and Programs

- Services delivered by two alcohol and drug Counsellors
- Pretreatment counselling
- Referrals to residential treatment and detoxification services
- Aftercare services
- Community based training
- In-school alcohol and drug program

c Mental Health Treatment

- Counselling, assessment and therapy services

d Health Promotion and Education

- Blood pressure, diabetic, flu shot and TB clinics
- Community based training workshops
- Monthly community newsletter

e Intervention Services

- To work with families requiring crisis support and prevention

f Environmental Health Services

- Inspection and assessment services

g Dental Services

- Dental care is provided by dentists on a bi-weekly basis.
- Dental hygienists visit the community twice a year.

h Optometric Services

- Optometrists visit the community every four months

i Medical Transportation

- To arrange for and to provide medical transportation for clients requiring this type of service to access health care not available in the community.

C Law Enforcement

1 RCMP

The local detachment provides twenty four hour policing and patrol services. Maintains law enforcement, serving of court orders and warrants, prisoner escort services and community liaison. Also, constables serve as witnesses on behalf of the Crown when required. The local RCMP barracks has the following facilities;

- a Main building houses the main office, communications, reception area and prisoner detainment cells.
- b Three vehicles, boat, two snowmobiles, garage and fuel storage
- c Five houses for constables and their families

RCMP personnel are posted to the community for two year term.

Contact: Telephone: 24 hours (403) 697-3665
Administration (403) 697-3931

2 Provincial Court

Located in the Multi-plex, the Provincial Court holds sessions every first Thursday of each month.

Contact: Telephone: (403) 697-3631

D Emergency Services

1 Fort Chipewyan Fire Hall

A modern and thoroughly equipped facility that has a compliment of twenty-plus volunteer fire fighters who are well trained in the latest fire emergency response techniques. The homes of all these volunteers are connected by a 24 hour emergency telephone system. An emergency community warning siren system alerts the volunteer fire fighter who, by perchance, cannot be reached by the phone system.

Contact: Telephone (403) 697-3530
Emergency (403) 697-3611

2 Ambulance Service

A 24 hour ambulance service that is provided in addition to emergency medical assistance service.

Contact: Telephone: (403) 697-3650
(403) 697-3763

3 Emergency Medi-Vac Service

A 24 hour air service for critical medical emergencies.

Contact: Telephone (403) 697-3650
Emergency (after hours) (403) 697-3808

E Employment Services

The offices of the Fort Chipewyan Employment and Outreach agency are located in the Multi-plex. This agency has strong community ties through which it delivers the following services;

- A modern kiosk that provides local and regional employment and training opportunities notices and information.
- Employment referrals and followup
- Client support in the ensuing areas;
 - (i) Filling in forms (job applications, UI, workmans comp, etc)
 - (ii) Resume and interview preparation
 - (iii) Employment and Career counselling
- Employer liaison and followup
- Employment opportunity inventory and advertising
- Liaison and support services for client groups and other government agencies.
- Has two qualified staff to provide services to the community.

Contact: Telephone: (403) 697-3811
(403) 697-3055

F Elder Services

One of the many areas which the community is outstanding, the range of care and services provided to the local elders is comprehensive. All of the stakeholder groups have special programs and services for their elders which are illustrated through the following;

1 Fort Chipewyan Elder Services

a Ayabaskaw Senior Citizen's Home

Built and opened in 1982, this senior's home provides a full range of lodging and services to its' elder clients. With a compliment of eight staff, the Ayabaskaw is home to an average of fifteen residents who, in addition to regular services, enjoy a fairly full schedule of social and recreational activities. Two cooks prepare three nutritious meals and snacks daily. Two housekeepers and two security personnel ensure the well being and safety of the elders. A manager and part-time custodian round out the staff. The suites are spacious, well appointed and maintained. The grounds of the home are well kept and provide ample parking and access for the physically challenged.

Contact: Claris Voyageur, Manager (403) 697-3791

b The Delta Sunrise Seniors

Formerly under the umbrella of the FCSS, this dynamic organization provides the following services and activities for the seniors;

- Meals on wheels, home lawn maintenance and snow removal
- Social activities, Bingos and field trips
- Shopping and mail pick up
- Advocacy and support for accessing government benefits, programs and services.
- Home visits and transportation subsidy
- Assistance in filling out forms and responding to correspondence

Contact: Telephone: (403) 697-3811

2 Mikisew Cree First Nation

A First Nation that is very devoted and committed to ensuring the overall well being of its' elders. The MCFN permanently maintains an program that delivers the following services to its's elders;

- A van to provide transportation services for social activities, medical appointments, mail pickup and shopping.
- Home visits

- Elder crisis counselling and intervention
- Liaison and advocacy services to ensure the elders can access other government benefits and programs.
- To ensure the elders can participate in social activities and community functions
- To ensure the involvement and participation of the elders in MCFN affairs and development.
- To ensure cultural and traditional knowledge and skills are permanently preserved.
- To ensure the concerns, needs and well being of the elders are fully addressed.
- In addition to the above services the MCFN provides a permanent monthly annuity payment to it's elders to augment their old age fixed incomes and to enhance their lifestyles.
- Elders Emergency Assistance program

Contact: Leona Cowie Telephone: (403) 697-3150

2 Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation

Although lacking the resources of the MCFN, the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation is equally committed to the well being and safety of their elder's and provides them the following essential services;

- Advocacy and liaison services to access other government benefits and programs
- Planning and organizing social activities and functions
- Involvement and participation in ACFN affairs
- Crisis counselling and intervention
- Filling out forms and answering correspondence

Contact: Telephone: 697-3730

G Housing

Other than the programs and services of the principal stakeholder groups of Fort Chipewyan that are indicated, there is no formal community housing entity;

1 **Mikisew Cree First Nation**

Contrary to popular belief, the MCFN does not have a housing program but rather offers a wide range of services for both their members and the general public. In the past, the Department of Indian Affairs constructed or provided funds for the construction of housing units for the members which, in turn, were allocated on an application or needs basis. This gave rise to the misconception that members of First Nations received free housing. In the case of the MCFN, nothing could be farther from the truth. Although the MCFN does receive a limited amount of funds from the DIA on an annual basis, these monies are in the form of a subsidy which is used to off-set the total cost of constructing a new unit. The new house is then sold to a member whose monthly payments are prorated according to the purchaser's income. The MCFN retains the right of first buyer in such instance were the owner wishes to sell their house.

The MCFN does have a mortgage assistance program that provides a low interest loan to those members who qualify for a mortgage from a conventional financial institution. Through its' businesses, the MCFN offers the following rental units, goods and services for the homeowner or potential tenant;

- a Property management services
- b Rental units; duplexes, 4-plexes, 5-plexes, houses and trailers.
- c Full range of construction services and building supplies
- d Potable water delivery and sewer education services
- e Carpentry, plumbing, heating and electrical maintenance and repair services

Contact:	Property Management Ltd. & Creations Enterprises Ltd.	(403) 696-3556
	MSD Corporation	(403) 697-3504
	Fort Chipewyan Building Supplies	(403) 697-3504
	MCFN Technical Services	(403) 697-3556

2 Light Island Housing

A housing organization of the Fort Chipewyan Metis Local that administers and maintains 11 units, 8 trailers and 3 houses. These units are provided to Metis residents on an emergency and low income basis.

Contact: Oliver Glanfield (403) 697-3637

H Social Services

A wide range of Social Services programs and services are delivered by the stakeholder groups of the community and the Provincial government in Fort Chipewyan. The contact numbers for these agencies are provided;

- | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | Mikisew Cree First Nation | (403) 697-3384 |
| 2 | Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation | (403) 697-3685 |
| 3 | FCSS | (403) 697-3674 |

I Current Demand

The range and depth of human services provided for the benefit of the residents of Fort Chipewyan is quite comprehensive. This is largely due to the foresight and success of the of the stakeholder groups toward ensuring the following;

1 Local Content

The recruitment and placement of qualified local residents in the most critical front line positions of the community human services agencies. These employees, in turn, bring a greater awareness and understanding of client needs and the dynamics of a local case situation.

2 Resource Application

The application of the resources of these agencies through the delivery of programs and services on an inter-community basis to increase the scope of their effectiveness in delivery. Even though the stakeholder groups may have human services programs that are specific to the needs of their own people, there still remains a strong atmosphere of cooperation and sharing in the community.

3 Community Needs Awareness

A thorough understanding of the needs and requirements of the people and the development of the human services programs to address these by the community stakeholders. Characteristic of Fort Chipewyan is the willingness of the stakeholders to use a collective approach to resourcing for programs and the sharing of the funds obtained through community based applications and services.

J Outstanding Community Human Services Needs

With the exception of those physical or mental health cases that require acute medical treatment and intensive care, the existing human services provided in the community effectively meet the needs of the residents. Pure economics prevents the development of a hospital facility in Fort Chipewyan. However, through the astute efforts and planning of the Nunee Health Authority, the community has made substantial progress toward the development and establishment of local health program and service capabilities. Also, the Nunee Health Authority provides an excellent range of preventative health and education programs and services for the benefit of the residents.

Other than a hospital, the outstanding human services needs of Fort Chipewyan can be summarized through the following;

1 Community Youth Needs

Is best described as the need for meaningful and positive activities the youth can become involved with to effectively address their mental, social, spiritual and physical requirements.

In all fairness, the human services provided in Fort Chipewyan collectively offer a wide range of programs and services which may not be specifically directed at this target group but, in turn, can be accessed by a youth in distress. At this time of writing, there are numerous community initiatives directed solely at addressing the needs of the youth. Most notably through the combined efforts of the Sahpohtawahk Training Center and the Kewatinok Recreation Society.

2 Community Education Needs

With respects to the significant change in the general focus of education as a whole from upgrading for higher education to career path orientation and preparation, the community has reacted well. This is, for the most part, due to the commitment and efforts of the MCFN that was actualized with the establishment of its' community based education institution, Sahpohtahwahk Training Center.

Additionally, there has been the chronic problems of high drop out rates and large numbers of single unemployed young parents in the community. In the case of the MCFN, their policy is to strongly encourage this target to have a plan that leads to self-sufficiency to qualify for social assistance. The community as a whole, is striving to address the education needs of this specific target group through community based education and training programming that utilizes existing learning institutions such as the Sahpohtawahk Training Center and the Keyano Satellite College

CHAPTER SEVEN

FORT CHIPEWYAN INFRASTRUCTURE

FORT CHIPEWYAN INFRASTRUCTURE

Situated on the rugged northwestern shores of Lake Athabasca, Fort Chipewyan is a hamlet that provides its' residents all the enmities of a modern community. The infrastructure of Fort Chipewyan is inventoried in the ensuing point form illustrations;

A Water

- 1968 -the waterline and treatment plant established
- 1982 -water systems hooked up to homes except for western portion of the community.
- 1983 -modern water treatment facility completed
- 1992 -a two million dollar upgrading of the community water treatment facilities undertaken and completed by the MSD Corp., a Mikisew Cree First Nation owned construction company.
- 1995 -all of the community has running water with the exception of the Mikisew Cree First Nation Doghead Reserve which is adjacent to the hamlet. The Technical Services department of this First Nation provides potable water to the Doghead Reserve residents.
-Water service is provided to the rest of the community by the Wood Buffalo Municipality

B Sewer Services

- 1968 -sewage treatment facilities and lagoon completed
- 1982 -sewer system hooked up to homes except for western portion of the community.
- 1995 -all of the community has sewer service with the exception of the Mikisew Cree First Nation Doghead Reserve which is adjacent to the hamlet. The Technical Services department of this First Nation provides sewage eduction service to the Doghead Reserve.
-Sewage disposal service is provided to the rest of the community by the Wood Buffalo Municipality

C Sanitation Services

- Refuse removal services is provided to the community twice a week, on Monday and Friday. (including the Doghead Reserve residents) The Wood Buffalo Municipality provides this services via an independent contractor. Trash is hauled to a Sanitation site 7 kilometers east of town.

D Electricity

- 1959 -first central power generator built by Canadian Utilities, now Alberta Power Ltd.
- 1961 -electric lights first installed in some homes
- 1995 -all the community electric power needs and services provided by Alberta Power Ltd. with a modern power generation facility and two local service personnel. Power poles and lines, transformer placements and new customer hookups are undertaken by Alberta Power Ltd. with personnel and equipment brought in from their Fort McMurray offices.

E Roads

- 1967 -a winter road between Fort Chipewyan and Fort Smith completed.
- 1978 -road is paved from the airport to town to the Bishop Piche School.
- 1986 -local residents bulldoze a winter road south from Fort Chipewyan to Fort McKay.
- 1995 -Community road maintenance services is provided by the Wood Buffalo Municipality. The municipality maintains the winter road from the community to Fort McKay via independent contractors.

F Telephones

- 1950 -First telephone installed in the community
- 1995 -AGT provides all the telephone services to the community

G Fuel

- 1995 -Fort Petroleum Corp, a Mikisew Cree First Nation owned company retails heating fuel and propane to the community. This company also retails and wholesales diesel, gasoline and motor oil for vehicular consumption.

H Recreation

- 1973 -curling and skating rinks built
- 1991 -the Mamwai Hall built (managed and operated by the Kewatinok Recreation Society)

I Airport

- 1961 -Alberta Department of Lands and Forests built an airstrip south of the present location of the curling rink
- 1966 -new airport and facilities constructed at present site

J Community Lakeside Docks

- 1973 -the main dock completed and is used by barges
- 1995 -the hamlet has three docks;
 - 1 The original dock
 - 2 A smaller dock that has several boat slips located by the Alberta Environment offices.
 - 3 A small dock with several boat slips located by the fish packing plant.

K Health Facilities

- 1955 -first local nursing station established in Indian Affairs offices
- 1958 -first health center and nursing station built
- 1981 -New nursing station, clinic and apartment residence built
- 1995 -the Noel and Isobel McKay Health Center built and opened.

L Other Community Infrastructures

- 1978 -new RCMP barracks and homes built
- 1978 -new Post office built and opened
- 1981 -sidewalk built from the downtown to the Bishop Piche School
- 1985 -the Justin Martin/Alexander Lavolette Multi-plex opened
- 1985 -the Athabasca Delta Community School built and opened
- 1985 -community fish packing plant built and opened
- 1987 -the Fort Chipewyan Tourist Lodge built and opened
- 1990 -a community interpretive center, the Fort Chipewyan Bicentennial Museum opened on the site of the original Fort Chipewyan Post.

M Fort Chipewyan Fire Hall

-A modern fire hall that includes two late model fire trucks and a emergency response vehicle.

N Community Infrastructure Contacts

1 Water Services

a	Municipality -water treatment plant	(403) 697-3781
b	MCFN Technical Services Dept.	(403) 697-3556

2 Sewer Services

a	Municipality	(403) 697-3600
b	MCFN Technical Services Dept.	(403) 697-3556

3 Sanitation Services

Contractor	-Francis Hill	(403) 697-3600
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4 Electricity (Alberta Power Ltd.)

a	Twenty four hour service	(403) 697-3630
b	Power plant	(403) 697-3773

5 Roads

a	Alberta Transportation	(403) 697-3778
b	MCFN Technical Services	(403) 697-3556

6	<u>Telephones</u>	AGT	310-4248
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O Community Infrastructure Requirements

The outstanding infrastructure requirements of Fort Chipewyan have been determined by sector and are illustrated in point form as follows;

1 Utilities

a Heating

A more uniform and cost effective system for residences, business and government infrastructure heating and consumption may be considered such as a community owned natural gas enterprise.

b Electricity

Modernization of power generation plant is required to prevent or minimize the frequent power outages and surges the community presently experiences.

2 Communication

Modernization of the present telephone system is required for the community to maintain pace with the modern communication technology advances.

3 Roads

An all weather road connecting Fort Chipewyan to Fort McMurray remains an issue that is currently under consideration and review by the community stakeholders.

4 Recreation

Recreation infrastructures are required by the community to provide a venue for meaningful family leisure activities.

P Conclusions

There are currently no significant future trends in the community infrastructure demands and delivery despite the movement towards self-government and the creation of the Municipality of Wood Buffalo.

However, the specific infrastructure demands and future trends of the Mikisew Cree First Nation and the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation are paramount. The priority of each First Nation is to obtain the resources required to address acute and chronic housing shortages and major reserve infrastructure development. With the recent loss of the tax free status for the community, the development of reserve housing and infrastructure has become a matter of urgency for both First Nations.

CHAPTER EIGHT

TRADITIONAL DELTA LIFESTYLES AND USE

TRADITIONAL DELTA LIFESTYLES AND USE

Special mention must be accorded to the Indigenous people of the region and their unique cultural and traditional lifestyles. More specifically, the lifestyles of the people of the Mikisew Cree and the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nations have evolved from time unknown to enable them to survive in the demanding and unforgiving environment and geography of the MacKenzie Delta and the immediate areas surrounding Lake Athabasca. In turn, the role of these Indigenous people in the development of Fort Chipewyan since its' birth is well documented and known in numerous historical documents.

Today, the traditional delta lifestyles and usage is still in existence and very evident in the community. In summary, these traditional lifestyles and usage are portrayed through the following;

1 Traditional Occupations

a Commercial Fishing

Fish has long been a component of the traditional diets of the indigenous groups and also a valuable source of food and a commodity for the early fur traders. Currently, the majority of the indigenous people still supplement their diets with the fish they catch on the water systems of the delta. The fish resources of the Lake Athabasca sustains a local commercial fishing enterprise that, in turn, provides seasonal employment for 30 residents. Most individual and commercial fishermen maintain traditional fishing locations in the delta.

b Trapping

The fur trade industry of the region resulted in the founding of Fort Chipewyan as a central headquarters and also was the sole basis for the economics of the community for close to 200 years. To underscore the importance of the role of this traditional occupation in the community today, there are currently 75 registered active traplines in the immediate area outside of the Wood Buffalo National Park and 45 documented traplines in the park. The local Northern Store (formerly the Hudson Bay) still maintains a fur grading and buying service. Also, the MCFN has a active and strong trappers group, with over forty members, that operates a co-op enterprise on the Doghead Reserve.

c **Hunting**

A traditional occupation that persists today and which a majority of the locals maintain to augment their diets and to offset the high cost for food and staples. Both First Nations maintain annual caribou hunting programs and quotas for their people.

d **Traditional Food and Medicinal Plant Gathering**

The majority of the residents maintain traditional food and medicinal plant gathering. Every family has their own traditional gathering areas and engage in this activity on an annual basis. The most evident traditional gathering activity is the annual berry picking season where wild berries are harvested. These berries are preserved in numerous different ways and stored for personal use and to offset the high cost for food and staples.

2 **Delta Residences**

Although the exact number and types of domiciles (houses, cabins and canvas tents) that currently exist in the immediate delta area could not be determined these are estimated to number about 120. These delta residences are used by the residents as a base for any of the following purposes;

- a Traditional Occupations
- b Leisure and recreation
- c Tourism enterprises
- d Permanent residence

3 **Traditional Waterways**

The natural waterways of the west (the rivers, lakes and streams) have historically been used by both the indigenous people and the early explorers and fur traders. In this region, the waterways of the Lake Athabasca and the delta provided natural avenues for travel and transportation purposes. These water routes are used for the following;

- a Barging of goods and materials from Fort McMurray to Fort Chipewyan.
- b Travel by boat to and from Fort McMurray
- c Travel by boat, snowmobile and dogsled to delta residences and areas of traditional use.

3 Tourism

All of the stakeholder groups of the community have long term plans for the development of the local tourism industry. Primarily, these plans are directed at establishing eco-tourism initiatives that are specifically designed to maximize the utilization of the natural resources of the area. There are several independent and privately owned tourism enterprises in existence today that base their operations in Fort Chipewyan.

A Preclusions to Traditional Delta Lifestyles and Use

It is interesting to note that right up to fairly recent times, the late 1970's, the majority of the indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan were living permanently out on the delta. Involved in traditional occupations, the people were self-reliant and self-sufficient. The only time they came to Fort Chipewyan was for the most basic supplies, to trade their furs and to visit during the holiday seasons. Unfortunately, there were mitigating factors that forced the people from the delta to the community. Without devoting a lot of time to a socio-economic discourse on the impact of these factors only the major events leading up to the dislocation of the people from their delta homes are presented in the ensuing sections;

1 Bennett Dam

Constructed in the late 60's and in operation by 1969, the impact of the Bennett Dam on the Delta and the indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan are well known and documented. This impact translated into an immediate and dramatic lowering of the water levels of the Delta which destroyed the natural habitat of numerous species of indigenous wildlife. By the late 1980's, over 240,000 hectares of delta was lost. The debilitating effect on the natural wildlife populations destroyed the basis of the occupational lifestyles of the indigenous people who were then forced to move to Fort Chipewyan to seek alternate employment. To underscore the effect of the Bennett Dam on the traditional lifestyles and occupations of the indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan, in 1970 there were only 20 families on welfare. This number swelled to over 200 families on social assistance by 1972.

The impact and effect of the Bennett Dam on the Delta has been the focus of numerous studies. Currently, there is a study group consisting of representatives of B.C. Hydro, the stakeholder groups of Fort Chipewyan. The prevailing desire of this study group is to determine remedial measures that may reverse some of the dam's impact.

2 Pollution

The focus of the Northern River Basin Study Group, the effect of pollution from upstream sources has long been known, but through this joint effort of the Federal and Alberta Provincial Governments, the extent of such will finally be formally studied, determined and documented. Pollution of the delta waters during recent times (1960 -1995) caused the erosion of the quality of the traditional lifestyles of the indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan.

The long term damage and effect of pollution on the natural food sources has resulted in limited use or removal from the traditional diet regimen of the indigenous people. Pollution of the environment and ecology is the primary cause of the deterioration in the stocks and quality of indigenous plants, berries and herbs which prevents traditional harvesting and usage by the indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan.

The community sponsored and hosted a national water conference, July, 1992, to raise public awareness of the effect of pollution on the lifestyles of the indigenous people and the delta in the area of Fort Chipewyan.

The major sources of the pollution have been determined by the Northern Rivers Basin Study group to originate from the following;

- a Herbicide and pesticide application run-offs from southern agricultural activities adjacent to the rivers.
- b Discharging of sewage into the rivers by communities adjacent to the river systems.
- c Dumping of industrial waste into the rivers by forestry and oilsands industries adjacent to river systems

CHAPTER NINE

FORT CHIPEWYAN SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS

FORT CHIPEWYAN SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS

Exemplifying the same characteristic as the community human services agencies, the social organizations of Fort Chipewyan are very much focused on the community and possess an extraordinary degree of flexibility in exercising their respective mandates. The Social Organizations of Fort Chipewyan are presented as follows;

FORT CHIPEWYAN (FC)		SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS	
Name	Contact	Address	Telephone
1 FC Brownies	>Lucy Flett		697-3739(h)
2 FC Historical Society	>Oliver Glanfield	Box 203 FC, Alta TOP 1BO	697-3637(h) 697-3844(w)
3 FC Justice Committee	>Girlie Vermillion		697-3654(h)
4 FC Boxing Club	>Steve Courtoreille	Box 343 FC, Alta TOP 1BO	697-3682
5 FC Daycare Society	>Flossie Cyprien	Box 479 FC, Alta TOP 1BO	697-3545
6 FC Youth Society	>Paul Tuccaro Jr.		697-3581(w)
7 FC Senior Mens Hockey	>Richard Tuccaro	Box 134 FC, Alta TOP 1BO	
8 FC Friends of the Community	>Leona Cowie	Box 207 FC, Alta TOP 1BO	697-3150

FORT CHIPEWYAN (FC)**SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Name	Contact	Address	Telephone
9 Delta Senior Sunrise Society	Oliver Glanfield	Box 120 FC, Alta TOP 1BO	697-3637
10 Northern Magic Ice Curling Club	Leona Cowie	Box 207 FC, Alta TOP 1BO	697-3150
11 Kewatinok Recreation Society	Leona Cowie	Box 343 FC, Alta TOP 1BO	697-3682
12 Delta Native Fisherman Assoc	Carl Granath	Box 150 FC, Alta TOP 1BO	697-3953
13 Anglican Women's League	Marge Glanfield		697-3637
14 Catholic Women's League	Girle Vermillion		697-3654
15 Sahpohawahk Student Council	Principal	Box 90 FC, Alta TOP 1BO	697-3581
16 Keyano Student Council	Leona Whiteknife	Box 60 FC, Alta TOP 1BO	697-3767
17 ADCS Student Council	Georgette Adam	Box 59 FC, Alta TOP 1BO	697-3933

FORT CHIPEWYAN (FC)**SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Name	Contact	Address	Telephone
18 ADCS Travel Club	David Luck	Box 59 FC, Alta TOP 1BO	697-3933
19 FC Employment & Training Society		Box 90 FC, Alta TOP 1BO	697-3581
20 Mikisew Cree Elders	Maria Houle	Box 90 FC, Alta TOP 1BO	697-3150
21 Mikisew Eagles Club	Marina Whiteknife	Box 90 FC, Alta TOP 1BO	697-3740
22 FC Voluteer FireFighters	Scott Flett		697-3914
23 FC Ski Club	Jeff Dixon		697-3645
24 FC Delta Riders	Michael Cardinal		697-3629

A Stakeholder Groups of Fort Chipewyan

Stakeholder	Leadership	Address	Telephone
Mikisew Cree First Nation	Chief Archie Waquan <u>Councillors:</u> Alec Courtoreille Steve Courtoreille Rita Martin Terry Martin Mary Simpson Sally Whiteknife	P.O. Box 90	697-3740
FC Metis Local #124	President Sonny Flett <u>Board Members:</u> Fred Fraser -VP Maureen Clarke Carl Granath Nancy Ladoucer Julia Cardinal		
Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation	Chief Archie Cyprien <u>Councillors:</u> Rene Bruno Rita Lepine Flossie Cyprien	P.O. Box 366 FC, Alta TOP 1BO	697-3730

B Ethnic Groups of Fort Chipewyan

Ethnic Groups	Modern Designation
1 Woodland Cree	Mikisew Cree First Nation
2 Denesolene	Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation
3 Metis	FC Metis Local #124
4 Non-Native	<u>Outsiders, Government people, transferees, Northlands people (teachers), etc..</u>

C Fort Chipewyan Based Bodies of Authority

<u>Body of Authority</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
Mikisew Cree First Nation	Chief Archie Waquan	P.O. Box 90	697-3740
FC Metis Local #124	Sonny Flett, Pres.		697-3961
Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation	Chief Archie Cyprien	P.O. Box 366	697-3730

D Inter-Community Bodies of Authority

<u>Name</u>	<u>Authority</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
ADCS School Board	Education (k-1 - gr 12)	Archie Cyprien Chairman	Box 59	697-3933
Indian Education Authority Board of Directors	Tuition Agreement	Rita Martin Executive Director	Box 90	697-3929
Wildlife Advisory Board	Parks Wildlife Co-Management	Sonny Flett Chairman		697-3662
Mikisew Education Authority	MCFN Educaton	Director	Box 90	697-3581
Wood Buffalo Municipality	Municipal Services	Margaret Villeburn		697-3600
Kewatinok Recreation Society	Community Recreation	Steve Courtoreille Director	Box 343	697-3682
Youth Justice Committee	Youth Justice	Girlie Vermillion		697-3654

Name	Authority	Contact	Address	Telephone
RCMP	Community Law Enforcement	Bernadette Flett Secretary/Recept.		697-3931 24hr 697-3665
Nunee Health Authority	Community Health	Trish Meredith-Mercredi Chief Executive Officer		697-3900

CHAPTER TEN

CULTURAL CHARACTERISTICS

CULTURAL CHARACTERISTICS

The Cultural Characteristics of the People of Fort Chipewyan is a complex area of study that required an analysis based upon the following breakdown;

- > Social Values
- > Ethics
- > Community Issues
- > Community Goals
- > Ideology
- > Leisure Pursuits
- > Notable Changes

These, in turn, were addressed from a purely socio-economic context and presented in point form to minimize the length of discussion for the purpose of facilitating the presentation of this report.

A Social Values

The social values that are upheld, in general, by the people of Fort Chipewyan would parallel those of any other community. The exception would be the over-all deep rooted respect for the environment, ecology and wildlife of the area. These social values are as illustrated;

- > The importance of self-sufficiency and self-determination
- > Family roots and ties
- > Ethnic identity and membership
- > Respect for the Elders
- > The importance of the care and security of the Elders
- > The proper nurturing, care and security of the youth
- > Education, training and career development
- > Local ownership and authority
- > Healthy lifestyles
- > Community needs and well being
- > Community participation and civic affairs
- > Spiritual growth
- > Cultural and Traditional social values
- > Law abiding
- > Strong morals values, both individual and family

B Ethics

The ethics of the people of Fort Chipewyan is quite evident in the relationships between the different stakeholder groups of the community and in how they interact with regional entities. These are portrayed through the following;

- > Honesty and integrity in inter-relationships
- > Community sharing and participation
- > Community ownership
- > Community advocacy and loyalty
- > Ethnic advocacy, loyalty and pride
- > Accountability throughout all levels of community organizations
- > Awareness, understanding and respect of other ethnic groups
- > Strong work ethics
- > Strong moral ethics
- > Maintenance of strong professional conduct

C Community Issues

Rather than discuss the intimate community issues the broader concerns that are parallel in the different stakeholder groups of Fort Chipewyan are presented;

- > Regional representation and participation
- > Meaningful and long term participation in the oil sands industries
- > Community ownership and advocacy
- > Community human resources development and enhancement
- > Development of local health program and service capabilities
- > Self-government and self-determination
- > Meaningful youth activities and participation
- > All weather road
- > Bennett Dam impact compensation
- > Pollution of Delta and water systems
- > Development of local economic base
- > Development of local employment opportunities
- > Wood Buffalo National Park and Traditional lands
- > First Nation Self-government

D Community Goals

Like the community issues, the goals that are parallel in the stakeholder groups are illustrated through the ensuing;

- > Meaningful and long term participation in oil sands industries
- > First Nation Self-government and self-sufficiency
- > Broader local health programs and services
- > Regional presence and participation
- > Development of local economic base
- > Development of local employment opportunities
- > Meaningful venues for Youth participation
- > Promotion and preservation of cultural and traditional lifestyles
- > Promotion and preservation of traditional occupations

E Ideology

Although there is a on-going process of ownership and self-government, particularly by the two First Nations of Fort Chipewyan, the prevailing collective ideology of the people of the community can be summed up by the following;

"To work cooperatively toward the development of all resource areas of the community for the over-all avail and benefit of all the people of Fort Chipewyan, whether they be People of the Mikisew Cree First Nation, the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, the Fort Chipewyan Metis Local #124, the non-native people or the outsiders."

"Further to this, to use the wisdom, experience, resources and strengths of the different stakeholder groups for the common avail, benefit and improvement of all the people of the community of Fort Chipewyan."

F Leisure Pursuits

The leisure pursuits of the people of Fort Chipewyan strongly reflect their cultural and traditional origins and ties to the land. Despite the fact the traditional lifestyles and occupations have been greatly eroded and restricted by a number of factors, they are strongly maintained through the leisure activities presented as follows;

- > Annual berry harvesting
- > Moose and caribou hunting
- > Boating
- > Traditional plant and herb harvesting
- > Arts and Crafts
- > Gambling (bingos, pickeno, cards)
- > Shopping trips to larger centers
- > Traditional occupations
- > Retreats to delta hideaways and residences

G Notable Changes

Fort Chipewyan is a community that has undergone a number of notable changes in all of the eras of its' existence. For the purposes of this report, the era, 1970 to 1995, was utilized to portray the notable changes that would be meaningful to mention and which may be applicable to the intent of this project. The notable changes that have occurred over the last 25 years are illustrated;

- > Bennett Dam impact forces people from traditional lifestyles and occupations
- > Indigenous people forced to move to Fort Chipewyan to seek alternate lifestyles, education and employment.
- > First Nations come unto their own and begin to develop their self-government capabilities
- > Stakeholder groups develop regional presence, credibility and anticipation
- > Construction, by local residents, of the winter road south to Fort McMurray
- > Meaningful and long term participation in the Syncrude oilsand industry
- > Residents assume more ownership of key positions and agencies in the community
- > Health care, programs and services greatly expanded under Nunee Health Authority
- > Education programs and services greatly expanded by the MCFN
- > MCFN develops and establishes numerous business interests both in Fort Chipewyan and in Fort McMurray.
- > MCFN creates over 160 long term and meaningful employment opportunities during the last four years.

CHAPTER ELEVEN

ATTITUDES AND PERCEPTIONS

ATTITUDES AND PERCEPTIONS

With respect to the focus and the terms of this project, the required survey instrument was developed to incorporate the following objectives:

- > To ensure an Indigenous respondent target group
- > To ensure a heritage indigenous to the target area
- > To optimize the traditional content of responses
- > Inclusion of special measures to ensure Indigenous elder input

In layman terms, the survey methodology utilized the application of direct reference to the Suncor corporation throughout its entirety to facilitate the focus of the respondents toward the project sponsors. This approach ensured, to a great extent, the basis of the prevailing attitudes and perceptions for this project was motivated by the presence of the Suncor oil sand industrial operations in the region.

Although the primary goal of the survey was to establish and determine the prevailing attitudes and perceptions of the people of Fort Chipewyan concerning Suncor in general, the intent of this instrument is clarified through the aforementioned objectives. The underlying common denominator of these objectives, in turn, is to emphasize the historic and intimate relationship of the Indigenous people to the region. The justification for the interpretation of the results presented in the following sections of this chapter can be appreciated and understood in the context of the premise of this relationship. The objectives encapsulate the whole direction and function of the survey toward the desired results of this project.

1 The Indigenous Factor

It is a widely accepted premise that the degree of information dictates not only a decision making process but also the depth of the foundation for attitude and perception. The qualification of the information that is critical to the decision is, without exception, dependent upon the source. To maintain the integrity of the source of information utilized for this project, the survey was specifically targeted at and restricted to the Indigenous target groups of the community.

Up to very recent times, 1970 - 1972, 95 % of the people of the Indigenous groups of Fort Chipewyan lived out on the land and the delta of the immediate region on a permanent basis. This is a very important fact to note because it is the strongest indication the older generations (ages 35+) of the Indigenous people still possess traditional knowledge and an intimate relationship with the land. The prevailing characteristics of these target groups are;

- a) Involved in traditional occupations to varying degrees
- b) Maintain original traditional homesites out on the delta
- c) Possess strong traditional knowledge, skills and values
- d) Are sensitive to changes to the environment and ecology
- e) Are aware of changes to the environment and ecology that have already occurred.

The survey was developed with, first, full consideration of these characteristics, second, the inclusion of provisions to substantiate the people's traditional knowledge and bond to the land. Thus, if there is any negative affects or debilitating impacts of any nature on the ecology or environment, this target group is more than capable of substantiating this through their responses to the survey.

Notation: One of the primary goals is the determination of the extent of these influences on the ecology and environment. In conjunction with this, the information solicited from the respondents revealed the extent of the affects and impacts on their traditional lifestyles and occupations. This revelation adds credence and impetus to the purpose of this project.

2 Indigenous Heritage

The fact that this project focuses on the community, people of Fort Chipewyan and the immediate area, it was absolutely essential to restrict the survey to a target group whose heritage is Indigenous to the area. The preferred respondent group possessed the understanding, relationship and bond with the target area that are critical to the desired results for this project.

3 Traditional Lifestyles and Occupations

In conjunction with the Indigenous Heritage is the premise the target group possesses the inherent knowledge and experiential basis of traditional lifestyles and occupations that is unique and specific to the area. The justification for ensuring the innate presence of this element in the target group was based on the belief they would be extremely sensitive to any affects, impacts and changes of any nature and scope. Provisions for this sensitivity in the survey was important to substantiating and qualifying the conclusions developed for the project.

4 Input of the Indigenous Elders

The common characteristic of this age group is the fact each and every individual elder, who so kindly and willingly supported the project, had lived their entire productive years in the traditional lifestyle and maintained their self-sufficiency through traditional occupations. The project went to a great extent to ensure the input of the Indigenous elders for the following reasons:

- a) To qualify and quantify the information and data unique to traditional lifestyles and occupations.
- b) To serve as the basis for comparison and confirming the input of the responses of the younger age groups.
- c) To provide a genuine insight into the original traditional lifestyles and occupations of the Indigenous people.
- d) To impart wisdom and insights that enhance the depth and quality of the project results.
- e) To underscore the basis for the prevailing attitudes and perceptions of the people where it concerns Suncor.

SUMMARIES OF SURVEY RESULTS

Presentation Methodology

Each part of the survey is presented through it's own separate section to ensure the focus and parameters of each element for these attitudes and perceptions. The summaries of the survey results are presented in, first, graphic form to illustrate the frequency of responses in percentages, second, narrative form to serve as the basis for justifying and qualifying the prevailing attitudes and perceptions.

The resultant prevailing attitudes and perceptions for each topic are presented in a highlighted manner to conclude each survey section.

The Survey

- > The survey targeted 120 households in the community of Fort Chipewyan.
- > A total of 120 surveys were completed.
- > Eleven surveys were rejected because the respondents were not from the community and knew nothing about the area.
- > Originally 40 Indigenous Elders were identified for interviews but only 32 agreed to volunteer information for the survey.
- > The survey results of 109 household interviews were used for this project.
- > Summary figures were rounded off to the nearest percentile.

I Demographics

A Graphic Illustration

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
2	(a) <u>Age</u>		
	20 - 29	09	08.3%
	30 - 39	19	17.4%
	40 - 49	32	29.4%
	50 - 59	13	11.9%
	60 - 64	04	03.6%
	65 - 69	12	11.0%
	70 - 79	16	14.7%
	80 plus	04	03.6%
2	(b) <u>Gender</u>		
	Male	46	42.2%
	Female	31	28.4%
	Elder Male	19	17.4%
	Elder Female	13	11.9%
	Total Elders Interviewed	32	29.4%
3	<u>Place of Birth</u>		
	a) Fort Chipewyan	59	54.1%
	b) Immediate area	34	31.2%
	c) In the region	07	06.4%
	d) Outside of the region	09	08.3%
4	<u>Length of Residency (years)</u>		
	05 - 09	03	02.7%
	10 - 19	04	03.7%
	20 - 29	11	10.1%
	30 - 39	20	18.3%
	40 - 49	24	22.0%
	50 - 59	13	11.9%
	60 - 69	17	15.6%
	70 - 79	13	11.9%
	80 plus	04	03.6%

Demographics (Graphic illustration continued.....)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
5	<u>Indigenous Group Membership</u>		
	> Mikisew Cree First Nation	62	56.9%
	> Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation	19	17.4%
	> Metis Local #124	28	25.7%
6	<u>Education</u>		
	> No Schooling	28 Elders	25.7%
	> 1 - 6	12	11.0%
	> 7 - 9	22	20.2%
	> 10-12	47	43.1%
	> High School Diploma	10	09.2%
	> Post Secondary	11	10.1%
	> Tech/Vocational	17	15.6%
	> Traditional	09	08.3%
	> Mission School	23	21.1%
7	<u>Occupations</u>		
	> Retired	35	32.1%
	> Adult student	12	11.0%
	> Trades	08	07.3%
	> Admin.	02	01.8%
	> Secretarial/Recept.	01	00.9%
	> Equipment Operators	04	03.6%
	> Home maker	05	04.6%
	> Laborer	18	16.5%
	> Driver	01	00.9%
	> Professional	10	09.2%
	> Clerical	03	02.7%
	> Firefighter	06	05.5%
	> None	03	02.7%
	> Janitorial	01	00.9%
8	<u>Employment Status</u>		
	> Employed	32	29.4%
	> Unemployed	42	38.5%
	> Retired	35	32.1%
	> <u>Employed in Traditional Occupation</u>	39	35.8%

Demographics (Graphic illustration continued.....)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
9	<u>Employer</u>		
	> Federal gov't	02	01.8%
	> Provincial gov't	03	02.7%
	> Municipal gov't	01	00.9%
	> First Nation	13	11.9%
	> Business	09	08.3%
	> Community agency/organization	02	01.8%
	> Self-Employed	02	01.8%

B Demographics Narrative

2 Age

- > The 20 - 29 age bracket represents the generation that has no traditional lifestyle experience or traditional occupation knowledge and skills. This age group represents 8.2% of the total number of respondents. The total number of respondents who answered "Don't Know" to the survey questions averaged 8%. (11 questions out of a total of 119 questions) Manual tabulation of the survey results revealed that 95% (8 out of 9 respondents) of this age bracket answered "don't know" to nearly all of the survey questions with the exception of the first section on demographics.
- > To ensure consistency with the conventional definition for an elder, this project considered an elder to be a person 65 years or older. 32 out of 109 (29.4%) of the total are elders.
- > Personal interviews were conducted in the homes of 32 elders. All of the elders responded to the survey questions in their native language. The survey facilitators taped all of the interviews with the elders. The dialogue and responses of the elders were interpreted for the survey.
- > The 40-49 age bracket represented the largest respondent group at 32 or 29.4% of the total number of respondents.

Demographics (Narrative continued)

3 Place of Birth

- > Without exception, all of the respondents are Indigenous to the community of Fort Chipewyan. Even though 50 or 45.8% of the respondents were born outside of the community, their parents were Indigenous to the target area. It must be noted that the community does not have hospital facilities and birthing facilities. Over the last 25 years most expectant mothers were transported to other larger communities to have their babies. This trend continues to this date.
- > 34 or 31% of the respondents indicated they were born "out on the land" or traditionally.
- > 59 or 54.1% of the respondents indicated they were born in Fort Chipewyan during the time when a Federal government doctor (Dept. of Indian Affairs) resided full time in the community (circa: 1940-1959)

4 Length of Residency

- > Residency for the purposes of this project was defined as having lived in Fort Chipewyan or in the immediate area.
- > Although 98% of the respondents indicated they had spent all of their lives in the target area the residency question revealed inconsistencies with the original responses. All of the respondents whose length of residency did not coincide with their age had qualified their answers with the fact they had left the target area on many occasions for employment or educational reasons and returned when either the job or their schooling had finished.
- > 3 or 2% of the respondents indicated that although their residency in the target area was in the 5 - 9 years bracket, they were originally born here and had recently returned.

5 Indigenous Group Membership

- > 109 or 100% of the respondents are members of any of the following three Indigenous Groups of Fort Chipewyan:
 - a) Mikisew Cree First Nation -62 (56.9%)
 - b) Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation -19 (17.4%)
 - c) Metis Local #124 -28 (25.7%)

- > This is the first project of any sort and of the many that have been conducted over the years which can be classified as purely and totally specific and unique to the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan.

6 Education

- > 37 or 33.9% of the respondents indicated they had no formal education. Of this group 28 are elders. The remaining nine were of the opinion that although they lacked formal education they had received a traditional education from their parents which enabled them to be self-sufficient throughout their lives.

- > 81 or 74.3% had some formal education but had not achieved a high school diploma.

- > 10 or 9% achieved a high school diploma

- > 29 or 27% obtained a post-secondary or technical education

- > 23 or 21% received their education in a mission school

- > 34 or 31% did not receive a high school education

- > 45 or 41% indicated they had attended or finished their high school education outside of the community.

Demographics (Narrative continued)

7 Occupation

- > Reflecting the low education medium of the previous question, the occupations of the respondents revealed the following:
 - a) 35 or 32% of the respondents were retired and did not feel it necessary to indicate their past occupation.
 - b) 33 or 30.2% of the respondents did not have an occupation or career path.
 - c) 11 or 10% could be classified as having a professional occupation.
 - d) 12 or 11% could be classified as blue collar workers

8 Employment Status

- > 32 or 29.3% of the respondents indicated they were employed full time in conventional positions. This is a misleading figure because of the 42 that indicated they were unemployed or not employed in conventional work, 39 or 35.8% reported they were employed in traditional occupations.
- > 71 or 65% of the respondents are employed in either conventional or traditional occupations.
- > 38 or 34.9% of the respondents are unemployed.

9 Employer

- > 32 or 29% of the respondents indicated their employer. The rest of the respondents felt it was not necessary to state their employer.
- > Of those who had responded, the data revealed the following:
 - a) The First Nations are the largest employers
 - b) Government agencies are the second largest employers

II About Suncor

A Graphic Illustration

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
1	<u>Have you heard about Suncor</u>		
	Yes	86	78.9%
	No	23	21.1%
2	<u>Do you know what type of business Suncor is involved in?</u>		
	Yes	72	66.0%
	No	34	31.2%
	Tarsands mining/oil industry	69	63.3%
	No comment	03	02.7%
3	<u>Where is Suncor located?</u>		
	In or near Fort McMurray	58	53.2%
	North of Fort McMurray	26	23.8%
	Don't know	23	21.1%
	By Syncrude	02	01.8%
4	<u>Have you ever worked directly for Suncor?</u>		
	Yes	06	05.5%
	No	103	94.5%
5	<u>Have you ever worked for a company that provided goods or services to Suncor?</u>		
	Yes	07	06.4%
	No	102	93.6%

B About Suncor Narrative

1 Have you heard about Suncor?

- > A major and surprising revelation, 23 or 21.1% of the respondents indicated they had never heard about Suncor.
- > Of this group, 16 were elders who indicated they were aware of oil businesses of some sort were operating somewhere up the rivers near Fort McMurray.

2 Do you know what type of business Suncor is involved in?

- > 72 or 66% of the respondents indicated they knew the type of business Suncor was involved in. Of this group, 69 or 63% described Suncor's business within fairly accurate terms.
- > 34 or 31% were unable to describe Suncor's business. These figures reflect the findings of question one.

3 Where is Suncor located?

- > Surprisingly, in light of the fact Suncor has been in operation for over twenty years and the Fort Chipewyan to Fort McMurray road ultimately takes the respondents past the Suncor plant when they travel south, 23 or 21% did not know where Suncor was located.
- > Additionally, even though 84 or 77% of the respondents gave some indication of where Suncor was located they could not do so within accurate terms.
- > Only 2 or 1.8% of the respondents knew exactly where Suncor was located.

4 Have you ever worked directly for Suncor?

- > 6 or 5.5% of the respondents indicated they had worked directly for Suncor. However of this group only one had meaningful and long term employment. The other 5 revealed their employment with Suncor was temporary and during the construction period of the plant.

About Suncor (Narrative continued)

- > **Notation:** A majority of those who had never been employed by Suncor indicated to the survey facilitators they had at one time or another attempted to obtain employment with Suncor without success.

5 Have you ever worked for a company that provided good or service to Suncor?

- > 7 or 6.45% of the respondents worked for a company that serviced or provided goods to Suncor. All of them indicated their employment with these companies were temporary and provided no opportunity for career advancement.

About Suncor

C Prevailing Attitude and Perception

1 Prevailing Attitude (s)

It is hard to obtain meaningful and long term employment with Suncor.

2 Prevailing Perception (s)

The perception of the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan of Suncor is negligible with respect to the following findings of this section of the survey:

- a) With respect to the fact Suncor has been in operation for a good number of years and is located by a major route that connects Fort Chipewyan to the south (via the winter road), it is a major finding that 98% of the respondents were unable to describe where Suncor was located in accurate terms.
- b) 37% of the respondents could not describe or did not know what type of business Suncor is involved in.

III Cultural and Traditional

A Graphic Illustration

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
1	<u>Are there cultural and traditional sites in the area?</u>		
	Yes	76	69.7%
	No	03	02.7%
	Don't know	24	22.0%
	No comment	06	05.5%
	Description provided	75	68.8%
	> First Nation lands	39	35.8%
	> Traditional & group areas	15	13.8%
2	<u>Are some of these sites located along the shores of the rivers & lakes of the area?</u>		
	Yes	74	67.9%
	Don't know	35	32.1%
3	<u>Has Suncor impacted on these sites?</u>		
	Yes	50	45.9%
	No	19	17.4%
	Don't know	30	27.5%
	No comment	10	09.2%
	Description provided	50	45.9%
	> Water, land & air pollution	40	36.7%
	> On traditional lifestyles	10	09.2%

Cultural and Traditional (Graphic illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
4	Were there special cultural & traditional sites in the area where the Suncor plant is located?		
	Yes	11	10.1%
	No	47	43.1%
	Don't know	42	38.5%
	No comment	09	08.3%
	Description provided	11	10.1%
	> Hunting & trapping areas	11	10.1%
5	<u>Do you/your people still use these sites?</u>		
	Yes	19	17.4%
	No	63	57.8%
	Don't know	21	19.3%
	No comment	06	05.5%
	Description provided		
	> Traditional occupation areas	06	05.5%
	> Special cultural event sites	05	04.6%
	> Travel & stopping areas	07	06.4%
	> Not used because of Suncor	01	00.9%
6	<u>Did Suncor have an impact on you/your people's cultural & traditional lifestyles?</u>		
	Yes	84	77.0%
	No	09	08.3%
	Don't know	10	09.2%
	No comment	06	05.5%
	Description provided	78	71.6%
	> Traditional lifestyles hurt or lost	40	36.7%
	> Environment & ecology affected	35	32.1%

Cultural and Traditional (Graphic illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
7	<u>Did the people who moved into the area as a result of the Suncor business and operations have an impact on the cultural and traditional lifestyles of you or your people?</u>		
	Yes	44	40.4%
	No	46	42.2%
	Don't know	14	12.8%
	No Comment	05	04.6%
	Description provided	32	29.4%
	> Traditional lifestyles hurt or lost	22	20.2%
	> Pollution affected lifestyles	06	05.5%
	> Social problems	06	05.5%

B Cultural and Traditional Narrative

1 Are there cultural & traditional sites in the area?

- > A significant number, 78 or 70% of the respondents indicated there are cultural and traditional sites in the target area.
- > 75 or 69% qualified their response with a description.
- > Of the group that provided a description, 39 or 36% related such as the lands (reserves) of the First Nations
- > 15 or 14% described these sites as traditional occupation and group areas.

2 Are some of these sites located along the shores of the rivers and lakes of the area?

- > The majority, 74 or 68% of the respondents indicated there were cultural and traditional sites along the shores of the rivers and lakes of the area but would not qualify their answers by revealing where these sites were. All of the respondents of this group had strong misgivings about revealing the location of these sites.
- > A misleading figure, 35 or 32% of the respondents did not know the location of these sites but, interestingly enough, were aware of the existence of such sites.

3 Has Suncor impacted on these sites?

- > Less than 50% of the respondents, 50 (out of 109) or 46%, answered yes. It should be noted that all 50 respondents qualified their answer.
- > 40 or 37% indicated that this impact was in the form of the water land and air pollution.
- > 10 or 9% felt the impact was on the traditional lifestyles of the Indigenous people.
- > A significant number of the respondents 30 or 27% did not know if there was an impact on these sites

4 Were there special cultural and traditional sites in the area where the Suncor plant is located?

- > All 11 or 10% of the respondents who answered yes indicated these sites were originally hunting and trapping areas.
- > 47 or 43% responded with a no and 42 (39%) did not know if there were such sites where the Suncor plant is located.

Cultural and Traditional (Narrative continued)

5 Do you or your people still use these areas?

- > 63 (58%) answered no to this question and 21 (19%) did not know.
- > Inconsistent with the yes percentile (10%) of question four, 19 (17%) of the respondents indicated these sites were still in use with a qualified answer:

6 Did Suncor have an impact on you or your people's cultural and traditional lifestyles?

- > The overwhelming majority, 84 (77%), indicated that Suncor did have an impact on their cultural & traditional lifestyles.
- > 10 (9%) did not know and 9 (8%) responded with a no.
- > 28 (25.5%) of those who answered yes gave one of the two following qualified answers:
 - a) Hurt or caused the loss of traditional lifestyles
 - b) Had a negative effect on the environment & ecology

7 Did the people who moved into the area as a result of the Suncor business and operations have an impact on the cultural & traditional lifestyles of you or your people?

- > A question that did not elicit a conclusive response, the number of yes - 44 (40%) compared to no - 46 (42%) answers were almost even.
- > Of the yes group 32 (29%) qualified their answer as follows:
 - a) 22 (20%) felt there was definitely a negative impact on their cultural and traditional lifestyles
 - b) An equal number of 6 (5.5%) felt the impact was either of a pollution or a social nature.

Cultural and Traditional

C PREVAILING ATTITUDE AND PERCEPTION

1 Prevailing Attitude (s)

The presence and operations of Suncor in the region had a negative impact on the cultural and traditional areas of use and the lifestyles of the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan.

2 Prevailing Perception (s)

The presence and operation of Suncor in the region contributed to the pollution of the environment and ecology of the cultural and traditional areas of use of the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan which in turn negatively affected their cultural and traditional lifestyles.

IV THE LOCAL ECONOMY

A Graphic Illustration

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
1	<u>Has Suncor impacted on the local economy?</u>		
	Yes	46	42.2%
	No	57	52.3%
	No comment	06	05.5%
	Description provided	42	38.5%
	> Pollution affected traditional occupations	17	15.6%
	> Pollution affected wildlife resources which affected traditional occupations	11	10.1%
	> Employment and benevolent benefits	14	12.8%

The Local Economy (Graphic Illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
2	<u>Has Suncor created employment & income for you or your people?</u>		
	Yes	38	34.8%
	No	65	59.6%
	No comment	06	05.5%
	Description provided	31	28.4%
	> Very few for Fort Chipewyan Indigenous people	30	27.5%
	> Some for Fort Chipewyan Indigenous people relocated to Fort McMurray	01	00.9%
3	<u>What was the main basis of the local economy before Suncor or businesses like Suncor was established in the area?</u>		
	Don't know	10	09.2%
	No comment	14	12.8%
	Description provided	85	77.9%
	> Traditional occupations	67	61.5%
	> Gov't & First Nation employment	18	16.5%
	> Seasonal employment	18	16.5%
	> Local businesses	01	00.9%
	> Welfare	01	00.9%
4	<u>What was the main type of employment or source of income for you or your people before Suncor or businesses like Suncor was established in the area?</u>		
	Don't know	04	03.6%
	No comment	13	11.9%
	Description provided	92	84.4%
	> Traditional occupations	71	65.1%
	> Gov't & First Nation Employment	12	11.0%
	> Seasonal employment	30	27.5%
	> Local businesses	03	02.7%
	> Welfare and labor jobs	05	04.6%

The Local Economy (Graphic Illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
5	<u>Did you or any of your people obtain employment during the initial construction of Suncor or any of the early projects?</u>		
	Yes	27	24.7%
	No	72	66.0%
	Don't know	05	04.6%
	No comment	05	04.6%
	Description provided	27	25%
	> Some unknown type of employment	09	08.3%
	> Construction & labor employment	14	12.8%
	> Operator employment	03	02.7%
	> Indirect employment	01	00.9%
6	<u>What type of employment did you or they obtain then?</u>		
	Don't know	14	12.8%
	No comment	07	06.4%
	Description provided	93	85.3%
	> No employment	53	48.6%
	> Construction & labor employment	27	24.7%
	> Operator employment	11	10.1%
	> Training	02	01.8%
7	<u>Was any training provided by Suncor then?</u>		
	Yes	10	09.2%
	No	84	77.0%
	Don't know	10	09.2%
	No comment	05	04.6%
	Description provided	18	16.5%
	> Some (unknown) training	04	03.6%
	> Safety orientation	01	00.9%
	> Heavy Equipment operating training	11	10.1%
	> Laborer	01	0.9%
	> No training	01	0.9%

The Local Economy (Graphic Illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
8	<u>What are the main types of employment or sources of income for you or your people?</u>		
	Don't know	08	07.3%
	No comment	18	16.5%
	Description provided	83	76.1%
	> Traditional occupations	26	23.8%
	> Gov't & First Nations	68	62.4%
	> Local businesses	24	22.0%
	> Local construction	11	10.1%
	> First Nation businesses	29	26.6%
	> Seasonal & labor	09	08.3%
	> Tourism	04	03.6%
	> Welfare	05	04.6%
	> Syncrude	29	26.6%
	> Local schools	08	07.3%

B The Local Economy Narrative

1 Has Suncor impacted on the local economy?

- > A question that was purposely general in nature to elicit responses without steering the respondent toward any desired result other than if they felt there was an impact of any nature.
- > 46 (42%) felt Suncor did impact on the local economy and qualified their responses in both a positive and negative manner.
- > 57 (52%) indicated Suncor did not impact on the local economy.
- > 28 (26%) described the impact as the pollution of the environment and ecology that negatively affected the wildlife resources which in turn had a negative effect on traditional occupations.
- > 14 (13%) indicated the impact was positive in terms of employment and benevolent benefits.

2 Has Suncor created employment & income for you or your people?

- > Although 38 (35%) answered yes only 31 (28%) qualified their response and of these, 30 (27.5%) indicated that very few opportunities were created by Suncor.
- > One respondent felt these opportunities benefited only those Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan who had relocated to Fort McMurray.
- > 65 (59.5%) indicated that there was no such benefits from Suncor for the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan.

3 What was the main basis of the local economy before Suncor or businesses like Suncor was established in the area?

- > A significant majority of the respondents, 67 (62%), indicated the traditional occupations used to be the main basis of the local economy.
- > 38 (35%) were of the opinion that government, First Nation, local businesses and seasonal employment formed the basis of the local economy.
- > 24 (21%) didn't know or were unable to comment on this question and 1 (0.9%) respondent indicated welfare formed the basis of the local economy.

4 What was the main type of employment or source of income for you or your people before Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established in the area?

- > 17 (15.5%) didn't know or could not comment on this question.
- > 71 (65%) indicated that traditional occupations used to be the main source of employment and income.
- > The rest, 50 (46%), described the local source of employment and income as originating from government, local businesses, seasonal and welfare sources.

5 Did you or any of your people obtain employment during the initial construction of Suncor or any of the early projects?

- > The majority, 72 (66%), were of the opinion that no employment was ever obtained during this phase of Suncor's existence.
- > All 27 (25%) who responded yes qualified their answer and of these 9 (8.2%) could not describe the type of employment that was obtained.
- > Of the 27, 17 (15.8%) respondents described the employment as either construction and labor -14 (13%) or equipment operator 3 (2.8%). One respondent indicated the work obtained as indirect.
- > 10 (9%) did not know or could not respond to this question.

6 What type of employment did you or they obtain then?

- > Despite the fact that very few Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan have ever worked directly or indirectly for Suncor Inc., 40 (37%) were able to describe the type of work that those who were able to obtain employment were involved in.
- > Corresponding with question #5 in terms of descriptions, this employment with Suncor Inc., 27 (25%) described the work as construction and labor, heavy equipment operators, 11 (10%) and training, 2 (1.8%).
- > 21 (19.7%) didn't know or could not describe the work obtained.

7 Was any training provided by Suncor then?

- > The overwhelming majority of the respondents 84 (77%) indicated that no training was ever obtained by the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan from Suncor Inc.
- > Of the 18 (16.5%) who indicated training was obtained, 11 (10%) described it as heavy equipment operating training.
- > 15 ((13.5%) didn't know or could not answer the question.

The Local Economy (Narrative continued)

8 What are the main types of employment or sources of income for you or your people?

- > The majority 68 (62%) indicated that government agencies and First Nations were the primary sources of employment and income.
- > 26 (24%) described traditional occupations as the main source of work and income.
- > An equal number, 29 (27%) felt that First Nation businesses and Syncrude Canada were the major sources of work and income.
- > Local businesses was the choice of 24 (22%) respondents.
- > The remainder, 37 (34%), were described as local construction -11 (10%), seasonal and labor - 9 (8.2%), local schools -8 (7.3%), welfare -5 (4.5%) and tourism -4 (3.5%).
- > 26 (23.8%) didn't know or could not respond to the question.

The Local Economy

C PREVAILING ATTITUDE AND PERCEPTION

1 Prevailing Attitude (s)

a) **Local Economy**

The present local economy of Fort Chipewyan is the result of a transition that took place between 1900 and 1970 from a fur trade industry to a predominantly government and retail based economy that is driven and sustained by the local residents, businesses, community and government agencies and to a lesser degree, tourism and seasonal traditional employment.

The Local Economy (Prevailing Attitudes and Perceptions)

b) Economic Benefits

Suncor Inc. has not been a source of economic benefits, in terms of employment, income and training, nor has it provided such for the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan.

2 Prevailing Perception(s)

The Indigenous people, the community of Fort Chipewyan and the local economy has only realized the most marginal of economic benefits, in terms of employment, income and training, since Suncor Inc. began operations.

V LOCAL BUSINESSES AND SERVICES

A Graphic Illustration

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
1	<u>Has Suncor impacted on local businesses and services?</u>		
	Yes	06	05.5
	No	94	86.2
	Don't know	04	03.6
	No comment	05	04.6
	Description provided:	05	04.6
	> Pollution	02	01.8
	> Some economic benefits	03	02.7

Local Businesses and Services (Graphics illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
2	<u>Before Suncor was established in the area what type of businesses and services were available locally?</u>		
	Don't know	07	06.4
	No comment	44	40.4
	Description provided:	58	53.2
	> Local businesses & gov't agencies	58	53.2
	> Same as today	14	12.8
	> Traditional occupations	08	07.3
	> Utilities	03	02.7
	> Air service	02	01.8
3	<u>What type of goods and services did you or your people need to obtain before Suncor or businesses like Suncor was established?</u>		
	Don't know	13	11.9
	No comment	25	22.9
	Description provided:	71	65.1
	> Gov't agencies & services	34	31.2
	> Same as today	24	22.0
	> Food, clothing & dry goods	14	12.8
	> Air & barge services	09	08.3
	> Education	06	05.5
	> Utilities	05	04.6
	> Lived off the land	03	02.7
4	<u>Where did you or your people obtain goods and services before Suncor or businesses like Suncor was established?</u>		
	Don't know	05	04.6
	No comment	07	06.4
	Description provided:	97	88.9
	> Locally	71	65.1
	> Fort McMurray	17	15.6
	> Edmonton	08	07.3
	> Fort Smith	01	00.9

Local Businesses and Services (Graphics illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
5	<u>Were there any stores or businesses in the local area then?</u>		
	Yes	109	100
6	<u>When were stores or businesses established in your community?</u>		
	Don't know	23	21.1
	No comment	07	06.4
	Yes	79	72.5
	Description provided:	69	63.3
	> Long ago or before my time	38	43.8
	> Beginning of fur trade (1700's)	32	29.4
	> 1800's to the 1900's	09	08.3
7	<u>After Suncor or businesses like Suncor was established where any stores or businesses developed in your community?</u>		
	Yes	62	56.9
	No	47	43.1
8	<u>Was there a particular time when a large number of stores or businesses were established in your community?</u>		
	Yes	09	08.3
	No	96	88.0
	Don't know	01	00.9
	No comment	03	02.7
	Description provided:	04	03.6
	> 1900's	01	00.9
	> 1990's	01	00.9
	> Unidentified time frame	02	01.8

Local Businesses and Services (Graphics illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
9	<u>Approximately what are the years of that period?</u>		
	Don't know	75	68.8
	No comment	18	16.5
	Description provided:	16	14.7
	> 1980 to 1995	09	08.3
	> 1970 to 1980	05	04.6
	> Within the last 100 years	02	01.8
10	<u>Did the construction or operation of Suncor impact on the establishment of new businesses or services in your community?</u>		
	Yes	01	00.9
	No	101	92.7
	Don't know	02	01.8
	No comment	05	04.6
11	<u>Do local people own and operate their own businesses and services in your community today?</u>		
	Yes	109	100
	Description provided:		
	> Local retail and service business	109	100.0
	> Hospitality	23	21.1
	> Transportation and Freight	53	48.6
	> First Nation businesses	26	23.8
	> Construction & heavy equipment	18	16.5
	> Tourism	11	10.1
	> Cultural and traditional business	08	07.3
	> Agriculture	04	03.6
	No description provided	26	23.8

B Local Businesses and Services Narrative

1 Has Suncor impacted on local businesses and services?

- > 94 (86.2%) indicated Suncor did not impact on local businesses and services.
- > 6 (5.5%) felt Suncor did impact on local businesses and services
- > Of the 6 who responded yes, 5 (4.6%) qualified their response in the most general sense.
- > The 2 (1.8%) who responded yes described the impact in the form of pollution (oil spill) of the waters.
- > The 3 (2.7%) who responded yes described the impact in terms of more training for the people, increased volume for local businesses and indirect benefits from Suncor tax payments to the municipality.

2 Before Suncor was established in the area what type of businesses and services were available locally?

- > 44 (40.4%) respondents did not provide any comment or input . All were of the opinion that this question was redundant with respects to question #8 of Section D, The Local Economy of the survey.
- > The 58 (53.2%) who did respond qualified their comments with fairly accurate descriptions of the types of businesses and services that are currently available locally.

3 What type of goods and services did you or your people need to obtain before Suncor or businesses like Suncor was established?

- > 71 (65.1%) of the respondents provided a description of the types of goods and services they required during the eras preceding the establishment of Suncor.
- > 25 (22.9%) who did not comment felt this question was answered by their responses provided for question #8, Section D, The Local Economy of the survey.

Local Businesses and Services (Narrative continued)

4 Where did you or your people obtain goods and services before Suncor or businesses like Suncor was established?

- > A significant majority of the respondents, 97 (88.9%), were able to indicate specifically where they obtained their goods and services.
- > Of the 97 who provided a description, 71 (65.1%) indicated they obtained goods and services locally.
- > The 7 (6.4%) who did not comment felt this question was answered by their responses provided for question #8, Section D, The Local Economy of the survey.

5 Were there any stores or businesses in the local area then?

- > All 109 (100%) of the respondents indicated there were stores and businesses in the local area long before Suncor was established.

6 When were stores or businesses established in your community?

- > 79 (72%) indicated there were stores and businesses in the local community before Suncor was established.
- > 69 (63.3%) qualified their responses with reference to general time (eras) periods.
- > 23 (21.1%) indicated they did not know when stores or businesses were established, either in general and/or specific terms.

7 After Suncor or businesses like Suncor was established were any stores or businesses developed in your community?

- > 62 (56.9%) of the respondents answered yes to this question with verbal qualifiers.
- > 47 (43.1%) were of the opinion that no stores or businesses were developed in Fort Chipewyan after Suncor was established.

Local Businesses and Services (Narrative continued)

- > **Notation:** Although not captured on the survey, it is interesting to note that the 62 who answered yes were all members of the Mikisew Cree First Nation and were quite aware of the new businesses their First Nation had developed to take advantage of the Oil Sands industry.

8 Was there a particular time when a large number of stores or businesses were established in your community?

- > The majority of the respondents -96 (88%) were of the opinion that there was no particular time in the history of their community when a large number of stores or businesses were established.
- > Of the 9 (8.3%) who answered yes to this question, 4 (3.6%) qualified their response with reference to general periods of time.

9 Approximately what are the years of that period?

- > 75 (68.8%) of the respondents indicated they did not know of any time periods where there was significant developments of new businesses in the community.
- > There were 16 (14.7%) who provided references to general time periods. Of this group 9 (8.3%) were of the opinion the majority of these new developments occurred during a 1980 to 1995 period.

10 Did the construction or operation of Suncor impact on the establishment of new businesses or services in your community?

- > An overwhelming majority 101 (92.7%) indicated the construction and operation of Suncor had no impact on community businesses or services.
- > Only 1 (0.9%) was of the opinion there was an impact.

11 **Do local people own and operate their own businesses and services in your community today?**

- > All 109 (100%) of the respondents answered yes to this question and provided accurate references and descriptions of the types of locally owned businesses and services.

LOCAL BUSINESSES AND SERVICES

C PREVAILING ATTITUDE AND PERCEPTION

1 **Prevailing Attitude (s)**

a **Origin of Local Businesses and Services**

The past & present local businesses & services of Fort Chipewyan are the result of the personal entrepreneurial & business acumen of local residents.

b **Basis of Local Businesses and Services**

The businesses and services of Fort Chipewyan were always and continue to be motivated, driven & sustained by the local economy & resident consumer demands & requirements.

c **Availability of Goods and Services**

The prevailing attitude of the Indigenous people is most goods and services are available from local businesses and services to satisfy their consumer needs.

2 **Prevailing Perception(s)**

a **Impact of Suncor on Local Businesses & Services**

The prevailing perception of the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan is Suncor has only had the most marginal impact on the local businesses and services of the community.

b **Suncor Economic Opportunities**

The majority of the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan are of the opinion that it has been and continues to be difficult if not impossible for local businesses and services to access or take advantage of economic opportunities created by Suncor.

VI SOCIAL IMPACT

A Graphic Illustration

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
A <u>POPULATION</u>			
1	<u>How many of your people lived in the immediate area before Suncor was established?</u>		
	Don't know	16	14.7%
	No comment	5	04.6%
	Description provided	88	80.7%
	> Most lived in the bush	34	31.2%
	> 1000 and/or less	26	23.8%
	> 1001 and/or more	28	25.7%
2	<u>What were the sizes of the settlements were your people lived before Suncor was established?</u>		
	Don't know	18	16.5%
	No comment	6	05.5%
	Description provided	85	77.9%
	> 10 or less families on the trapline	38	34.8%
	> More than 10 families on the trapline	8	07.3%
	> Less than 1000	23	21.1%
	> More than 1000	16	14.7%
3	<u>Did the population of your people change since Suncor was established?</u>		
	Yes	70	64.2%
	No	19	17.4%
	No comment	10	09.2%
	Don't know	10	09.2%

Social Impact (Graphic Illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
4	<u>How has the population of your people changed locally since Suncor was established?</u>		
	No comment	11	10.1%
	Don't know	9	08.3%
	Description provided	89	81.6%
	> Increased	28	25.7%
	> Decreased	27	24.7%
	> No change	20	18.3%
	> Changed (not qualified)	14	12.8%

B COMMUNITY PATTERNS

1	<u>How did your people come to live in this community?</u>		
	No comment	1	00.9%
	Don't know	8	07.3%
	Description provided	100	91.7%
	> Was the trading center	49	44.9%
	> Loss of traditional lifestyle/occupation	37	33.9%
	> Place of birth & intermarriages	14	12.8%

2	<u>Where did your people originally live?</u>		
	No comment	1	00.9%
	Don't know	9	08.3%
	Description provided	99	90.8%
	> In the bush and delta	55	50.5%
	> Wood Buffalo National Park	33	30.3%
	> Fort Chipewyan	5	04.6%
	> Other	6	05.5%

3	<u>Did your people originally live in settlements or single family units?</u>		
	No comment	6	05.5%
	Don't know	5	04.6%
	Description provided	98	89.9%
	> Single family units	71	66.0%
	> Settlements	18	16.5%
	> Settlements & single family units	9	08.3%

Social Impact (Graphic Illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
4	<u>Were there patterns to your people's movements to and from historic traditional settlements?</u>		
	Yes	75	68.8%
	No	15	13.8%
	No comment	13	11.9%
	Don't know	6	05.5%
	Description provided	29	26.6%
	> Fort Chipewyan for supplies & holidays	17	15.6%
	> Nomadic nature of people	8	07.3%
	> Stayed in the bush all year round	4	03.6%
5	<u>How did your people's settlement patterns change since Suncor was established?</u>		
	No comment	19	17.4%
	Don't know	11	10.1%
	Description provided	79	72.5%
	> Loss of traditional lifestyle due to pollution forced people to move to Fort Chipewyan	22	20.2%
	> People moved to Fort Chipewyan for employment, goods and services	11	10.1%
	> Changed, no reason given	15	13.8%
	> Most now live in Fort Chipewyan	18	16.5%
	> No change	13	11.9%
6	<u>Why did these patterns change?</u>		
	No comment	19	17.4%
	Don't know	16	14.7%
	Description provided	74	67.9%
	> Pollution & loss of traditional livelihoods & wildlife	39	35.8%
	> Employment, education, goods & services in Fort Chipewyan	31	28.4%
	> Changed with time	3	02.7%
	> B.C Hydro (Bennett Dam)	1	00.9%

Social Impact (Graphic Illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
7	<u>Did Suncor affect your people's settlement patterns?</u>		
	Yes	50	45.9%
	No	39	35.8%
	No comment	12	11.0%
	Don't know	8	07.3%
	Description provided	48	44.0%
	> Pollution and loss of traditional lifestyles and occupations forcing people to move to Fort Chipewyan	48	44.0%
8	<u>Why did your people move to Fort Chipewyan?</u>		
	No comment	3	02.7%
	Don't know	3	02.7%
	Description provided	103	94.5%
	> Education, jobs, goods/ services	88	80.7%
	> Place of birth, marriage & home	10	09.2%
	> Forced to by the government	5	04.6%
9	<u>Did your people have to move because of the impact of Suncor?</u>		
	Yes	42	38.5%
	No	61	55.9%
	No comment	3	02.7%
	Don't know	3	02.7%
	Description provided	34	31.2%
	> Pollution affected traditional livelihoods	26	23.8%
	> Employment opportunities	8	07.3%
10	<u>Were your people's homes or traditional locations affected when Suncor was established?</u>		
	Yes	47	43.1%
	No	44	40.4%
	No comment	10	09.2%
	Don't know	8	07.3%
	Description provided	35	32.1%
	> Pollution affected traditional livelihoods	35	32.1%

Social Impact (Graphic Illustration continued)

C HEALTH

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
1	<u>What was the health of your people like before Suncor was established?</u>		
	No comment	7	06.4%
	Don't know	1	00.9%
	Description provided	101	92.7%
	> Good	51	46.8%
	> Healthy or healthier	41	37.6%
	> The same	9	08.3%
2	<u>How did your people cope with/treat illness/injury before Suncor was established?</u>		
	No comment	11	10.1%
	Don't know	1	00.9%
	Description provided	97	88.9%
	> Traditional	42	38.5%
	> Modern medicine	25	22.9%
	> Traditional & modern medicine	30	27.5%
3	<u>Have there been changes in the overall health of your people since Suncor was established?</u>		
	Yes	84	77.0%
	No	14	12.8%
	No comment	8	07.3%
	Don't know	3	02.7%
	Description provided	68	62.4%
	> Pollution affected people's health	13	11.9%
	> More illness, diseases & death	55	50.5%
4	<u>Have there been changes in the way your people coped with & treated illness & injury since Suncor was established?</u>		
	Yes	60	55.0%
	No	29	26.6%
	No comment	13	11.9%
	Don't know	7	06.4%
	Description provided	49	44.9%
	> More use of modern health services	49	44.9%

Social Impact (Graphic Illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
5	<u>Have there been changes in the types of medical services in your community as a result of Suncor?</u>		
	Yes	2	01.8%
	No	90	82.5%
	No comment	10	09.2%
	Don't know	7	06.4%
	Description provided	11	10.1%
	> More medical facilities and services due to increased need for such.	11	10.1%

6	<u>Do you think Suncor has affected your people's health?</u>		
	Yes	80	73.4%
	No	14	12.8%
	No comment	11	10.1%
	Don't know	4	03.6%
	Description provided	70	64.2%
	> Air, water & land pollution	70	64.2%

D EDUCATION

1	<u>How did your people receive their education before Suncor was established?</u>		
	No comment	6	05.5%
	Description provided	103	94.5%
	> Residential, mission & public schools	96	88.0%
	> Traditionally	7	06.4%

2	<u>How did your people learn the knowledge and skills required to be self-sufficient before Suncor was established?</u>		
	No comment	6	05.5%
	Don't know	3	02.7%
	Description provided	100	91.7%
	> Traditionally	88	80.7%
	> Conventionally	3	02.7%
	> Training on the job	9	08.3%

Social Impact (Graphic Illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
3	<u>Were there schools in your community prior to when Suncor was established?</u>		
	Yes	109	100.0%
4	<u>When were the first schools developed in your community and who administered them?</u>		
	No comment	8	07.3%
	Don't know	27	24.7%
	Description provided	74	67.9%
	> By priest & nuns long ago	35	32.1%
	> R.C. & Anglican missions (1800-1900)	18	16.5%
	> Before my time (no dates given)	15	13.8%
	> Indian Affairs (no dates given)	5	04.6%
	> Northlands (1950's)	1	00.9%
5	<u>Have there been changes in how your people were educated since the establishment of Suncor?</u>		
	Yes	36	33.0%
	No	30	27.5%
	No comment	10	09.2%
	Don't know	7	06.4%
	Description provided	26	23.8%
	> Emphasis on trades & professions	13	11.9%
	> New Schools	4	03.6%
	> Less traditionally	2	01.8%
	> Training for jobs	2	01.8%
	> More local control	3	02.7%
	> Secularization	2	01.8%
6	<u>Has Suncor changed the way your people obtained their education?</u>		
	Yes	27	24.7%
	No	53	48.6%
	No comment	11	10.1%
	Don't know	6	05.5%
	Description provided	11	10.1%
	> More emphasis on training & professions	11	10.1%

Social Impact (Graphic Illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
7	<u>Have you or your people received training or developed new employment related skills as a result of their involvement with Suncor?</u>		
	Yes	11	10.1%
	No	83	76.1%
	No comment	11	10.1%
	Don't know	4	03.6%
	Description provided	7	06.4%
	> But not much	5	04.6%
	> With Syncrude	2	01.8%

E HOUSING

1	<u>What types of homes did your people live in before Suncor was established?</u>		
	No comment	4	03.6%
	Don't know	4	03.6%
	Description provided	101	92.7%
	> Traditional	71	65.1%
	> Conventional	30	27.5%

2	<u>Did your people have more than one home in the area?</u>		
	Yes	71	65.1%
	No	38	34.8%

3	<u>How have your people's homes changed since Suncor was established?</u>		
	Yes	17	15.6%
	No	22	20.2%
	No comment	7	06.4%
	Don't know	11	10.1%
	Description provided	52	47.7%
	> Better & more modern homes	36	33.0%
	> Pollution forced people from traditional homes	11	10.1%
	> People can now afford home improvements	5	04.6%

Social Impact (Graphic Illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
4	<u>Did Suncor affect housing for your people?</u>		
	Yes	2	01.8%
	No	97	88.9%
	No comment	5	04.6%
	Don't know	5	04.6%
5	<u>Were there any homes or cabins affected by Suncor?</u>		
	Yes	33	30.3%
	No	62	56.9%
	No comment	7	06.4%
	Don't know	7	06.4%
	Description provided	23	21.1%
	> Pollution forced people from traditional homes	23	21.1%
<u>F MUNICIPAL SERVICES</u>			
1	<u>How did your people move themselves and their families before Suncor was established?</u>		
	No comment	3	02.7%
	Don't know	1	00.9%
	Description provided	105	96.3%
	> Water in the summer, dogsled or snowmobile in the winter	95	87.1%
	> Boat	3	02.7%
	> Vehicles	3	02.7%
	> Plane	4	03.6%
2	<u>Was there power, water and other municipal services in your community before Suncor was established?</u>		
	Yes	99	90.8%
	No comment	8	07.3%
	Don't know	2	01.8%
	Description provided	61	55.9%
	> Utilities & phones	61	55.9%

Social Impact (Graphic Illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
3	<u>Have there been changes in municipal services & transportation since Suncor was established?</u>		
	Yes	77	70.6%
	No	18	16.5%
	No comment	11	10.1%
	Don't know	3	02.7%
	Description provided	49	44.9%
	> Increased municipal services & transportation	41	37.6%
	> Paved roads & winter road	4	03.6%
	> More vehicles	4	03.6%
4	<u>Did Suncor affect the way your people transported themselves & goods in the area?</u>		
	No	98	89.9%
	No comment	11	10.1%
5	<u>When did your community first get power, water and other municipal services?</u>		
	No comment	14	12.8%
	Don't know	18	16.5%
	Description provided	77	70.6%
	> Last 20 - 30 years	68	60.5%
	> Before my time (no time line given)	9	08.3%
6	<u>What types of municipal & transportation services does the community have today?</u>		
	No comment	3	02.7%
	Don't know	2	01.8%
	Description provided	104	95.4%
	> All municipal services & transportation	74	67.9%
	> Paved roads & winter road	4	03.6%
	> More vehicles	26	23.8%

Social Impact (Graphic Illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
7	<u>Did Suncor affect the timing & types of municipal & transportation services for your community?</u>		
	No	93	85.3%
	No comment	13	11.9%
	Don't know	3	02.7%

B The Social Impact Narrative

A POPULATION

1 How many of your people lived in the immediate area before Suncor was established?

- > 88 (80.7%) of the respondents indicated they knew, in general terms, how many of their people lived in the immediate area
- > 54 (49.5%) of these respondents were able to qualify their answer in more specific terms.
- > 21 (19.3%) of the respondents either did not know or could not provide a comment.

2 What were the sizes of the settlements were your people lived before Suncor was established?

- > 85 (77.9%) were able to indicate, in general terms, the sizes if the settlements.
- > 24 (22%) did not know or could not provide a comment.

3 Did the population of your people change since Suncor was established?

- > The majority, 70 (64.2%) were of the opinion the population of their people changed since Suncor was established.
- > 19 (17.4%) felt that there was no population change since Suncor was established.
- > 20 (18.6%) did not know or could not provide an answer.

4 How has the population of your people changed locally since Suncor was established?

- > 89 (81.6%) indicated there was a change and of these respondents 75 (68.8%) were able to describe this change in specific terms.
- > 14 (12.8%) indicated there was a change but did not qualify their answer.
- > 20 (18.3%) did not or could not provide an answer.

B COMMUNITY PATTERNS

1 How did your people come to live in this community?

- > 100 (91.7%) of the respondents indicated, in general terms, they knew the reason why their people came to live in Fort Chipewyan.
- > 49 (44.9%) answered Fort Chipewyan was the trading center
- > 37 (33.9%) were of the opinion the reason was due to the loss of traditional lifestyles and occupations.
- > 14 (12.8%) gave the reasons it was a place of birth and marriage.
- > 9 (8.3%) did not know or could not provide an answer.

2 Where did your people originally live?

- > 99 (90.8%) of the respondents indicated, in general terms, they knew where their people originally lived.
- > These same respondents provided the following specific answers:
 - > 55 (50.5%) -In the bush and delta
 - > 33 (30.3%) -Wood Buffalo National Park
 - > 5 (4.6%) -Fort Chipewyan
 - > 6 (5.5%) -Other specific locations
- > 10 (9.2%) didn't know or couldn't provide an answer.

3 Did your people originally live in settlements or single family units?

- > 98 (89.9%) of the survey participants provided specific answers which were grouped as follows:
 - > 71 (66%) -Single family units
 - > 18 (16.5%) -Settlements
 - > 9 (8.3%) -Both single family units & settlements
- > 11 (10.1%) did not know or offered no answer.

4 Were there patterns to your people's movements to and from historic traditional settlements?

- > 75 (68.8%) said yes and of this group 25 (22.9%) qualified their answers in either of the two ways:
 - > 17 (15.6%) -To Fort Chipewyan for supplies & holidays
 - > 8 (7.3%) -Nomadic nature of their people
- > 15 (13.8%) said no and of these respondents 4 (3.6%) provided the same qualified answer which was their people stayed in the bush year round.
- > 19 (17.4%) couldn't answer this question or did not know.

5 How did your people's settlement patterns change since Suncor was established?

- > 79 (72.5%) of the respondents were able to provide answers, in a general sense, which in turn were grouped as follows:
 - > 40 (36.7%) -Pollution caused loss of traditional lifestyles forcing people to move to Fort Chipewyan and were most now live.
 - > 11 (10.1%) -Moved to Fort Chipewyan for employment & goods & services.
 - > 15 (13.8%) -Were of the opinion there was change but did not qualify their response.
 - > 13 (11.9%) -Stated there was no change.
- > A significant number, 30 (27.5%) did not know or could not provide an answer.

6 Why did these patterns change?

- > 74 (67.9%) were able to provide qualified answers to this question that were grouped accordingly:
 - > 39 (35.8%) -Pollution and the (resultant) loss of traditional lifestyles and wildlife.
 - > 31 (28.4%) -For education, employment, goods & services that were available in Fort Chipewyan.
 - > 3 (2.7%) -Changed with time (meaning their people had adapted to modern/main society lifestyles over time & abandoning traditional lifestyles.)
 - * > 1 (0.9%) -The resultant effects of the B.C. Hydro Dam.
- > 35 (32.1%) were unable to answer or didn't know.
- * > **Notation:** It should be noted at this point that many respondents indicated, apart from the survey, that the B.C. Hydro (Bennett) Dam was the root cause for the lowering of the Delta water levels which had a devastating effect on the traditional lifestyles of the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan and the wildlife upon which they depended. Some of the respondents were adamant about indicating this fact even though the survey was specific to Suncor. Their responses are captured throughout the rest of this survey and are noted with a (*).

7 Did Suncor affect your people's settlement patterns?

- > 50 (45.9%) replied yes and of these respondents, 48 (44%) gave the same qualified answer that is noted as follows:
 - > Pollution caused loss of traditional lifestyles and occupations forcing their people to move to Fort Chipewyan.
 - > 2 (1.8%) of those who said yes did not qualify their response.
- > 39 (35.8%) said no
- > 20 (18.3%) did not know or could not provide an answer.

8 Why did your people move to Fort Chipewyan?

- > 103 (94.5%) provided qualified answers which were grouped as follows:
 - > 88 (80.7%) -For education, jobs, goods and services.
 - > 10 (9.2%) -Place of birth, marriage and home
 - * > 5 (4.6%) -Forced to by the government
- > 6 (5.5%) of the respondents didn't know or would not answer.
- * > **Notation:** The five respondents who said the reason for the move was, forced to by the government, were all Mikisew Cree First Nation elders. These elders, apart from the survey(captured on tape), explained that they were forced to move from the Wood Buffalo National Park because of excessive regulations & interference by park officials in their traditional lifestyles and occupations.

9 Did your people have to move because of the impact of Suncor?

- > 42 (38.5%) said yes to this question and of these respondents 34 (31.2%) qualified their answer, their descriptions where grouped as follows:
 - > 26 (23.8%) -Pollution affected traditional lifestyles which forced them to abandon such and move to Fort Chipewyan.

Social Impact (Narrative continued)

- > 8 (7.3%) -A positive indicator, where the impact was described as employment opportunities (which motivated the people to move to take advantage of the new jobs created by Suncor)
- > 61 (55.9%) answered no
- > 6 (5.5%) did not know or could not answer

10 Were your people's homes or traditional locations affected when Suncor was established?

- > 47 (43.1%) of the respondents said yes to this question of which 35 (32.1) qualified their answer and all in the same fashion indicated as follows:
 - > Pollution affected traditional livelihoods (interpreted to mean pollution forced them to abandon their traditional livelihoods and occupations and ultimately to move to Fort Chipewyan)
- > 44 (40.4%) responded with a no.
- > 18 (16.5%) did not know or could not answer.

C HEALTH

1 What was the health of your people like before Suncor was established?

- > 101 (92.7%) were able to provide a qualified answer to this question and their responses were grouped as follows:
 - > 51 (46.8%) -Good
 - > 41 (37.6%) -Healthy or healthier
 - > 9 (8.3%) -The same
- > Only 8 (7.3%) did not know or could not answer

2 How did your people cope with & treat illness & injury before Suncor was established?

- > 97 (88.9%) gave a qualified answer and these in turn were grouped accordingly:
 - > 42 (38.5%) -Traditional medicine and herbs
 - > 25 (22.9%) -Modern medicine and drugs
 - > 30 (27.5%) -Traditional and modern medicine
- > 12 (11%) did not know or could not answer.

3 Have there been changes in the overall health of your people since Suncor was established?

- > 84 (77%) of the respondents answered yes and of these 68 (62.4%) were able to provide descriptions of these changes which were grouped as follows:
 - > 55 (50.5%) -More illness , diseases and death
 - > 13 (11.9%) -Pollution affected people's health
- > 14 (12.8%) said no to this question
- > 11 (10.1%) didn't know or couldn't answer

4 Have there been changes in the way your people coped with and treated illness and injury since Suncor was established?

- > 60 (55%) of the survey participants answered yes to this question and 49 (44.9%) of these respondents qualified their response, all in the same manner as indicated:
 - > More use of modern health services
- > 29 (26.6%) answered no to this question.
- > 20 (18.3%) did not know or could not answer.

5 Have there been changes in the types of medical services in your community as a result of Suncor?

- > 90 (82.5%) answered no
- > 2 (1.8%) replied with a yes response.
- > 11 (10.1) qualified their response and all with the same qualifier as indicated:
 - > More medical facilities & services due to increased need for such.
- > 17 (15.6%) did not know or could not answer this question.

6 Do you think Suncor has affected your people's health?

- > 80 (73.4%) said yes and of these respondents 70 (64.2%) qualified their answer and all with the same description as summarized:
 - > Pollution of the air, water and land.
- > 14 (12.8%) of the respondents said no to this question.
- > 15 (13.8%) didn't know or couldn't answer the question.

D EDUCATION

1 How did your people receive their education before Suncor was established?

- > 103 (94.5%) were able to answer this question in general terms which were grouped as follows:
 - > 96 (88%) -Residential, mission & public schools
 - * > 7 (6.4%) -Traditionally
- > 6 (5.5%) offered no comment.

- * > **Notation:** The 7 respondents who said traditionally as their answer were elders of either the Mikisew Cree First Nation or the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation. These 7 survey participants did not receive any formal education and had originally been taught by their parents in the traditional and cultural ways of their respective indigenous group.

2 How did your people learn the knowledge and skills required to be self-sufficient before Suncor was established?

- > 100 (91.7%) provided descriptive answers to this question & these responses were grouped as indicated:
 - > 88 (80.7%) -Traditionally
 - > 3 (2.7%) -Conventionally
 - > 9 (8.3%) -Training on the job
- > 9 (8.3%) did not or could not respond to this question.

3 Were there schools in your community prior to when Suncor was established?

- > All 109 (100%) of the respondents answered yes to this question.

4 When were the first schools developed in your community and who administered them?

- > 74 (67.9%) of the respondents provided descriptive answers which in turn were arranged as follows:
 - > 53 (48.6%) -R.C. & Anglican missions & clergy long ago (1800-1900)
 - > 15 (13.8) -Before my time (although no dates were given the respondents meant the 1800-1900 period of time)
 - > 5 (4.6%) -Federal department of Indian Affairs.
 - > 1 (0.9%) -Northlands school division (1950's)

5 Have there been changes in how your people were educated since the establishment of Suncor?

- > 36 (33%) answered yes and of this group 26 (23.8%) qualified their responses with the following descriptions:
 - > 15 (13.8%) -Emphasis on trades, professions and training for jobs.
 - > 6 (5.5%) -New schools and less traditionally
 - > 5 (4.6%) -More local control and secularization
- > 30 (27.5%) said there were no changes
- > 17 (15.6%) didn't know or couldn't answer the question

6 Has Suncor changed the way your people obtained their education?

- > 27 (24.7%) indicated there were changes and of these respondents 11 (10.1%) qualified their response in the same manner as follows:
 - > More emphasis on training and professions
- > 53 (48.6%) were of the opinion there were no changes
- > 17 (15.6%) did not know or could not provide an answer

7 Have you or your people received training or developed new employment related skills as a result of their involvement with Suncor?

- > 83 (76.1%) responded with a no to this question
- > 11 (10.1%) said yes and of this group 7 qualified their response in very general terms which were classified as follows:
 - > 5 (4.6%) -But not much
 - > 2 (1.8%) -(not with Suncor but) with Syncrude
- > 15 (13.8%) were unable to or did not provide an answer

E HOUSING

1 What types of homes did your people live in before Suncor was established?

- > 101 (92.7%) responded with general descriptions which in turn were classified as follows:
 - > 71 (65.1%) -Traditional (homes)
 - > 30 (27.5%) -Conventional (modern homes)
- > 8 (7.3%) indicated they did not know or could not answer the question

2 Did your people have more than one home in the area?

- > *71 (65.1%) of the respondents indicated they have more than one home in the area.
- > *38 (34.8%) indicated they only had one home in the area.
 - > **Notation #1:** Is the strongest indicator of the ties the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan maintain to their traditional lands, lifestyles and occupations. Without exception, all of these respondents indicated, apart from the survey, their primary home was in the community and their secondary home was located out on the delta, the riverways and/or on the traditional lands of either the Mikisew Cree First Nation or the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation. All, also indicated their secondary (traditional homes) were primarily used for maintaining traditional lifestyles and occupations. On the average, most of the respondents of this group used their traditional home an average of three months (a total of the times they go out to their traditional homes) out of the year. Without exception, all of these traditional homes/sites have been in their families for generations.
 - > **Notation #2:** This group of respondents, apart from the survey, with the exception of two people, all indicated their immediate family maintained a second (traditional) home even though they, as individual, did not own one. Most indicated their desire or intent to build and own a home on the traditional lands of their people.

3 How have your people's homes changed since Suncor was established?

- > *69 (63.3%) indicated there were changes & of this group 52 (47.7%) qualified their position with one of the following descriptions:
 - > 36 (33%) -Better & more modern homes
 - > 11 (10.1%) -Pollution forced move from traditional homes
 - > 5 (4.6%) -People can now afford home improvements
- > 22 (20.2%) felt there were no changes
- > 18 (16.5%) did not know or could not answer the question
- > **Notation:** Apart from the survey, all these respondents indicated the changes are the result of the growth of the local economy and the efforts of local stakeholder groups toward the creation of a significant number of long term employment opportunities within the last 10 years.

4 Did Suncor affect housing for your people?

- > 97 (88.9%) were of the opinion Suncor did not affect housing for their people.
- > 2 (1.8%) indicated Suncor did have an affect on the housing for their people but did not qualify their position.
- > 10 (9.2%) did not know or couldn't respond to the question

5 Were there any homes or cabins affected by Suncor?

- > 33 (30.3%) answered yes to this question and of these 23 (21.1%) provided the ensuing qualifier:
 - > Pollution forced people from traditional homes (no further elaboration or justification for the statement)
- > 62 (56.9%) indicated there was no affect
- > 14 (12.8%) did not know or could not provide an answer

F MUNICIPAL SERVICES

1 How did your people move themselves & their families before Suncor was established?

- > 105 (96.3%) of the respondents provided descriptive answers to this question which in turn were grouped as follows:
 - > 95 (87.1%) -Water in the summer, dogsled or snowmobile in the winter.
 - > 10 (9.2%) -boat, vehicles and plane
- > 4 (3.6%) could not or did not provide an answer

2 Was there power, water and other municipal services in your community before Suncor was established?

- > 99 (90.8%) indicated there were utilities and municipal services in the community before Suncor was established. 61 (55.9%) qualified their responses which were summarized as follows:
 - > Utilities and phones
- > 10 (9.2%) couldn't or didn't answer this question

3 Have there been changes in municipal services and transportation since Suncor was established?

- > 77 (70.6%) said there were changes and of this group 49 (44.9%) provided descriptions which were summarized as follows:
 - > 41 (37.6%) -Increased municipal services & transportation
 - > 4 (3.6%) -Paved roads & winter road
 - > 4 (3.6%) -More vehicles
- > 18 (16.5%) indicated there were no changes
- > 14 (12.8%) couldn't or didn't provide a response

4 Did Suncor affect the way your people transported themselves and goods in the area?

- > 98 (89.9%) said no to this question and none qualified their answer.
- > 11 (10.1%) would not comment on this question

5 When did your community first get power, water and other municipal services?

- > 77 (70.6%) provided answers referring to very general time periods which in turn were grouped as follows:
 - > 68 (60.5%) -Last 20 - 30 years
 - > 9 (8.3%) -Before my time (no time line given)
- > 32 (29.4%) didn't know or couldn't respond to the question

6 What types of municipal and transportation services does the community have today?

- > 104 (95.4%) indicated and provided qualified answers that were grouped accordingly:
 - > 74 (67.9%) -All municipal & transportation services
 - * > 26 (23.8%) -More vehicles
 - > 4 (3.6%) -Paved roads and winter road
- > 5 (4.6%) did not know or could not provide a response
 - > **Notation:** One of the reasons the respondents indicated there were more vehicles today is because of the greatly improved & expanded road system and municipal road services that occurred within the last 10 years.

7 **Did Suncor affect the timing & types of municipal and transportation services for your community?**

- > 93 (85.3%) said no to this question and none provided a qualifier
- > 16 (14.7%) did not know and could not provide a answer

Social Impact

C PREVAILING ATTITUDE AND PERCEPTION

1 **Prevailing Attitude(s)**

a **Natural Habitat**

Pollution of the air, water and lands is one of the primary causes resulting in the deterioration of much of the natural habitat of the region surrounding Fort Chipewyan.

b **Indigenous Wildlife**

Pollution has had and continues to have a negative affect on the health and numbers of the indigenous wildlife of the region resulting in both their decline and becoming unfit for human consumption.

c **Traditional Lifestyles and Occupations**

The deterioration of the natural habitat and the serious decline in the health and population of indigenous wildlife has forced the Indigenous people of the Fort Chipewyan region to abandon their traditional lifestyles and occupations.

d **Lower Water Levels**

The lower water levels of the delta, that occurred within the last 25 years, is one of the major factors that has resulted in a profound negative affect on the natural habitat and wildlife which in turn forced the Indigenous people to abandon their traditional lifestyles and occupations.

e **Relocation of Indigenous People to Fort Chipewyan**

The pollution of the air, water and lands in addition to the lowering of the delta water levels are the prime factors that forced the Indigenous people to, first, abandon their traditional lifestyles and occupations, second, relocate to Fort Chipewyan.

f **Fort Chipewyan**

The hamlet of Fort Chipewyan is, historically and at present, the main center of trade, commerce, alternate employment, education and services for the Indigenous people of the immediate region. In reference to the historic relationship of the community with the Indigenous people, in conjunction with the loss of their traditional lifestyles and occupations, the justification for relocating there is understandable.

g **Population**

Pollution and the lowering of the delta water levels affected the population and movement of the Indigenous people of the region immediately surrounding Fort Chipewyan.

h **Community Patterns**

Up to the early 1970's the Indigenous people lived in single family units and small settlements on their traditional lands in the region of Fort Chipewyan.

i **Health**

Pollution had an indirect negative affect on the overall health of the Indigenous people in the region of Fort Chipewyan.

j **Education**

Other than the secularization of Education within the last 25 years the only major change has been the recent emphasis on career orientation and preparation.

k **Housing**

The steady growth and development of the local economic base of Fort Chipewyan within the last thirty years has created a significant number of employment opportunities for the Indigenous people which has enabled them to afford newer and more modern homes and/or renovations.

l **Municipal Services**

There have been important improvements in the level and range of municipal services and the roads and transportation system in Fort Chipewyan within the last 25 years.

2 Prevailing Perception(s)

a Natural Habitat

The oilsand plants, located north of Fort McMurray, are the main sources of pollution that had and continues to have a negative affect on the natural habitat of the Fort Chipewyan area.

b Indigenous Wildlife

The oilsand plants, located north of Fort McMurray, are the main sources of pollution that had and continues to have a negative affect on the Indigenous wildlife of the area which has resulted in the decline of their populations and health.

c Traditional Lifestyles and Occupations

The oilsand plants, located north of Fort McMurray, are the main sources of pollution whose negative effects have indirectly forced the Indigenous people of the Fort Chipewyan region to abandon their traditional lifestyles and occupations.

d Lower Water Levels

The opening of the Bennett Dam (1969-70) is the direct cause and reasons for the permanent lowering of the delta water levels.

e Relocation of Indigenous People to Fort Chipewyan

The oilsand projects are the primary source of the pollution whose effects and impact has indirectly forced the Indigenous people to abandon their traditional lifestyles and occupations and to move to Fort Chipewyan.

f Population

Pollution from the oilsand projects is one of the primary negative influences that affected the population and the movement of the Indigenous people of the Fort Chipewyan area.

g Community Patterns

Pollution from the oilsand projects is one of the primary causes of change to the original and traditional community patterns of the Indigenous people of the Fort Chipewyan area.

- h **Health**
Pollution from the oilsand projects is one of the primary causes of the resultant negative change in the overall health of the indigenous people of the Fort Chipewyan area.
- i **Education**
The oilsand projects of the region did not have an impact on the education system and delivery in the Indigenous communities of Fort Chipewyan.
- j **Housing**
The oilsand projects of the region did not have an impact on the housing in the Indigenous communities of Fort Chipewyan.
- k **Municipal Services**
Municipal services and the roads of Fort Chipewyan have greatly improved over the last 25 years but this is not attributed to or the result of the establishment of the oilsand projects.

VII ENVIRONMENTAL & ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS

A Graphic Illustration

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
A	<u>FAUNA</u>		
1	<u>What was hunting, fishing & trapping like before Suncor was established?</u>		
	Don't know	03	02.7%
	Description provided	106	97.2%
	> Good to excellent	74	67.9%
	> More than enough to sustain traditional lifestyle	32	29.4%

Environmental & Ecological Impacts (Graphic Illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
2	<u>How much hunting, fishing & trapping took place before Suncor was established?</u>		
	Don't know	01	00.9%
	Description provided	108	99.0%
	> Primary activity -traditional lifestyle	108	99.0%
3	<u>What animals & birds were used by your people for food?</u>		
	Description provided	109	100%
	> All indigenous animals & birds	109	100%
4	<u>What fish were used by your people for food?</u>		
	Description provided	109	100%
	> All indigenous fish	109	100%
5	<u>What types of fish were more abundant at different times of the year?</u>		
	Don't know	18	24.7%
	Description provided	91	83.5%
	> All indigenous species abundant year round	86	78.9%
	> Depended on season & spawning times	05	04.6%
6	<u>What types of animals & birds were more abundant at different times of the year?</u>		
	Don't know	14	12.8%
	Description provided	95	87.1%
	> All indigenous species abundant year round (67 -61.5% provided more specific information as illustrated)	93	85.3%
	> Spring -Water Fowl	15	13.8%
	> Summer -Water animals	04	03.6%
	> Summer -Water Fowl	06	05.5%
	> Fall -Caribou	12	11.0%
	> Fall -Water Fowl	07	06.4%
	> Winter -Moose	12	11.0%
	> Winter -Moose	01	00.9%
	> Dependent upon the season	02	01.8%

Environmental & Ecological Impacts (Graphic Illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
7	<u>Have the numbers of animals, birds & fish been affected by Suncor?</u>		
	Yes	95	87.1%
	No	06	05.5%
	Don't know	08	07.3%
	Description provided	95	87.1%
	> Pollution caused their dramatic decline	78	71.6%
	> Have moved away	09	08.3%
	> Low waters (Bennett Dam)	08	07.3%
8	<u>When did these changes occur?</u>		
	Don't know	11	10.1%
	Description provided	98	89.9%
	> When the oilsand plants began operations (no date given)	48	44.0%
	> 1990's	01	00.9%
	> 1980's	09	08.3%
	> 1970's	12	11.0%
	> 1960's	02	01.8%
	> 1950's	01	00.9%
	> Late 1960's, Bennett Dam opening	08	07.3%
	> When pollution, oil spills began (no date given)	12	11.0%
9	<u>Why do you think these changes occurred?</u>		
	Don't know	10	09.2%
	Description provided	99	90.8%
	> Pollution of air, water and land	81	74.3%
	> Oil spills in the 80's	10	09.2%
	> Dramatic drop of water levels	08	
10	<u>What type of animals have been affected?</u>		
	Don't know	10	09.2%
	Description provided	99	90.8%
	> All indigenous species	89	81.6%
	> Mostly all water animals	10	09.2%

Environmental & Ecological impacts (Graphic Illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
11	<u>What types of birds have been affected?</u>		
	Don't know	10	09.2%
	Description provided	99	90.8%
	> All indigenous species	90	82.5%
	> All waterfowl	09	08.3%
12	<u>What types of fish have been affected?</u>		
	Don't know	08	07.3%
	Description provided	101	92.7%
	> All indigenous species	101	92.7%
13	<u>How have the animals been affected?</u>		
	Don't know	10	09.2%
	Description provided	99	90.8%
	> Pollution of the air, water & land	91	83.5%
	> Low water levels	07	06.4%
14	<u>How have the birds been affected?</u>		
	Don't know	09	07.3%
	Description provided	100	91.7%
	> Pollution of the air, water & land	92	84.4%
	> Low water levels	08	07.3%
15	<u>How have the fish been affected?</u>		
	Don't know	08	07.3%
	Description provided	101	92.7%
	> Pollution of the air, water & land	98	89.9%
	> Low waters	03	02.7%
16	<u>Has Suncor affected hunting , fishing, & trapping areas and/or traplines?</u>		
	Yes	94	86.2%
	No	06	05.5%

Environmental & Ecological Impacts (Graphic Illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
Question #16 continued - (Has Suncor affected hunting, fishing, & trapping areas and/or traplines?)			
	Don't know	09	08.3%
	Description provided	94	86.2%
	> Pollution of air, water & land	70	64.2%
	> Pollution destroyed traditional lifestyles	20	18.3%
	> Pollution making them unsafe for consumption	04	03.6%
<hr/>			
17	<u>How did these effects impact on the animals, birds & fish used for food by your people?</u>		
	Don't know	12	11.0%
	Description provided	97	88.9%
	> Pollution making them unsafe for consumption	74	67.9%
	> Pollution of natural habitat causing major decline of all wildlife	23	21.1%
<hr/>			
18	<u>How did these affects impact on the traditional hunting, fishing and trapping occupations of your people?</u>		
	Don't know	24	22.0%
	Description provided	85	77.9%
	> Pollution of natural habitat caused major decline of all wildlife which has destroyed traditional lifestyles	85	77.9%
<hr/>			
B	FLORA		
<hr/>			
1	<u>What types of plants did your people historically use before Suncor was established?</u>		
	Don't know	25	22.9%
	Description provided	84	77.0%
	> Traditional plants, berries & herbs	57	52.3%
	> Wouldn't specify	27	24.7%

Environmental & Ecological Impacts (Graphic Illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
2	<u>How much gathering was done along the rivers & lakes?</u>		
	Don't know	35	32.1%
	Description provided	74	67.9%
	> Alot, part of traditional lifestyle	36	33.0%
	> Wouldn't specify	32	29.4%
	> Annually & according to seasons	06	05.5%
3	<u>What types of plants & herbs were used historically by your people?</u>		
	Don't know	23	21.1%
	Description provided	86	78.9%
	> Specified	43	39.4%
	> Ratroot	32	29.4%
	> Wildmint	18	16.5%
	> Spruce Gum	06	05.5%
	> Birch Sap	06	05.5%
	> Muskeg Tea	03	02.7%
	> Red Willow	04	03.6%
	> Sweet grass	11	10.1%
	> Dandelions roots	02	01.8%
	> Wild herbs	08	07.3%
	> Berries	05	04.6%
	> Wild flowers	07	06.4%
	>Wouldn't specify	43	39.4%
4	<u>When were the different types of plants gathered?</u>		
	Don't know	31	28.4%
	Description provided	78	71.6%
	> Spring to Fall	28	25.7%
	> Wouldn't specify	50	45.9%
5	<u>Have the numbers & kinds of plants gathered changed?</u>		
	Yes	62	56.9%
	No	26	23.8%
	Don't know	21	19.3%
	Description provided	54	49.5%
	> Wouldn't specify	26	23.8%
	> Are almost gone & hard to find now	16	14.7%
	> (yes) due to loss of traditional lifestyles	09	08.3%
	> Not gathered because they are polluted	03	02.7%

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
6	<u>When did these changes occur?</u>		
	Don't know	54	49.5%
	Description provided	55	50.5%
	> When oilsand plants began operations	12	11.0%
	> When traditional lifestyles lost	05	04.6%
	> When Bennett Dam opened, early 70's	03	02.7%
	> 1950's	01	00.9%
	> 1960's	02	01.8%
	> 1970's	04	03.6%
	> 1980-90's	01	00.9%
	> Wouldn't specify	27	24.7%
7	<u>Why do you think these changes occurred?</u>		
	Don't know	40	36.7%
	Description provided	69	63.3%
	> Pollution caused these changes	20	18.3%
	> Because of the oil sand plants	10	09.2%
	> Low water levels	08	07.3%
	> Not taught traditionally anymore	07	06.4%
	> Wouldn't specify	24	22.0%
8	<u>What has been the impact on the plants that used to be gathered?</u>		
	Don't know	40	36.7%
	Description provided	69	63.3%
	> Pollution -destroyed their habitat, caused their decline & making them unsafe for use.	39	35.8%
	> Loss of traditional lifestyles & use of modern medicine	05	04.6%
	> Low water levels	03	02.7%
	> Wouldn't specify	22	20.2%
9	<u>Are there plants your people can no longer gather because of the impact of Suncor?</u>		
	Yes	67	61.5%
	No	11	10.1%
	Don't know	31	28.4%

Environmental and Ecological Impact

B Narrative

A Fauna

1 What was hunting, fishing and trapping like before Suncor was established?

- > 106 (97.2%) of the respondents provided descriptive answers which in turn were grouped as follows:
 - > 74 (67.9%) -Good to excellent
 - > 32 (29.4%) -More than enough to sustain traditional lifestyle.
- > 3 (2.7%) did not know

2 How much hunting, fishing & trapping took place before Suncor was established?

- > 108 (99%) of the survey participants were able to provide a qualified answer to this question and everyone gave basically the same answer which was summarized as follows:
 - > It was the primary activity, traditional lifestyle & occupation.
- > Only 1 (0.9%) respondent did not know

3 What animals & birds were used by your people for food?

- > All 109 (100%) of the respondents gave the same descriptive answer as summarized:
 - > All indigenous animals and birds

4 What fish were used by your people for food?

- > All 109 (100%) of the respondents gave the same descriptive answer as summarized:
 - > All indigenous fish

5 What types of fish were more abundant at different times of the year?

- > 91 (83.5%) provided qualified answers to this question with the following summarized descriptions:
 - > 86 (78.9%) -All indigenous species abundant year round
 - > 5 (4/6%) -Depended on season & spawning times
- > 18 (24.7%) did not know

6 What types of animals and birds were more abundant at different times of the year?

- > 95 (87.1%) of the respondents were able to provide qualified answers to this question & out of this group 67 (61.5) gave specific information as outlined on page k-62. The responses of this group are summarized as follows:
 - > 93 (85.3%) -All indigenous species abundant year round
 - > 2 (1.8%) -Dependent upon the season
- > 14 (12.8%) did not know

7 Have the numbers of animals, birds & fish been affected by Suncor?

- > 95 (87.1%) answered yes and provided qualifiers which were summarized as follows:
 - > 78 (71.6%) -Pollution caused their dramatic decline
 - > 9 (8.3%) -Have moved away (because of pollution)
 - * > 8 (7.3%) -Low waters (caused by Bennett Dam)
- > 8 (7.3%) did not know
 - > **Notation:** Although the survey was specific to Suncor, these eight respondents were adamant about wanting their opinion with respects to the effects of the Bennett Dam and the negative impact of the resultant low water levels be duly noted. They felt it was only fair that the oilsand plants should not be blamed for everything.

8 When did these changes occur?

- > 98 (89.9%) gave very specific answers to this question which were outlined on page k-63, #8-Graphic Illustration. It should be noted that 8 (7.3%) again made reference to the Bennett Dam which were summarized as follows:
 - > Late 1960's, when the Bennett Dam opened
- > 11 (10.1%) did not know

9 Why do you think these changes occurred?

- > 99 (90.8%) of the participants indicated when these changes occurred with general time references which are summarized on page k-63, #9, Graphic Illustration. Again, 8 (7.3%) of this group made strong reference to the effects of the Bennett Dam with their responses which are summarized as follows:
 - > Dramatic drop of water levels in delta systems
- > 10 (9.2%) did not know

10 What type of animals have been affected?

- > 99 (90.8%) of the respondents provided descriptive answers which are recapped as follows:
 - > 89 (81.6%) -All indigenous species
 - > 10 (9.2%) -Mostly all water animals
- > 10 (9.2%) did not know

11 What types of birds have been affected?

- > 99 (90.8%) of the respondents provided descriptive answers which are summarized as follows:
 - > 90 (82.5%) -All indigenous species
 - > 9 (8.3%) -All waterfowl
- > 10 (9.2%) did not know

12 What types of fish have been affected?

- > 101 (92.7%) provided a general response to this question and with out exception their answers were identical and as follows:
 - > All indigenous species
- > 8 (7.3%) did not know

13 How have the animals been affected?

- > 98 (89.9%) answered this question in a general sense and their responses were summarized as follows: Reference to the Bennett Dam is also noted for this question with a (*).
 - > 91 (83.5%) -Pollution of the air, water & land
 - * > 7 (6.4%) -Low water levels
- > 10 (9.2%) did not know

14 How have the birds been affected?

- > 100 (91.7%) responded & qualified their answers in a general terms which were summarized as follows: Reference to the Bennett Dam is also noted for this question with a (*).
 - > 92 (84.4%) -Pollution of the air, water & land
 - * > 8 (7.25) -Low water levels
- > 9 (8.3%) did not know

15 How have the fish been affected?

- > 101 (92.7%) responded & qualified their answers in a general terms which were summarized as follows: Reference to the Bennett Dam is also noted for this question with a (*).
 - > 98 (89.9%) -Pollution of the air, water & land
 - * > 3 (2.7%) -Low waters
- > 8 (7.3%) did not know

16 Has Suncor affected hunting , fishing, & trapping areas/traplines?

- > 94 (86.2%) of the respondents answered yes to this question and all qualified their response which were recapped as follows:
 - > 70 (64.2%) -Pollution of air, water & land
 - > 20 (18.3%) -Pollution destroyed traditional lifestyles
 - > 4 (3.6%) -Pollution making them unsafe for consumption
- > 6 (5.5%) answered no to this question
- > 9 (8.3) did not know

17 How did these effects impact on the animals, birds & fish used for food by your people?

- > 97 (88.9%) indicated these changes in general terms which were grouped as follows:
 - > 74 (67.9%) -Pollution making them unsafe for consumption
 - > 23 (21.1%) -Pollution of natural habitat causing major decline of all wildlife
- > 12 (11%) did not know

18 How did these affects impact on the traditional hunting, fishing and trapping occupations of your people?

- > 85 (77.9%) respondents indicated in general terms the impact of these affects which in turn were summarized as follows:
 - > Pollution of natural habitat caused major decline of all wildlife which has destroyed traditional lifestyles.
- > 24 (22%) of the respondents did not know

B Flora

1 What types of plants did your people historically use before Suncor was established?

- > 84 (77%) of the respondents answered this question but only 57 (52.3%) provided a general reference to traditional plants, berries and herbs.
- > 27 (24.7%) of those who made general reference wouldn't specify
- > 25 (22.9%) did not know

2 How much gathering was done along the rivers & lakes?

- > 74 (67.9%) indicated they knew how much gathering was done but only 42 (38.5%) qualified their response which were grouped as follows:
 - > 36 (33%) -Quite alot, part of traditional lifestyle
 - > 6 (5.5%) -Annually & according to seasons
- > 32 (29.4%) of those who indicated they knew wouldn't specify
- > 35 (32.1%) did not know

3 What types of plants & herbs were used historically by your people?

- > 86 (78.9%) of the respondents indicated they had knowledge of this information but only 43 (39.4%) revealed what they knew and gave specific answers as outlined on page k-66, #3, Graphic Illustration.
- > 43 (39.4%) of those who indicated they had knowledge of this information would not reveal what they knew.
- > 23 (21.1%) did not know

4 When were the different types of plants gathered?

- > 78 (78.9%) of the respondents indicated they had knowledge of this information but only 28 (25.7%) revealed what they knew and gave specific answers as outlined on page k-66, #4, Graphic Illustration.
- > 50 (45.9%) of those who indicated they had knowledge of this information felt quite strongly against revealing what they knew and were of the opinion it was privileged information.
- > 31 (28.4%) did not know

5 Have the numbers & kinds of plants gathered changed?

- > 62 (56.9%) answered yes to this question and out of this group 28 (25.7%) were willing to qualify their response which are illustrated as follows:
 - > 16 (14.7%) -Are almost gone & hard to find now
 - > 9 (8.3%) -(yes) due to loss of traditional lifestyles
 - > 3 (2.7%) -Not gathered because they are polluted
- > 26 (23.8%) of those who answered yes would not specify and were of the opinion this was privileged information.
- > 26 (23.8%) answered no to this question
- > 21 (19.3%) did not know

6 When did these changes occur?

- > 55 (50.5%) indicated they knew when these changes occurred but only 28 (25.7%) provided reference to time periods which are outlined on page k-67, #6, Graphic Illustration.
- > 27 (24.7%) who indicated they knew wouldn't reveal their knowledge.
- > 54 (49.5%) did not know

7 Why do you think these changes occurred?

- > 69 (63.3%) indicated they knew some reason or another for the occurrence of these changes but only 45 (41.3%) provided a descriptive answer which were grouped accordingly:
 - > 20 (18.3) -Pollution caused these changes
 - > 10 (9.2) -Because of the oil sand plants
 - > 8 (7.3) -Low water levels
 - > 7 (6.4) -Not taught traditionally anymore
- > 24 (22%) of those who indicated they knew would not specify or reveal their knowledge
- > 40 (36.7%) did not know

8 What has been the impact on the plants that used to be gathered?

- > 69 (63.3%) of the respondents indicated they knew the nature of the impact but only 47 (43.1%) revealed their opinion or position which are summarized on page k-67, #8, Graphic Illustration:
- > Of those who indicated they had a opinion or position, 22 (20.2%) provided a qualifier.
- > 40 36.7% did not know

9 Are there plants your people can no longer gather because of the impact of Suncor?

- > 67 (61.5%) of the respondents answered yes to this question
- > 11 (10.1%) answered no
- > 31 (28.4%) did not know

Environmental and Ecological Impact

C PREVAILING ATTITUDE AND PERCEPTION

1 Prevailing Attitude(s)

a Indigenous Fauna Populations

The indigenous wildlife populations of the Fort Chipewyan region, up to recent times (1950's - 1960's), supported a trade industry that lasted over two hundred years and the traditional lifestyles and occupation of the Indigenous people of the region.

b Indigenous Fauna Utilization

The Indigenous people of the Fort Chipewyan region utilized nearly all species of wildlife (animals, birds and fish) to support their traditional lifestyles and occupations, second, for sustenance and survival up to recent times (1950's - early 1970's).

c Indigenous Flora

The Indigenous people of the Fort Chipewyan region utilized numerous specie of flora to support their traditional lifestyles and occupations up to recent times (1950's - early 1970's).

d Traditional Knowledge

The Indigenous people's traditional knowledge, with respect to the indigenous fauna and flora of the region, is considered by to be unique and privileged information. The majority of the respondents indicated they had traditional knowledge but would not reveal this information except in the most general terms and reference.

e Affects of Pollution

It is the attitude of the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan that pollution affected all the habitat, fauna and flora of the region to the extent where the numbers and health of such had deteriorated to a level that precluded traditional lifestyles and occupations.

f Affects of Lower Water Levels

The resultant lower water levels of the early 1970's had a major negative impact on the habitat, fauna & flora of the region & to the extent it became one the main mitigating factors that forced the Indigenous people to abandon traditional lifestyles & occupations.

2 **Prevailing Perception(s)**

a **When the Affect and Impact of Pollution began**

The prevailing perception of the majority of the respondents is the affect and impact of pollution on the habitat, fauna and flora of the region began immediately following the opening of the oilsand plants located north of Fort McMurray & the start of their operations.

b **Origin of the Pollution**

The prevailing perception of the majority of the respondents is the origin of the pollution, that impacted on the habitat, fauna and flora of the region, is the result of the operations of the oilsand plants located north of Fort McMurray.

c **When the Affect and Impact of Lower Water Levels began**

The prevailing perception of the majority of the respondents is the affect and impact of lower water levels began shortly after the Bennett Dam went into operation in the late 1960's.

d **Origin of Lower Water Levels**

The prevailing perception of the majority of the respondents is the lower water levels that resulted in the early 1970's is directly attributable to the Bennett Dam.

e **Affect and Impact of Pollution**

The prevailing perception of the majority of the respondents is the affect and impact of pollution on the indigenous habitat, fauna and flora was devastating and to the extent it became one of the main reasons that forced them to abandon their traditional lifestyles and occupations in the late 1970's.

f **Affect and Impact of Lower Water Levels**

The prevailing perception of the majority of the respondents is the affect and impact of lower water levels on the indigenous habitat, fauna and flora was extensive and to the point it forced them to abandon their traditional lifestyles & occupations in the late 1970's.

VIII LANDS AND WATER

Graphic Illustration

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
1	<u>What were the rivers & lakes like before Suncor was established?</u>		
	No comment	03	02.7%
	Don't know	02	01.8%
	Description provided	104	95.4%
	> At a higher level, clean, safe to use & unpolluted	104	95.4%
2	<u>How did your people use the rivers and lakes before Suncor was established?</u>		
	No comment	01	00.9%
	Description provided	108	99.0%
	> For travel, consumption, traditional lifestyles support & leisure	108	99.0%
3	<u>What were the flows & water levels of the rivers and lakes like before Suncor was established?</u>		
	No comment	07	06.4%
	Don't know	09	08.3%
	Description provided	93	85.3%
	> Naturally higher flows & water levels	76	69.7%
	> High water levels & flows before Bennett Dam	15	13.8%
	> No change	02	01.8%
4	<u>Was there a normal cycle to the rivers & water systems in the delta before Suncor was established?</u>		
	Yes	93	85.3%
	Don't know	10	09.2%
	No comment	06	05.5%

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
5	<u>Was there ever major floods in the area?</u>		
	No comment	04	03.6%
	Don't know	04	03.6%
	Description provided	101	92.7%
	> Yes, historic flooding every few years	85	77.9%
	> Yes, historically in the WBNP	16	14.7%
6	<u>How did the rivers & lakes change after Suncor was established?</u>		
	No comment	10	09.2%
	Don't know	02	01.8%
	Description provided	97	88.9%
	> Bennett Dam/lower water levels & oil sand plants/pollution	94	86.2%
	> No change	03	02.7%
7	<u>How did Suncor affect your people's use of the rivers & lakes?</u>		
	No comment	08	07.3%
	Don't know	04	03.6%
	Description provided	97	88.9%
	> Pollution/lower water levels caused loss of wildlife, delta & traditional lifestyles	57	52.3%
	> Waters now unsafe to use and drink	33	30.2%
	> No change	07	06.4%
8	<u>Has the normal cycle of the rivers and lakes of the delta changed after Suncor was established?</u>		
	Yes	44	40.4%
	No	16	14.7%
	No comment	14	12.8%
	Don't know	04	03.6%
	Description provided	31	28.4%
	> Bennett Dam/lower water levels & oil sand plants/pollution	31	28.4%

Lands and Waters (Graphic Illustration continued)

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
9	<u>Has the quality of the waters of the delta changed after Suncor was established?</u>		
	Yes	51	46.8%
	No	01	00.9%
	No comment	14	12.8%
	Don't know	03	02.7%
	Description provided	51	46.8%
	> Pollution & lower water levels destroyed wildlife & fish habitat & made all unsafe to use	51	46.8%
10	<u>Has the lands near the rivers and lakes changed since Suncor was established?</u>		
	Yes	12	11.0%
	No	26	23.8%
	No comment	11	10.1%
	Don't know	06	05.5%
	Description provided	54	49.5%
	> Pollution & lower water levels, loss of delta, wildlife & traditional lifestyles	29	26.6%
	> Bennett Dam/lower water levels & loss of delta areas	20	18.3%
	> Not by Suncor, but by the Bennett Dam	05	04.6%
11	<u>When did these changes occur?</u>		
	No comment	16	14.7%
	Don't know	24	22.0%
	Description provided	69	63.3%
	> When the oil sand plants were built & began operations	22	20.2%
	> When the Bennett Dam was built, (1969-72) & lower water levels	22	20.2%
	> When the Bennett Dam & oil sand plants were built	15	13.8%
	> 1970's	09	08.3%
	> 1950's	01	00.9%

No.	Element	Total	Frequency (%)
12	<u>Why do you think these changes occurred?</u>		
	No comment	16	14.7%
	Don't know	16	14.7%
	Description provided	77	70.6%
	> Bennett Dam/lower water levels & oil sand plants pollution	29	26.6%
	> Industry & urban centers upstream polluting the waters (rivers)	18	16.5%
	> Lower water levels, pollution, habitat & wildlife loss	13	11.9%
	> Bennett Dam & lower water levels	11	10.1%
	> Lack of proper environmental control & protection by the gov't	06	05.5%

13	<u>Have these changes impacted on the traditional lifestyles & use by your people?</u>		
	Yes	41	37.6%
	No	01	00.9%
	No comment	14	12.8%
	Don't know	01	00.9%
	Description provided	52	47.7%
	> Pollution/lower water levels affect on habitat & wildlife destroyed traditional lifestyles	52	47.7%

Lands and Waters

B Narrative

1 What were the rivers & lakes like before Suncor was established?

- > 104 (95.4%) of the respondents provided descriptive answers that were basically the same and therefore, summarized as follows:
 - > The water was at a higher level, safe to use, clean and unpolluted
- > 5 (44.6%) did not know or could not provide an answer

2 How did your people use the rivers and lakes before Suncor was established?

- > 108 (99%) of the survey participants indicated this use in terms that were in the same context which are recapped in the following statement:
 - > The rivers and lakes were used for travel, consumption, traditional lifestyles support and leisure activities.
- > Only 1 (0.9%) respondent did not comment on the question

3 What were the flows and water levels of the rivers & lakes like before Suncor was established?

- > 93 (85.3%) provided descriptive responses that are condensed to the following:
 - > 76 (69.7%) -Naturally higher flows and water levels
 - > 15 (13.8%) -High water levels & flows before Bennett Dam
 - > 2 (1.8%) -No change
- > 16 (14.7%) did not know or could not provide a response

4 Was there a normal cycle to the rivers & water systems in the delta before Suncor was established?

- > 93 (85.3%) of the respondents said yes to this questions and none of this group qualified their answer.
- > 16 (14.7%) did not know or could not comment on the question

5 Was there ever major floods in the area?

- > 101 (92.7%) answered this question in general terms which in turn were recapped as follows:
 - > 85 (77.9%) -Yes, historic flooding every few years
 - > 16 (14.7%) -Yes, historically in the WBNP
- > 8 (7.3%) did not know or could not comment on the question

6 How did the rivers & lakes change after Suncor was established?

- > 97 (88.9%) indicated the type of change in general terms & these responses were summarized accordingly:
 - > 94 (86.2%) -Bennett Dam/lower water levels and oil sand plants/pollution
 - > 3 (2.7%) -No change
- > 12 (11%) did not know or provided no comment

7 How did Suncor affect your people's use of the rivers & lakes?

- > 97 (88.9%) of the respondents answered in general terms that were recapped as follows:
 - > 57 (52.3%) -Pollution and lower water levels caused loss of wildlife, delta & traditional lifestyles
 - > 33 (30.3%) -Waters now unsafe to use and drink
 - > 7 (6.4%) -No change
- > 12 (11%) did not know or could not provide an answer.

8 Has the normal cycle of the rivers & lakes of the delta changed after Suncor was established?

- > 44 (40.9%) of the respondents said yes to this question and of this group 31 (28.4%) qualified their answers as summarized:
 - > 18 (16.5%) -Yes, because of the Bennett Dam
 - > 13 (11.9%) -Because of the effects of lower water levels & pollution
- > 16 (14.7%) of the respondents said there was no change
- > 18 (16.5%) did not know or could not provide a comment

9 Has the quality of the waters of the delta changed after Suncor was established?

- > 51 (46.8%) of the respondents said yes there was a change and everyone in this group provided basically the same descriptive answers as condensed:
 - > Pollution and lower water levels destroyed wildlife and fish habitat and made the waters unsafe to use
- > Only 1 (0.9%) respondent said no to this question
- > 17 (15.6%) did not know or could not provide a comment

10 Has the lands near the rivers and lakes changed since Suncor was established?

- > 66 (60.5%) of the survey participants said yes there was a change and of this group 54 (49.5%) qualified their response. These in turn were recapped as follows:
 - > 29 (26.6%) -Pollution and lower water levels, loss of delta, wildlife and traditional lifestyles
 - > 20 (18.3%) -Bennett Dam/lower water levels & loss of delta
 - > 5 (4.6%) -No, not by Suncor, but by the Bennett Dam
- > 26 (23.8%) said no to this question
- > 17 (15.6%) did not know or could not provide an answer

11 When did these changes occur?

- > 69 (63.3%) indicated when these changes occurred and their responses were summarized as follows:
 - > 22 (20.2%) -When the oil sand plants began operations
 - > 22 (20.2%) -When the Bennett Dam was built, (1969-72) & lower water levels
 - > 15 (13.8%) -When the Bennett Dam & oil sand plants were built
 - > 9 (98.3%) -1970's
 - > 1 (0.9%) -1950's
- > 40 (36.7%) did not know or could not provide a comment

12 Why do you think these changes occurred?

- > 77 (70.6%) provided descriptive answers as condensed:
 - > 29 (26.6%) -Bennett Dam/lower water levels and oil sand plants pollution
 - > 18 (16.5%) -Industry and urban centers upstream polluting the waters (rivers)
 - > 13 (11.9%) -Lower water levels, pollution, habitat & wildlife loss
 - > 11 (10.1%) -Bennett Dam & lower water levels
 - > 6 (5.5%) -Lack of proper environmental protection and control by the government.
- > 32 (29.4%) did not know or could not provide a response

13 Have these changes impacted on the traditional lifestyles and use by your people?

- > 93 (85.3%) said yes to this question of which 52 (47.7%) qualified their response that were summarized as follows:
 - > Pollution and lower water levels affect on habitat and wildlife destroyed traditional lifestyles
- > Only 1 (0.9%) respondent said no to this question
- > 15 (13.8%) did not know or could not provide a comment

Lands and Waters

C PREVAILING ATTITUDE AND PERCEPTION

1 Prevailing Attitude(s)

a Original State of Lands and Waters

The original state of the lands and waters of the Fort Chipewyan region were pollution free and could support and sustain large and healthy populations and numbers of Indigenous fauna and flora. The original quantity and quality of the fauna and flora of the region was more than adequate to meet the traditional lifestyles and occupations requirements of the Indigenous people. Further to this, the waters of the region were originally at a much higher level and historically would give rise to floods every few years.

b Original Use of Lands and Waters

The lands and waters of the Fort Chipewyan region were originally utilized by the Indigenous people, first, to support and sustain their traditional and cultural lifestyles and occupations, second, as the basis for their traditional lands for homes and settlements.

c Affects and Impact of Pollution

One of the primary factors, pollution had and continues to have a large negative affect on the quantity and quality of the indigenous fauna and flora of the Fort Chipewyan region. The extent of the impact was of such magnitude it forced the Indigenous people to abandon their traditional lifestyles and occupations.

d Affects and Impact of Lower Water Levels

The extent of the affects and impact of the resultant lower water levels is it destroyed much of the delta and the habitat of the indigenous fauna and flora which in turn forced the Indigenous people to abandon their traditional lifestyles and occupations.

2 **Prevailing Perception(s)**

a **Origin of the Pollution**

The prevailing perception of the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan is the main source of the pollution that affected and impacted in the region are the oil sand plants located north of Fort McMurray.

b **Origin of the Lower Water Levels**

The prevailing perception of the Indigenous people of the region of Fort Chipewyan is the Bennett Dam is the main cause & reason why the waters of the delta have been drastically & permanently lowered.

c **Reasons for the Loss of Traditional Lifestyles & Occupations**

The prevailing perception of the Indigenous people of the region of Fort Chipewyan is the combined affect and impact of pollution from the oil sand plants located north of Fort McMurray and the resultant lower water levels of the Bennett Dam on the habitat, fauna and flora was to such an extent it forced the abandonment of traditional lifestyles and occupations.

d **When the Pollution and Lower Water Level Began**

The prevailing perception of the Indigenous people of the region of Fort Chipewyan is, first, the pollution of the region began immediately following the opening of the oil sand plants and start of their operations, second, the resultant lower water levels after the Bennett Dam started operations in 1969 -70.

CHAPTER TWELVE

CONCLUSIONS

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the summary findings and results of the survey provided in Chapter 11, the Conclusions presented in this Chapter 12 were prepared in synoptic form to facilitate this report. The Conclusions encompass and incorporate the basic elements of the findings of each section of the project terms of reference. Each conclusion is a presentation of the prevailing attitude or perception for a specific topic area of concern.

1 Demographics

Conclusion #1

Indigenous Elders as a Resource

The objective of Suncor Inc. to utilize the Elders of the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan to achieve the desired results of this project is it coincides with and compliments the prevailing attitude and perception of the Indigenous people wherein they strongly believe their Elders are a proven source of wisdom and strength and their most valuable resource.

Conclusion #2

Suncor Inc. Business and Location

The type of business in general terms and the specific location of Suncor Inc. are not well known to the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan.

Conclusion #3

Employment Opportunities with Suncor

Employment has always been and continues to be very difficult to obtain with Suncor for the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan and in those rare cases where employment is successfully obtained with Suncor it is usually menial and short term.

Conclusion #4

Direct and Indirect Employment with Suncor

Very few of the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan have ever worked, either directly or indirectly, for Suncor Inc. since it began operations.

3 Cultural and Traditional

Conclusion #5

Traditional Lifestyles and Occupations

The presence and operations of Suncor Inc., other industrial entities, agricultural activities and municipalities along the river systems leading to the Athabasca Delta, collectively have contributed, to varying extents, to the pollution of the air, land and water, which in turn had a negative and debilitating effect and impact on the traditional lifestyles and occupations of the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan.

Conclusion #6

Traditional Areas

The presence and operations of Suncor Inc., other industrial entities, agricultural activities and municipalities along the river systems leading to the Athabasca Delta, collectively have contributed, to varying extents, to the pollution of the air, land and water, which in turn had a negative and debilitating effect and impact on the traditional areas and lands of the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan.

4 The Local Economy

Conclusion #7

The Impact of Suncor Inc. on the Local Economy

Since it started operations, Suncor Inc. has not impacted on the local economy in terms of employment and income for the Indigenous people and the businesses of Fort Chipewyan.

Conclusion #8

Local Economy

The number of businesses and employment opportunities existent before Suncor Inc. started operations and after, is solely the result of the local development and growth of the economic base of Fort Chipewyan over the years.

Conclusion #9

Employment and Business Opportunities

Since it started operations, Suncor Inc. has not provided any meaningful or long term Employment or Business opportunities for the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan.

Conclusion #10

Providing Goods and Services to Suncor

The few local businesses of Fort Chipewyan who had endeavored over the recent years to obtain contracts to provide goods and services to Suncor Inc. have always experienced, first, great difficulty in their efforts to obtain contracts to provide services and goods to Suncor Inc., secondly, failure in their attempts toward such. With respects to these facts Suncor has had little or no impact on the businesses and services of Fort Chipewyan in terms of increased income or employment opportunities.

Conclusion #11

Traditional Lifestyles

The pollution of the air, land and water over the last twenty years by industrial entities, agricultural activities and municipalities along the river systems leading to the Athabasca Delta, have seriously eroded the quality of the environment and traditional sources of food of the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan which has forced the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan from their traditional lifestyles and to seek alternate lifestyles at great social cost.

Conclusion #12

Traditional Occupations

The pollution of the air, land and water over the last twenty years by industrial entities, agricultural activities and municipalities along the river systems leading to the Athabasca Delta, have seriously eroded the quality of the environment and habitat of the Indigenous flora and fauna which has forced the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan to abandon their traditional occupations and to seek alternate means of employment at great social cost.

Conclusion #13

Social Fabric of the Indigenous People

The pollution of the air, land and water over the last twenty years by industrial entities, agricultural activities and municipalities along the river systems leading to the Athabasca Delta, had a permanent debilitating impact and effect on the traditional lifestyles and occupations of the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan which forced them to abandon their traditional lifestyles and occupations at great social cost.

VII Environmental and Ecological Impacts.

Conclusion #14

Impact of the Oilsand Industries

on the

Environment and Ecology

It is the overwhelming perception of the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan that the oilsand industries had and continue to have a profound negative and debilitating effect and impact on the Indigenous **Environment and Ecology** of the Athabasca Delta area and that these changes began after the oilsand industries began operations.

Conclusion #15

Impact of the Oilsand Industries

on the

Flora and Fauna of the Athabasca Delta

It is the overwhelming perception of the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan that the oilsand industries had and continue to have a profound negative and debilitating effect and impact on the Indigenous flora and fauna of the Athabasca Delta area and that these changes began after the oilsand industries began operations.

Conclusion #16

Impact of the Oilsand Industries

on the

Waters of the Athabasca Delta

It is the overwhelming perception of the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan that the oilsand industries had and continue to have a profound negative and debilitating effect and impact on the quality of the waters of the Athabasca Delta and that these changes began after the oilsand industries began operations.

Conclusion #17

Impact of the Oilsand Industries

on the

Quality of Life and Health of the

Indigenous People of Fort Chipewyan

It is the overwhelming perception of the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan that the negative impact of the oilsand industries on the waters of the Athabasca Delta had and continues to have a debilitating effect on the quality of the life and health of the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan at great social cost.

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION #ONE

Suncor Inc. and Fort Chipewyan

Memorandum of Understanding

“The Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan recommend that the Suncor Inc. support the principles embodied in the Memorandum of Understanding (June, 1995) that was formally agreed to by both the community of Fort Chipewyan and Suncor Inc., second, the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan strongly encourage and support the efforts of Suncor Inc. toward the achievement of the desired results of this agreement in principle in the spirit of mutual cooperation and trust.”

RECOMMENDATION #TWO

Meaningful and Long Term Participation

in the

Suncor Inc. Oilsand Industry

“With respect to the prevailing attitudes and perceptions of the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan and their desire for meaningful and long term participation in the Suncor Inc. oilsand industry, it is recommended that the Suncor Inc. immediately initiate all means and utilize all avenues at their disposal to ultimately ensure the meaningful and long term participation of the Indigenous people of Fort Chipewyan in the Suncor Inc. oilsand industry in the spirit of mutual cooperation and effort toward the continued success and viability of the Suncor Inc.”

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

SURVEY RESULTS

I DEMOGRAPHICS

2 (a) Age: 109

20-29	9	40-49	32	60-64	4	70-79	18
30-39	19	50-59	13	65-69	12	80+	4

(b) Gender 109

M	46	Elder M	19
F	31	Elder F	13

3 Place of Birth 109

(a) Fort Chipewyan 59
 (b) Fort McMurray 7
 (c) Other 43

-WBNP	22	-Moose Lake	1	-Peace Point	1
-Birch River	1	-Pine Channel, Sask		-Edmonton	2
-Big Point	2	-Rocky Point	1	-Jackfish Lake	5
-Old Fort	3	-Fort Smith, NWT	1	-Point Brule	2
-Poplar Point	1	-Doghead Reserve,	1	-Ft Fitzgerald	1
-Uranium City, Sask	1	-Trout Lake, NWT	1	-Garden River	1

4 Length of Residency 109

a. 5-9	3	d 30-39	20	g 60-69	17
b 10-19	4	e 40-49	24	h 70-79	13
c 20-29	11	f 50-59	13	i 80+	4

5 Indigenous Group Membership 109

a MCFN	62	b ACFN	19	c Metis Local	28
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6 Education 109

No Schooling	28 (elders)
a 1-6	12
b 7-9	22
10-12	47
c High School Diploma	10
d Post Secondary	11
e Tech/vocational	17
f Traditional	9
g Mission School	23

7 Occupation 109

a Retired	35	b Adult Student	12	c Trades	8
d Admin	2	e Secretarial/recept	1	f Health	3
g Social	4	h Equipment Operators	4	i Home maker/wife	5
j Laborer	18	k Driver	1	l Professional	2
m Clerical	3	n Firefighter	6	o Business	1
p None	3	q Janitorial	1		

8 Employment Status 109

a Employed (non-traditional)					
Yes	32	No	42	(+35 retired)	
b Employed (traditional)					
Yes	39	a Trapping	31	b Hunting	31
				c Fishing	24

9 Employer

a	Federal Gov't	2
b	Provincial Gov't	3
c	Municipal Gov't	1
d	First Nation	13
f	Business	9
g	Community Agency/Org	2
h	Self-Employed	2

II ABOUT SUNCOR

1 Have you ever heard about Suncor? 109

Yes 86 No 23

2 Do you know what type of business Suncor is mainly involved in? 109

Yes 72 No 34

Tarsands mining/oil industry 69

No Comment 3

3 Where is Suncor located? 109

In or near Ft Mac 58

North of Ft Mac 26

Don't know 23

By Syncrude 2

4 Have you ever worked directly for Suncor? 109

Yes 6 No 103

If yes please describe

-Laborer

-Welder

-Janitor

-Trainee

-Belt walker

-Heavy Equipment Operator

5 Have you ever worked for a company that provided goods or services to Suncor? 109

Yes 7 No 102

If yes please describe

Catalytic Inc 4

Powerline Inc 1

Ft McKay Janitorial Services 2

III CULTURAL & TRADITIONAL

1	Are there cultural & traditional sites in the area?	<u>109</u>
	-Yes 78	-No 3
	-Don't know	24
	-First Nation reserves, in & around Ft Chipewyan	39
	-Traplines & group areas & burial grounds throughout Athabasca river & area	20
	-WBNP	15
	-Bison Trail by View Point	1
	-No comment	6
2	Are some of these sites located along the shores of the rivers & lakes of the area?	<u>109</u>
	Yes 74	Don't know 35
3	Has Suncor impacted on these sites?	<u>109</u>
	-Yes 50	-No 19
	-Don't know	30
	-Water, land & air pollution	40
	-No comment	10
	-Hunting, fishing, trapping (traditional lifestyles)	10
4	Were there special cultural & traditional sites in the area where the Suncor plant is located?	<u>109</u>
	-Yes 11	-No 47
	-Hunting & trapping areas	11
	-Don't know	42
	-No comment	9
5	Do you or your people still use these sites?	<u>109</u>
	-Yes 19	-No 63
	-Don't know	21
	-Special cultural events	5
	-Travel & stopping points	7
	-Not used because of Suncor development	1
	-Hunting, fishing, trapping (traditional living)	6
	-No comment	6

6 Did Suncor have an impact on you or your people's cultural and traditional lifestyles?

109

-Yes	84	-No	9	
-Don't know				10
-Employment created				1
-No involvement by Suncor				1
-Hunting, fishing & trapping diminished				15
-No education or training provided by Suncor				1
-Water, land & air pollution & oil spill & affects on wildlife				35
-Changes to traditional lifestyles (forced to seek jobs, move to town & welfare)				25
-No Comment	6			

7 Did the people who moved into the area as a result of the Suncor business and operations have an impact on the cultural and traditional lifestyles of you and/or your people?

109

-Yes	44	-No	46	
-Don't know				14
-Water pollution & land quality affected				6
-Urban living, alcohol & drug abuse problems				8
-Some employment created				1
-No involvement by Suncor				2
-Cultural values lost & traditional lifestyles damaged or lost				22
-No Comment				5

IV THE LOCAL ECONOMY

1 Has Suncor impacted on the local economy? 109

Yes 48 No 57

-Water & land pollution due to oil spill affected traditional occupations & lifestyles 17
 -Pollution damages to wildlife affected traditional occupations & lifestyles 11
 -Some employment & donations 14
 -No comment 6

2 Has Suncor created employment & income for you or your people? 109

Yes 38 No 65

-A few employment opportunities for Ft Chip people 29
 -Some summer employment for Ft Chip people 1
 -Some employment for Ft Chip people relocated to Ft Mac 1
 -No comment 6

3 What was the main basis of the local economy before Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established in the area?

-Traditional & commercial hunting, fishing & trapping 67
 -First Nation & Indian affairs programs 12
 -Gov't jobs 6
 -Sawmill work 14
 -Firefighting 4
 -Local businesses 2
 -Welfare 1
 -Do not know 10
 -No comment 14

4 What was the main type of employment or source of income for you or your people before Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established in the area?

-Traditional & commercial hunting, fishing & trapping 71
 -First Nations programs & employment 6
 -Local businesses 3
 -Gov't jobs 6
 -Firefighting 6
 -Sawmill 24
 -Labor 3
 -Welfare 2
 -Do not know 4
 -No comment 13

5 Did you or any of your people obtain employment during the initial construction of Suncor or any of its early projects? 109

Yes	27	No	72
-Laborers			9
-Operators			3
-Construction			4
-Janitorial			1
-Canadian Bechtel			1
-Do not know			5
-No comment			5
-Some employment obtained (type unknown)			9

6 What type of employment did you or they obtain then?

-Laborers	25	-Janitorial	1
-Operators	11	-None	53
-Construction	1	-Do not know	14
-Training	2	-No comment	7

7 Was any training provided by Suncor then? 109

Yes	10	No	84
-Some training (OJT)	4	-None	1
-Safety orientation	1	-Do not know	10
-Laborers	1	-No comment	5
-Operators	11		

8 What are the main types of employment or sources of income for you or your people?

-First Nation organizations	31	-First Nation businesses	29
-Gov't agencies	29	-Syn crude	23
-Local businesses	24	-Seasonal & casual labor	17
-Local construction	11	-Nursing station	8
-Welfare	5	-Fire fighting	9
-Local schools	8	-Tourism	4
-Do not know	8	-No comment	18
-Traditional occupations (hunting, fishing & trapping)	26		

V LOCAL BUSINESSES & SERVICES

1 Has Suncor impacted on local businesses & services? 109

Yes 6 No 94

- Oil spill & pollution of the waters 2
- Taxes to municipality 1
- Business & training development 1
- Made our local businesses bigger 1
- Don't know 4
- No comment 5

2 Before Suncor was established in the area what type of businesses and services were available locally?

- Local businesses, Hudson Bay, Gov't agencies 58
- Fur Industry, trapping & fishing 8
- Utilities 3
- Air Services 2
- Same as today 14
- Don't know 7
- No comment 20

3 What type of goods and services did you or your people need to obtain before Suncor or businesses like Suncor was established?

- Lived off the land 3
- Utilities 5
- Food & clothing & dry goods 14
- Fuel & gas 3
- Gov't agencies & services 34
- Air services 6 -Barge 3
- Schools 6
- Same as today 24
- Don't know 13
- No comment 25

4 Where did you or your people obtain goods and services before Suncor or businesses like Suncor was established? 109

- Locally 71
- Ft Mac 17
- Ft Smith 1
- Edmonton 8
- Don't know 5
- No comment 7

5	Were there any stores or business in the local area then?	<u>109</u>
	Yes 109	
6	When were stores or businesses established in your community?	<u>109</u>
	-Beginning of the fur trade (late 1700's) 32	
	-Long ago (no identified time frame) 20	
	-Before my time (no identified time frame) 18	
	-1800's 4	
	-1900's 5	
	-Don't know 23	
	-No comment 7	
7	After Suncor or businesses like Suncor was established where any stores or businesses developed in your community?	<u>109</u>
	Yes 62 No 47	
8	Was there a particular time when a large number of stores or businesses were established in your community?	<u>109</u>
	Yes 9 No 96	
	-Don't know 1	
	-1900's 1	
	-1990's 1	
	-Unidentified time frame 2	
	-No comment 3	
9	Approximately what are the years of that period?	<u>109</u>
	-Within the last 100 years 2	
	-1970-1980 5	
	-1980-1995 8	
	-1990's 1	
	-Don't know 75	
	-No comment 18	
10	Did the construction or operation of Suncor impact on the establishment of new businesses or services in your community?	<u>109</u>
	Yes 1 No 101	
	-Don't know 2	
	-No comment 5	

11 Do local people own and operate their own businesses and services in your community today? 109

Yes 109

-Local small businesses	16
-Grocery & dry goods Stores	25
-Arts & Crafts	4
-Taxi	42
-Construction/trades	13
-Gas bar & service stations	50
-Bars	6
-Restaurants & cafes	17
-Laundromat	18
-Video stores	7
-Barges & freight	11
-Arcade/pool hall	13
-First Nation businesses	26
-Small engine repair	4
-Heavy equipment	5
-Hair salon & beauty shop	7
-Tourism	11
-Potato farm	4
-Traditional businesses (commercial hunting, fishing, trapping)	4
-No comment	26

VI SOCIAL IMPACT

A POPULATION

1 How many of your people lived in the immediate area before Suncor was established? 109

-Most or all lived in the bush	44
-Less than 400	5
-400-600	3
-601-1000	18
-1001-1500	24
-1501-1700	4
-Don't know	16
-No comment	5

2 What were the sizes of the settlements were your people lived before Suncor was established? 109

-1 to 10 families on the trapline	38
-10+ families on the trapline	8
-Less than 300 people	1
-300 to 900 people	22
-1000+	16
-Don't know	18
-No comment	6

3 Did the population of your people change since Suncor was established? 109

-Yes	70	-No	19
-Don't know	10		
-No comment	10		

4 How has the population of your people changed locally since Suncor was established? 109

-Movement from Ft Chip to other places seeking work	8
-Changed (but type of change not indicated)	14
-Increased	28
-No change	20
-Declined	19
-Don't know	9
-No comment	11

5 How have your people's settlement patterns changed since Suncor was established? 109

-Pollution forced people to abandon traditional lifestyles & to move to Ft Chip	22
-People moved from the bush to Ft Chip for employment & gov't services	8
-People moved from the bush to Ft Chip for education	3
-People moved into Ft Chip (no reason given)	8
-Changed (no indication of how)	7
-Most people now live in Ft Chip	18
-No change	13
-Don't know	11
-No comment	19

6 Why did these patterns change? 109

-Pollution & the loss of traditional livelihoods & wildlife	39
-Schools/education	15
-Goods & services in Ft Chip	9
-Employment opportunities	7
-Changed with time	3
-BC Hydro	1
-Don't know	16
-No comment	19

7 Did Suncor affect your people's settlement patterns? 109

-Yes 50 -No 39

-Pollution & loss of traditional livelihoods	22
-Loss of traditional livelihoods forced people from the bush to Ft Chip	26
-Employment opportunities	12
-Don't know	8
-No comment	12

8 Why did your people move to Fort Chipewyan? 109

-Loss of traditional livelihoods, forced to seek alternate lifestyles & employment	32
-Employment opportunities	9
-Education	24
-Trading center	15
-For goods & services 8 -Forced to by the gov't	5
-Place of birth, marriages & home	10
-Don't know	3
-No comment	3

9 **Did your people have to move because of the impact of Suncor?** 109

-Yes 42 -No 81

-Pollution affected traditional livelihoods 28
-Employment opportunities (with Syncrude) 8
-Don't know 3
-No comment 3

10 **Were your people's homes or traditional locations affected when Suncor was established?** 109

-Yes 47 -No 44

-Pollution caused loss of traditional livelihoods forcing people to move to Ft Chip 31
-Loss of traditional livelihoods forced people to seek other employment 4
-Don't know 8
-No comment 10

C HEALTH

1 **What was the health of your people like before Suncor was established?** 109

-The same 9
-Good 51
-Healthy 14
-Healthier 27
-Don't know 1
-No comment 7

2 **How did your people cope with and treat illness and injury before Suncor was established?** 109

-Traditional healing, medicine & herbs 42
-Modern medicine 25
-Traditional & modern medicine 30
-Don't know 1
-No comment 11

3 **Have there been changes in the overall health of your people since Suncor was established?** 109

-Yes 84 -No 14
-Contamination of water & traditional food by pollution affected people's health 13
-Greater occurrence of health problems & diseases & deaths 49
-More illness & use of modern medicine, facilities & services 6
-Don't know 3
-No comment 8

4 Have there been changes in the way your people coped with and treated illness & injury since Suncor was established? 109

-Yes 60 -No 29

-Increased number of referrals to out of town health services 4
 -Increase in the use of modern health services 45
 -Don't know 7
 -No comment 13

5 Have there been changes in the types of medical services in your community as a result of Suncor? 109

-Yes 2 -No 90

-Modern nursing station, staff & medic services 5
 -Need for more local medical personnel due to increased frequency of illness 4
 -Don't know 7
 -No comment 10

6 Do you think Suncor has affected your people's health? 109

-Yes 80 -No 14

-Pollution contributed to increased occurrence of sickness & diseases 22
 -Pollution affected traditional food sources & lifestyles 3
 -Water, air & land pollution 45
 -Don't know 4
 -No comment 11

D EDUCATION

1 How did your people receive their education before Suncor was established? 109

-Residential, mission & public schools 92
 -Indian affairs schools 3
 -Traditional, from family 7
 -Same as today, gr 1-12 1
 -No comment 6

2 How did your people learn the knowledge and skills required to be self-sufficient before Suncor was established? 109

-Traditional, from grandparents, elders & parents 78
 -From generation to generation 10
 -From mission & schools & other education institutions 3
 -Training, on the job 9
 -Don't know 3
 -No comment 6

3 Were there schools in your community prior to when Suncor was established? 109

Yes 109

4 When were the first schools developed in your community & who administered them?

-RC & Anglican missions, late 1800 to early 1900's	18	<u>109</u>
-Long ago by priests & nuns (no time line given)	35	
-Before my time long ago (no time line given)	15	
-Indian affairs school (no time line given)	5	
-Northlands school, late 1950's	1	
-Don't know	27	
-No comment	8	

5 Have there been changes in how your people were educated since the establishment of Suncor? 109

-Education with emphasis on trades & professions	13
-Yes (type of change not indicated)	36
-No change	30
-New schools	4
-Less traditional	2
-More local control	3
-Secularization of education	2
-Training for jobs (Syncrude)	2
-Don't know	7
-No comment	10

6 Has Suncor changed the way your people obtained their education? 109

-Yes (type of change not indicated)	27
-No change	53
-More emphasis on trades & professions	9
-More training opportunities (Syncrude)	3
-Don't know	6
-No comment	11

7 Have you or your people received training or developed new employment related skills as a result of their involvement with Suncor? 109

-Yes	11	-No	83
-But not much	5		
-With Syncrude	2		
-Don't know	4		
-No comment	11		

E **HOUSING**

1 **What types of homes did your people live in before Suncor was established?** **109**

-Teepees, tents & log houses 71
-Indian affairs & gov't housing 29
-Band built homes & trailers 1
-Don't know 4
-No comment 4

2 **Did your people have more than one home in the area?** **109**

-Yes 71 -No 38

3 **How have your people's homes changed since Suncor was established?** **109**

-Yes they changed (type of change not indicated) 17
-Better & more modern homes 31
-Greater number of modern gov't subsidized homes in Ft Chip 5
-Pollution forced people to abandon bush homes 9
-People can now afford more home improvements 2
-Now live in Ft Chip, one place 5
-No change 22
-Don't know 11
-No comment 7

4 **Did Suncor affect housing for your people?** **109**

-Yes 2 -No 97

-Don't know 5
-No comment 5

5 **Were there any homes or cabins affected by Suncor?** **109**

-Yes 33 -No 62

-Pollution forced people to abandon bush homes 23
-Don't know 7
-No comment 7

F MUNICIPAL SERVICES & TRANSPORTATION

1 How did your people move themselves and their families before Suncor was established? 109

-By water in the summer & dog team or skidoo in the winter 95
 -Boat 3
 -Vehicles 3
 -By plane 4
 -Don't know 1
 -No comment 3

2 Was there power, water and other municipal services in your community before Suncor was established? 109

-Yes 99
 -Power 51
 -All services 02
 -Power, water & phones 07
 -Power but no water & sewer till 1982 01
 -Don't know 02
 -No comment 08

3 Have there been changes in municipal services & transportation since Suncor was established? 109

-Yes 77 -No 18
 -Air service 04
 -Increased municipal services & transportation 34
 -Paved roads & winter road 04
 -More vehicles 04
 -Yes but not identified 01
 -Fire department & ambulance 03
 -Don't know 03
 -No comment 11

4 Did Suncor affect the way your people transported themselves & goods in the area? 109

-No 98 -No comment 11

5 When did your community first get power, water & other municipal services? 109

-Power, 1950-1960's	23
-Water & sewer, 1970's to early or mid 1980's	25
-1960's 9 -Mid 1900's	05
-Long ago, before my time (no time line given)	09
-Last 20 to 30 years	06
-Don't know	18
-No comment	14

6 What types of municipal and transportation services does the community have today? 109

-Paved roads & winter road & road maintenance	04
-Fire department	10
-All municipal & transportation services & office	46
-Airline, medivac & barge services	16
-More vehicles, taxis, buses, trucks	26
-Graders & heavy equipment	02
-Don't know	02
-No comment	03

7 Did Suncor affect the timing and types of municipal and transportation services for your community? 109

-No	93
-Don't know	03
-No comment	13

VII ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS

A Fauna

1	What was hunting, fishing & trapping like before Suncor was established?	109
	-Good to excellent	74
	-More than enough to sustain traditional lifestyle	28
	-More wildlife to hunt, fish & trap before	4
	-Don't know	3
2	How much hunting, fishing & trapping took place before Suncor was established?	
	-Was the traditional lifestyle	81
	-A lot	27
	-Don't know	1
3	What animals & birds were used by your people for food?	109
	-All indigenous animals & birds	
4	What fish were used by your people for food?	109
	-All indigenous fish	
5	What types of fish were more abundant at different times of the year?	109
	-All indigenous species abundant year round	86
	-Depended on season & spawning times	7
	-Don't know	18
6	What types of animals & birds were more abundant at different times of the year?	
	Spring -Water Fowl 15	Fall -Water Fowl 07
		-Moose 12
	Summer -Water Fowl 06	Winter -Moose 01
		-Caribou 12
	-All indigenous species abundant year round	78
	-Dependent upon the season	02
	-Don't know	14
7	Have the numbers of animals, birds & fish been affected by Suncor?	109
	Yes 95 No 06 Don't know 08	
	-Pollution caused their dramatic decline	46
	-By Pollution	27
	-Have moved away	09
	-Muskrat have died off	05
	-Low waters (Bennett Dam)	08

8	When did these changes occur?		109
	-When the oilsand plants began operations	48	
	-1990's	01	
	-1980's	09	
	-1970's	12	
	-1960's	02	
	-1950's	01	
	-Late 1960's, with the opening of the Bennett Dam	08	
	-When pollution, oil spills (no date given) began	12	
	-Don't know	11	
9	Why do you think these changes occurred?		109
	-Pollution of air, water and land	39	
	-Pollution	22	
	-Environmental neglect & abuse	11	
	-Oil spills in the 80's	10	
	-Dramatic drop of water levels in delta systems	08	
	-Pollution destroyed habitat & wildlife	07	
	-Industrial operations	02	
	-Don't know	10	
10	What type of animals have been affected?		109
	-All indigenous species	89	
	-Mostly all water animals	10	
	-Don't know	10	
11	What types of birds have been affected?		109
	-All indigenous species	90	
	-All waterfowl	09	
	-Don't know	10	
12	What types of fish have been affected?		109
	-All indigenous species	101	
	-Don't know	08	
13	How have the animals been affected?		109
	-Pollution of the air, water & land	43	
	-Pollution of habitat caused their decline	33	
	-Pollution making them decline, sick & diseased	15	
	-Low water levels	07	
	-Have moved away	01	
	-Don't know	10	

14	How have the birds been affected?		109
	-Pollution of the air, water & land	46	
	-Pollution of habitat caused their decline	29	
	-Pollution destroyed their habitat	09	
	-Pollution making them decline, sick & diseased	08	
	-Low water levels	08	
	-Don't know	09	
15	How have the fish been affected?		109
	-Pollution of the air, water & land	31	
	-Pollution of the waters	29	
	-Pollution of habitat caused their decline	21	
	-Pollution making them decline, sick & diseased & deformed	17	
	-Low waters	03	
	-Don't know	08	
16	Has Suncor affected hunting , fishing, & trapping areas and/or traplines?		109
	Yes	94	No 6 Don't know 9
	-Pollution of air, water & land causing major decline of all wildlife	70	
	-Pollution destroyed traditional lifestyles	20	
	-Pollution making them unsafe for consumption	04	
17	How did these effects impact on the animals, birds & fish used for food by your people?		109
	-Pollution of air, water & land making them unsafe for consumption	74	
	-Pollution of natural habitat causing major decline of all wildlife	23	
	-Don't know	12	
18	How did these affects impact on the traditional hunting, fishing and trapping occupations of your people?		109
	-Pollution destroyed traditional lifestyles	55	
	-Pollution of habitat caused major decline of all wildlife	18	
	-Decline of animals, birds & fish have destroyed traditional lifestyles	12	
	-Don't know	24	
B	Flora		
1	What types of plants did your people historically use before Suncor was established?		109
	-Traditional plants, berries & herbs	57	
	-Wouldn't specify	27	
	-Don't know	25	

2 How much gathering was done along the rivers & lakes? 109

-A lot, part of traditional lifestyle 36
 -Wouldn't specify 35
 -Annually & according to seasons 06
 -Don't know 35

3 What types of plants & herbs were used historically by your people?

Ratroot	32	Wildmint	18
Spruce Gum	06	Birch Sap	06
Muskeg Tea	03	Red Willow	04
Sweet grass	11	Dandelions roots	02
Wild herbs	08	Berries	05
Wild flowers	07		

-Wouldn't specify 43
 -Don't know 23

4 When were the different types of plants gathered? 109

-Spring to Fall 38
 -Wouldn't specify 50
 -Don't know 31

5 Have the numbers & kinds of plants gathered changed? 109

Yes 62 No 26 Don't know 21

-Wouldn't specify 26
 -Are almost gone & hard to find now 16
 -(yes) due to loss of traditional lifestyles 09
 -Not gathered because they are polluted 03

6 When did these changes occur? 109

-When oilsand plants began operations 12
 -When traditional lifestyles lost 05
 -When the Bennett Dam opened, early 70's 03

-1950's	01	-1960's	02
-1970's	04	-1980-90's	01

-Wouldn't specify 27
 -Don't know 54

7	Why do you think these changes occurred?	109
	-Pollution caused these changes	20
	-Because of the oil sand plants	10
	-Low water levels	08
	-Not taught traditionally anymore	07
	-Wouldn't specify	24
	-Don't know	40
8	What has been the impact on the plants that used to be gathered?	109
	-Pollution destroyed their habitat & caused their decline	20
	-Pollution destroying their habitat & making them unsafe for use	14
	-Loss of traditional lifestyles together with use of modern medicine	05
	-Pollution	05
	-Low water levels	03
	-Wouldn't specify	22
	-Don't know	40
9	Are there plants your people can no longer gather because of the impact of Suncor?	109
	-Yes	67
	-No	11
	-Don't know	31

VIII LANDS AND WATER

1	What were the rivers & lakes like before Suncor was established?	109
	-At a higher level, clean, safe to use & unpolluted	104
	-No comment	3
	-Don't know	2
2	How did your people use the rivers & lakes before Suncor was established?	109
	-For travel, consumption, traditional lifestyles support & leisure	108
	-No comment	1
3	What were the flows and water levels of the rivers & lakes like before Suncor was established?	109
	-Naturally higher flows and water levels	76
	-High water levels & flows before Bennett Dam	15
	-No change	02
	-No comment	07
	-Don't know	09
4	Was there a normal cycle to the rivers & water systems in the delta before Suncor was established?	109
	Yes 93 Don't know 10 No comment 6	
5	Was there ever major floods in the area?	109
	-Historic flooding every few years when water level was high	46
	-Yes	39
	-Yes, historically in the WBNP	16
	-Don't know	04
	-No comment	04
6	How did the rivers & lakes change after Suncor was established?	109
	-Lower water levels & pollution of the waters	58
	-Bennett Dam lowered the water levels	18
	-Lower water levels & loss of delta habitat & areas	11
	-Bennett Dam/lower water levels & oil sand plants/pollution	07
	-No comment	10
	-No change	03
	-Don't know	02

7	How did Suncor affect your people's use of the rivers & lakes?	109
	-Pollution/lower water levels caused loss of wildlife, delta & traditional lifestyles	57
	-Waters now unsafe to use and drink	33
	-No comment	08
	-No change	07
	-Don't know	04
8	Has the normal cycle of the rivers & lakes of the delta changed after Suncor was established?	109
	-Yes	44
	-Yes, because of the Bennett Dam	18
	-No	16
	-No comment	14
	-Because of the effects of lower water levels & pollution	13
	-Don't know	04
9	Has the quality of the waters of the delta changed after Suncor was established?	109
	-Pollution & lower water levels destroyed wildlife & fish habitat & mad unsafe to use	51
	-Yes	40
	-No comment	14
	-Don't know	03
	-No	01
10	Has the lands near the rivers & lakes changed since Suncor was established?	109
	-Pollution & lower water levels, loss of delta, wildlife & traditional lifestyles	29
	-No	26
	-Bennett Dam/lower water levels & loss of delta areas	20
	-Yes	12
	-No comment	11
	-Don't know	06
	-No, not by Suncor, but by the Bennett Dam	05
11	When did these changes occur?	109
	-Don't know	24
	-When the oil sand plants were built & began operations	22
	-When the Bennett Dam was built, (1969-72) & lower water levels	22
	-No comment	16
	-When the Bennett Dam & oil sand plants were built	15
	-1970's	09
	-1950's	01

12 Why do you think these changes occurred? 109

- Bennett Dam/lower water levels & oil sand plants pollution 29
- Industry & urban centers upstream polluting the waters (rivers) 18
- Don't know 16
- No comment 16
- Lower water levels, pollution, habitat & wildlife loss 13
- Bennett Dam & lower water levels 11
- Lack of proper environmental control & protection by the gov't 06

13 Have these changes impacted on the traditional lifestyles & use by your people? 109

- Pollution/lower water levels affect on habitat & wildlife destroyed traditional lifestyles 52
- Yes 41
- No comment 14
- No 01
- Don't know 01

CHAPTER FIFTEEN

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THE SURVEY INSTRUMENT

I DEMOGRAPHICS

1 NAME: _____

2 (a) AGE: _____ (b) GENDER: M___ F___

3 PLACE OF BIRTH: _____

4 LENGTH OF RESIDENCY: _____

5 **INDIGENOUS GROUP MEMBERSHIP:**

- a Mikisew Cree First Nation: _____
- b Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation _____
- c Fort Chipewyan Metis Local _____

6 **EDUCATION LEVEL:**

- a Grades 1 - 6 _____
- b Grades 7 - 12 _____
- c High School Diploma Yes___ No___
- d Post Secondary Yes___ No___
- e Technical/Vocational Yes___ No___
- f Traditional Yes___ No___
- g Mission School Yes___ No___

7 **OCCUPATION:** _____

8 **EMPLOYED:** Yes___ No___

9 **EMPLOYER:**

- a Federal Government _____
- b Provincial Government _____
- c Municipal Government _____
- d First Nation and/or Metis Local _____
- e Business _____
- f Community Agency _____
- g Community Organization _____
- h Traditional _____

Trapping ___ Hunting ___ Fishing ___

II ABOUT SUNCOR

The local people's awareness and knowledge about the Suncor Group of Companies Ltd., its nature of business and operations must be obtained and documented. Additionally, the impact of Suncor, if any and the extent of such, on the respondents must be identified and determined.

1 Have you ever heard of the Suncor Group of Companies?

Yes ___ No ___

2 Do you know what type of business Suncor is mainly involved in?

Yes ___ No ___

If Yes please describe: _____

3 Where is Suncor located? _____

4 Have you ever worked directly for Suncor? Yes ___ No ___

If Yes please describe: _____

5 Have you ever worked for a company that provided goods or services to Suncor?

Yes ___ No ___

If Yes please describe: _____

III CULTURAL & TRADITIONAL

It is important to capture the perceptions of the respondents on whether, in their opinion, they feel Suncor has impacted or will impact on the Cultural and Traditional lifestyles of the Indigenous people of the area.

1 Are there Cultural and Traditional sites in the area?

Yes ___ No ___

If Yes please describe: _____

2 Are some of these sites located along the shores of the rivers and lakes of the area?

Yes ___ No ___

3 Has Suncor impacted on these sites? Yes ___ No ___

If Yes please describe: _____

4 Were there special cultural and traditional sites in the area where Suncor plant is located?

Yes ___ No ___

If Yes please describe: _____

5 Do you or your people still use these sites? Yes ___ No ___

If Yes please describe: _____

6 Did Suncor have an impact on you or your peoples Cultural and Traditional lifestyles:

Yes ___

No ___

If Yes please describe: _____

7 Did the people who moved into the area as a result of the Suncor business and operations have an impact on the Cultural and Traditional lifestyles of you and/or your people?

Yes ___

No ___

If Yes please describe: _____

IV THE LOCAL ECONOMY

The perception of the respondent on whether or not Suncor has impacted on the local economy, employment and incomes must be determined and documented. Equally important is their perception on how Suncor has impacted on the local economy.

1 **Has Suncor impacted on the local economy?** Yes___ No___

If Yes please describe: _____

2 **Has Suncor created employment and income for you or your people?**

Yes___ No___

If Yes please describe: _____

3 **What was the main basis of the local economy before Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established in the area?**

4 **What was the main type of employment or source of income for you or your people before Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established in the area?**

5 Did you or any of your people obtain employment during the initial construction of Suncor or any of its early projects?

Yes ___

No ___

If Yes please describe: _____

6 What type of employment did you or they obtain then?

7 Was any training provided by Suncor then? Yes ___ No ___

If Yes please describe: _____

8 What are the main types of employment or sources or income for you or your people to day?

V LOCAL BUSINESSES & SERVICES

The perception of the respondent on whether or not Suncor has impacted on local businesses and services must be captured. In addition their response on how Suncor has impacted on local businesses and services is required.

1 Has Suncor impacted on local businesses and services?

Yes___ No___

If Yes please describe: _____

2 Before Suncor was established in the area what type of businesses and services were available locally?

3 What type of goods and services did you or your people need to obtain before Suncor or businesses like Suncor was established?

V LOCAL BUSINESS AND SERVICES *continued....*

4 Where did you or your people obtain goods and services before Suncor or businesses like Suncor was established?

5 Were there any stores or businesses in the local area then?

Yes ___ No ___

6 When were stores or businesses established in your community?

7 After Suncor or businesses like Suncor was established where any stores or businesses developed in your community?

Yes ___ No ___

8 Was there a particular time when a large number of stores or businesses were established in your community?

Yes ___ No ___

If Yes please describe: _____

9 Approximately what are the years of that period?

10 Did the construction or operation of Suncor impact on the establishment of new business or services in your community?

Yes ___

No ___

If Yes please describe: _____

11 Do local people own and operate their own business and services in your community to day?

Yes ___

No ___

If Yes please describe: _____

VI SOCIAL IMPACT

The perceptions of the respondents in regards to the impact Suncor or businesses like Suncor may have had on the Social fabric of the area is very important to determine and establish.

A POPULATION

1 How many of your people lived in the immediate area before Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

2 What were the sizes of the settlements were your people lived before Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

3 Did the population of your people change since Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

4 How has the population of your people changed locally since Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

B COMMUNITY PATTERNS

1 How did your people come to live in this community?

2 Where did your people originally live?

3 Did your people originally live in settlements or single family units?

4 Were there patterns to your people's movements to and from historic traditional settlements?

5 How have your people's settlement pattern change since Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

6 Why did these patterns change?

VI SOCIAL IMPACT continued.....

7 Did Suncor or businesses like Suncor affect your people's settlement patterns?

Yes ___

No ___

If Yes please describe: _____

8 Why did your people move to Fort Chipewyan?

9 Did your people have to move because of the impact of Suncor or businesses like Suncor?

Yes ___

No ___

If Yes please describe: _____

10 Were your people's homes or traditional locations affected when Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

Yes ___

No ___

If Yes please describe: _____

C **HEALTH**

1 **What was the health of your people like before Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?**

2 **How did your people cope with and treat illnesses and injury before Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?**

3 **Have there been changes in the overall health of your people since Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?**

Yes___ No___

If Yes please describe: _____

4 **Have there been changes in the way your people coped with and treated illness and injury since Suncor or business like Suncor were established?**

Yes___ No___

If Yes please describe: _____

5 Have there been changes in the types of medical services in your community as a result of Suncor or businesses like Suncor?

Yes___

No___

If Yes please describe: _____

6 Do you think Suncor or businesses like Suncor have affected your people's health?

Yes___

No___

If Yes please describe: _____

D **EDUCATION**

1 How did your people receive their education before Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

2 How did your people learn the knowledge and skills required to be self-sufficient before Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

3 Were there schools in your community prior to when Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

4 When were the first schools developed in your community and who administered them?

5 Have there been changes in how your people were educated since the establishment of Suncor or businesses like Suncor?

6 Has Suncor or businesses like Suncor changed the way your people obtained their education?

7 Have you or your people received training or developed new employment related skills as a result of their involvement with Suncor?

E HOUSING

1 What types of homes did your people live in before Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

2 Did your people have more than one home in the area?

Yes ___ No ___

3 How have your people's homes changed since Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

4 Did Suncor or businesses like Suncor affect housing for your people?

Yes ___ No ___

If Yes please describe: _____

5 Were there any homes or cabins affected by Suncor or businesses like Suncor?

Yes ___ No ___

If Yes please describe: _____

F MUNICIPAL SERVICES & TRANSPORTATION

1 How did your people move themselves and their families before Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

2 Was there power, water and other municipal services in your community before Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

Yes___ No___

If Yes please describe: _____

3 Have there been changes in Municipal services and transportation since Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

Yes___ No___

If Yes please describe: _____

4 Did Suncor or businesses like Suncor affect the way your people transported themselves and goods in the area?

Yes___ No___

If Yes please describe: _____

5 When did your community first get power, water and other municipal services?

6 What types of municipal and transportation services does your community have to day?

7 Did Suncor or businesses like Suncor affect the timing and types of municipal and transportation services for your community?

VII ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS

It is very important to clearly determine and establish the perceptions of the respondents where it concerns the impacts on the local ecology and environment.

A FAUNA

1 What was the hunting, fishing and trapping like before the Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

2 How much hunting, fishing and trapping took place before Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

3 What animals and birds were used by your people for food?

4 What fish were used by your people for food?

5 What types of fish were more abundant at different times of the year?

6 What types of animals and birds were more abundant at different times of the year?

7 Have the numbers of animals, birds and fish been affected by Suncor or businesses like Suncor?

Yes___ No___

If Yes please describe: _____

8 When did these changes occur?

9 Why do you think these changes occurred?

VII ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS continued....

10 What types of animals have been affected?

11 What types of birds have been affected?

12 What types of fish have been affected?

13 How have the animals been affected?

14 How have the birds been affected?

15 How have the fish been affected?

16 Has Suncor or businesses like Suncor affected hunting, fishing and trapping areas and/or trap lines?

Yes ___ No ___

If Yes please describe: _____

VII ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS continued....

17 How did these effects impact on the animals, birds and fish used for food by your people?

18 How did these effects impact on the traditional hunting, fishing and trapping occupations of your people?

7 Why do you think these changes occurred?

8 What has been the impact on the plants that used to be gathered?

9 Are there plants your people can no longer gather because of the impact of Suncor or businesses like Suncor?

VIII LANDS AND WATER

The perception of the respondent of the impact on the lands and water of the area is critical to this study and must be determined and captured through this survey.

1 What were the rivers and lakes like before Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

2 How did your people use the rivers and lakes before Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

3 What were the flows and water levels of the rivers and lakes like before Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

4 Was there a normal cycle to the rivers and water systems in the delta before Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

5 Was there ever major floods in the delta?

VIII LANDS AND WATER continued.....

6 How did the rivers and lakes change after Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

7 How did Suncor or businesses like Suncor affect your people's use of the rivers and lakes?

8 Has the normal cycle of the rivers and lakes of the delta change after Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

9 Has the quality of the waters of the delta changed after Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

10 Has the land near the rivers and lakes changed since Suncor or businesses like Suncor were established?

Yes ___ No ___

If Yes please describe: _____

11 When did these changes occur?

VIII LANDS AND WATER continued...

12 Why do you think these changes occurred?

13 Have these changes impacted on the traditional lifestyles and use by your people?

Survey completed by _____, on the following date:

October ____ 1995

Signature: _____

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