

# Why We Are Here

We're here to invite Rocky View County into a partnership grounded in **mutual benefit, economic growth**, and **reconciliation** with Bearspaw First Nation. Together, we can:

Strengthen relationships through collaboration and shared learning



Address shared interest in strategic land development, economic growth and reconciliation

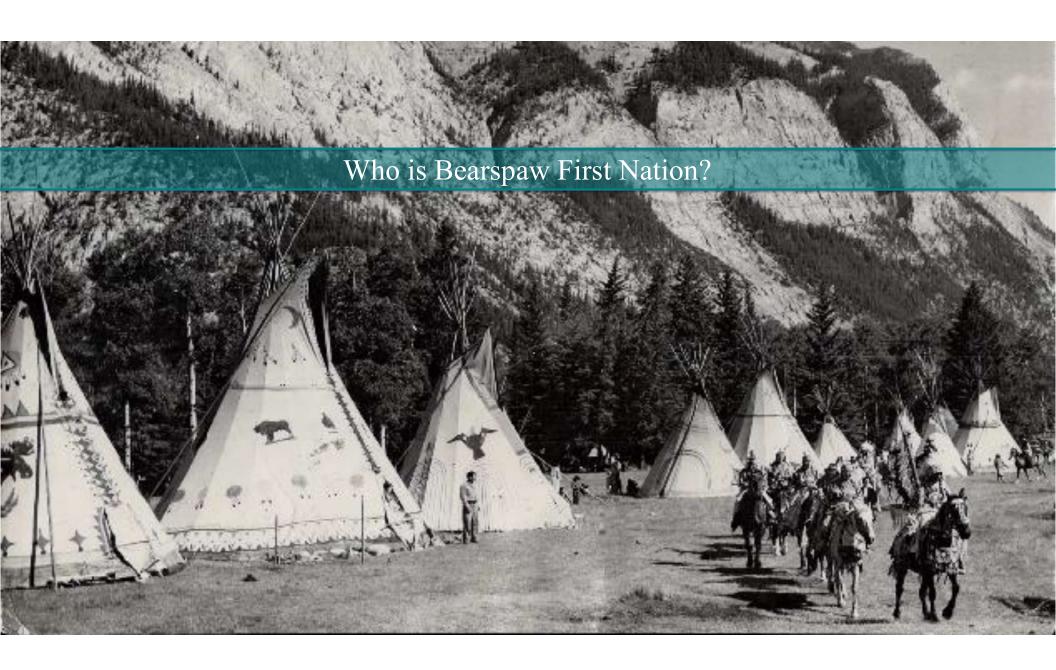


Establish a working partnership to foster economic growth for Rocky View County and Bearspaw First Nation



Bearspaw First Nation is ready to move forward together with Rocky View County to drive economic growth and shape the future of their nation





# Bearspaw First Nation

A Legacy of Resilience and Tradition



- Bearspaw First Nation is part of the Îyârhe Nakoda (Stoney Nakoda) people, whose history dates back thousands of years across the Great Plains and the Rocky Mountain foothills.
- In 1877, under Chief Jacob Bearspaw (Ozîja Thiha), the Nation became signatories to Treaty No. 7

A Vision for Economic Sovereignty



- Bearspaw is actively building a sustainable and selfsufficient economy. Notable developments include the Stoney Nakoda Resort, Bearspaw Kananaskis Travel Centre, and Clearwave Broadband Networks
- In December 2024, Bearspaw signed a letter of intent and became a shareholder of Indigena Drilling Inc., the first Indigenously founded and funded Canadian drilling company

A Commitment to Community and Future Generations



- Beyond economic development, Bearspaw First
   Nation is invested in fostering opportunities for future generations
- Through education, skills training, and communitydriven initiatives, they are strengthening the Nation's youth's ability to thrive in both traditional and modern industries



# Bearspaw Business Update

# Bearspaw Kananaskis Travel Centre

facility is underway including

Bearspaw members as well as

Bearspaw Mînî

Subway, Centex Gas Station/Convenience Store, Car Wash

It all started in 2013 for Bearspaw

First Nation with the establishment of

the Centex Centre at Mînî Thnî. Using

this successful business venture, the

Bearspaw Nation began to start-up

new companies, create partnerships

with corporations and establish a sustainable new economy for our

**Thnî Centex** 

many other members of the

Stoney Nakoda Nations.

other stand-alone businesses. The

Travel Centre trains and employs



Opened in 2020, the Bearspay Kananaskis Travel Centre is located on the Trans Canada Highway at the Kananaskis turn-off on Highway 40. Anchored by 24-hour, twenty

pump Esso Gas Station, it also offers a Tim Horton's franchise as well as an Esso Card Lock Service for fuel for large transport trucks and a number of Electric Car Chargers.

# Stoney Nakoda

### Resort & Casino



The Stoney-Nakoda Resort & Casino opened its doors in 2008 which offers premier casino gaming and over 100 rooms and suites. The family friendly resort provides a waterslide, swimming pool, upscale dining, large event facility and a wide array of excursions in the Kananaskis/ Banff corridor for guests. Bearspaw, Chiniki and Goodstoney Nations own the successful complex jointly.

The Stoney-Nakoda Resort & Casino provides revenue and meaningful training & employment for Bearspaw and other members of the Stoney-Nakoda Nations.

# **Bearspaw First Nation Development Corp.**

# Eden Valley Reserve



### **Proposed Travel Centre**

Planning has begun for the proposed Eden Valley Travel Centre which would contain a gas station, convenience store, electric car charging, a cultural centre and rest stop. Bearpaw has recently made a formal application to Foothills County for redesignation of land use from agriculture to commercial and had First Hearing.

The location is non-Reserve 98 acres of land located adjacent to the south side of Highway #54 on the back side of the main entrance to Gahnha, Eden Valley Reserve. This parcel held by a Bearspaw corporation lends itself to commercial development. to create jobs and revenue for the Eden Valley members and to take advantage of growing tourism in the area.



### The Eden Valley Gas Bar (1998)

One of our very first ventures is the Eden Valley Gas Bar. The intent of the business is to provide a direct benefit to Bearspaw members by having an operation for essentials, food, fuel and tobacco that is close by. The Nation members are also able to benefit from exercising their Tax-Exempt status by having a location for fuel and tobacco to be purchased on Reserve. The small business also provides jobs for unity members





# Stoney Nakoda Telecom



Stoney Nakoda Telecom is a self-sustaining operation of the Bearspaw and Chiniki First Nations, created to provide highspeed internet to the residences both on and off the Mînî Thnî and Eden Valley reserves.

In addition to various speed offerings for internet access, Stoney Nakoda Telecom also provides telephone, with free long distance and satellite television provided by Shaw Direct, all at competitive and affordable prices Stoney Nakoda Nation operates

two service vans and a bucket

truck for high height installations used by the wireless technicians. The operation is run by employees who are members of the Bearspaw and Chiniki First Nations.

Stoney Nakoda Telecom has a number of CSA approved towers that hold the radio equipment necessary to provide service. Two of the towers are built in

partnership with Telus Mobility, who also have equipment on those towers. Telecom has equipment on one externally owned tower on the Stoney

Stoney Nakoda Telecom services the Stoney Reserve, Eden Valley Reserve and surrounding, non-



# Indigena Drilling Inc. Bearspaw First Nation

Indigena Drilling is the first of its kind, an Indigenously founded and funded Canadian drilling company.

Indigena Drilling's team has a remarkable track record in starting and growing high quality drilling





companies with impressive performance and shareholder returns. They have a highly experienced board of directors, with significant Indigenous involvement, ensuring proper governance and

> In December 2024, Bearspaw First Nation signed a letter of intent and became a shareholder of the company. Indigena Drilling delivers top tier drilling services and will be training and employing Bearspaw members interested in this field.



### Clearwave Broadband Networks

Clearwave is a 100% Bearspaw Nation owned company founded in 2003 and is an Alberta Capital region ISP and networking services company. Clearwave offers fast Wireless and Fibre Optic based internet service





17-27

# Bearspaw Fee Simple Land Development

- Bearspaw owns approximately 80 acres of fee simple land adjacent to Eden Valley Reserve in Foothills County.
- Bearspaw is actively developing this land within the County, including a five-acre parcel along Highway 541 for the future Eden Valley Travel Centre
- The Travel Centre will include a gas station and convenience store to service highway traffic and support Nation members.
- Bearspaw is working collaboratively with Foothills County through the development application processes.
- Longer term development plans may include Indigenous tourism and highway commercial.





# Bearspaw Nation Challenged Current Economic Status

### **CURRENT BUSINESS CHALLENGES**

First nation groups face many business challenges including:

- Limited access to capital
- Limited existing business infrastructure
- Systemic barriers and cultural differences limiting access to financial services
- Reserve Land's are not ideally situated to allow for many business initiatives

### EFFECT OF POVERTY ON HEALTH OUTCOMES

- In 2022, the rate of opioid poisoning deaths for First Nations was 8.4 times higher than non-indigenous people<sup>2</sup>
- Average life expectancy on the nation is 47 years old
- Lack of employment opportunities on the nation are leading to increased poverty
- Economic development will bring strong improvements to socio-economic conditions

### MORE OPPORTUNITY FOR RECONCILIATION

Rocky View County vs Alberta First Nations Economic Status

- Median household income: \$150,0004 vs. \$45,9005

Springbank vs Alberta First Nations Economic Status

- Median household income: \$340,0006 vs. \$45,9007

Alberta vs Alberta First Nations Economic Status

- Unemployment rate: 6.7%5 vs 62%8



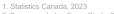
% Indigenous Owned Business in Canada<sup>1</sup>



Year life expectancy gap for first nations people in Canada<sup>3</sup>



Higher unemployment rate in Bearspaw First Nation compared other First Nations in Alberta<sup>3,8</sup>



2. ATP News, 2024

3. ATP News, 2023

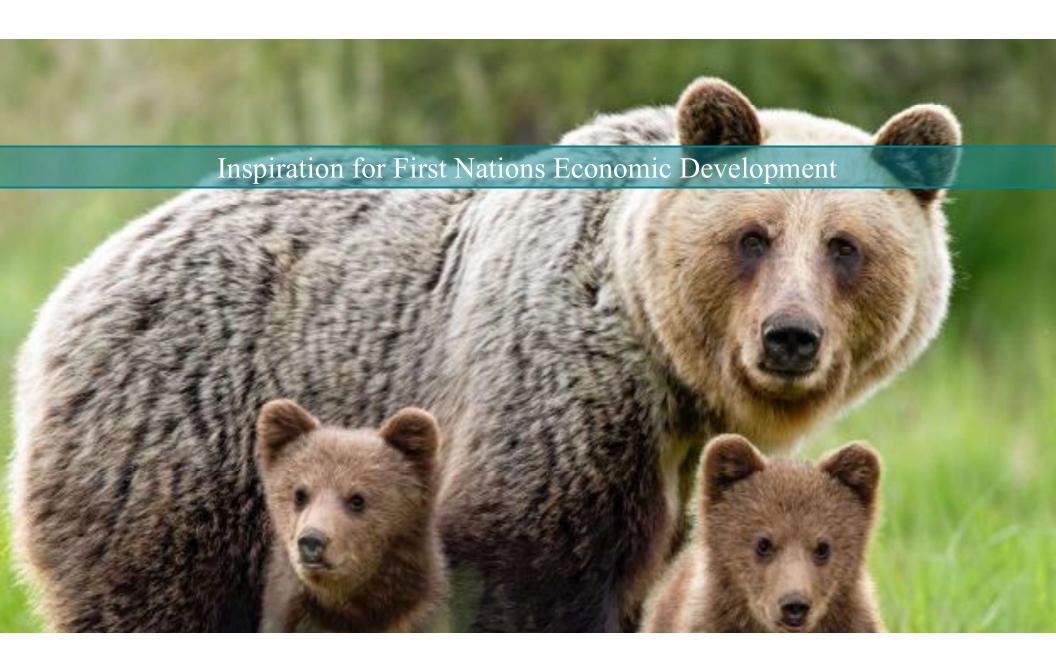
4. Rocky View County Census, 2020

5. Alberta Government Economic Dashboard, 2025

6. Cochrane Eagle, 2013

7. Statistics Canada, 2022





# Other Indigenous Developments

### TSUUT'INA NATION

- In 2021, the median family income in Tsuut'ina Nation 145 was \$145,490, the third highest in the province<sup>1</sup>
- Contributed ~1.5 billion to Calgary's GDP in 20212
- New development, Taza Park to bring 1,200 acres of mixed-development and 6,500 new homes at an estimated cost of \$4.5B<sup>3</sup>





## **ENOCH CREE 135**

- \$100 million infrastructure upgrade loan from Canada Infrastructure Bank (CIB) to generate over \$1 billion in economic development<sup>4</sup>
- Construction on \$50 million surgical and treatment centre in 2023<sup>5</sup>





1. Government of Alberta, 2021

2. City of Calgary, 2023

3. Government of Alberta, Major Projects, 2025

4. Global News, Enoch Cree Development Loan, 2025

5. Government of Canada, Enoch Cree Medical Centre, 2023





# Successful Municipal-Indigenous Partnerships in Alberta

CITY OF EDMONTON & ENOCH CREE NATION

In July 2017, the City of Edmonton and Enoch Cree nation signed a Memorandum of Understanding to stablish a Collaborative Working Group<sup>1</sup>

### Notable outcomes include:

- Boundary Interface Protocols and Strategies (BIPS) to coordinate planning on the shared border between Parkland County, Enoch Cree Nation and the City of Edmonton
- Cultural tourism and conservation through the proposed Big Island Provincial Park in southwest Edmonton
- Exploring a transit connection between Enoch Cree Nation and City of Edmonton and Enoch Cree Nation inclusion on Regional Transit Services Commission
- Harmonizing planning for sports and recreation facilities
- Exploring collaboration on Affordable Housing
- Community Educational Videos on History, Present and Future of Enoch Cree Nation – City of Edmonton Partnership

# CITY OF HINTON & ASENIWUCHE WINEWAK NATION (AWN)

The town of Hinton and AWN have engaged in various collaborate efforts to address community needs, including social services and cultural preservation

### Notable outcomes include:

- Mamowichihitowin Community Wellness Program (MCWP), a holistic response to intra-familial child sexual abuse, focusing on Aboriginal communities & providing treatment for involved parties<sup>2</sup>
- Signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the federal government to explore reconciliation and recognition of AWN rights with the goal to address uncertainties regarding land rights and traditional practices<sup>3</sup>

# CITY OF WETASKIWIN & MASKWACIS CREE NATIONS

The city of Wetaskiwin has developed an ongoing, communitybased relationship with the Maskwacis Cree Nations, focused on social inclusion, education and reconciliation efforts.

#### Notable outcomes include:

- Expansion of culturally appropriate social services and housing supports after identification of significant service gaps for Indigenous residents<sup>4</sup>
- The "Wahkotowin Project" created Indigenous-led education programming, increasing engagement and academic outcomes for local Indigenous students<sup>5</sup>

1. Federation of Canadian Municipalities, 2017

2. Wanowichihitowin, 2025

3. University of Alberta, 2020

4. WRPS Wahkotowin, 2013

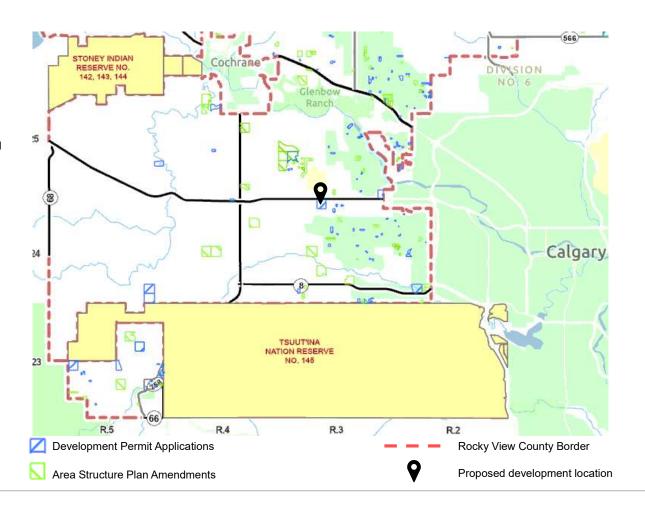
5. Wetaskiwin, 2025



# Strategic Positioning

### OPPORTUNITY ONLY EXISTS NEAR THE CITY

- Development is already happening—First Nations must benefit, not just outside investors
- Connecting Bearspaw First Nation to Rocky View County will unlock shared economic opportunity, leveraging the advantage of proximity to Calgary
- This development will:
  - strengthen infrastructure
  - attract businesses
  - create jobs
  - drive sustainable growth





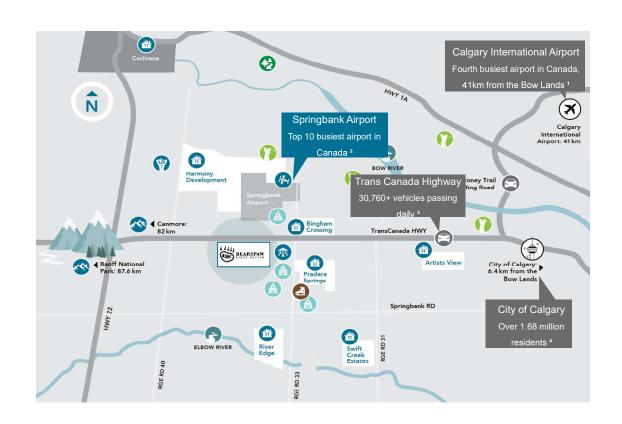
# **Economic Development Opportunity**

# TRADITIONAL LANDS NEAR CALGARY WEST (ROCKY VIEW COUNTY)

In December 2024, the Bearspaw First Nation signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with local asset manager Durum Capital, to develop a 298-acre tract of land for mixed used commercial along the Trans-Canada Highway, immediately west of Calaway Park.

It is important to note that Bearspaw First Nation has acquired control of these lands, controlled through the Ozija Thiha Land Trust, where Bearspaw First Nation is the sole beneficiary.

Chief Darcy Dixon said for years, "Bearspaw has been advocating for economic development initiatives off-reserve that will benefit our people, which, in turn, will enable us to address social issues and enhance the quality of life for our community. We firmly believe that this project represents a significant step forward in economic self-sufficiency and reconciliation."



1. Statistics Canada, Airport Activity, July 2024

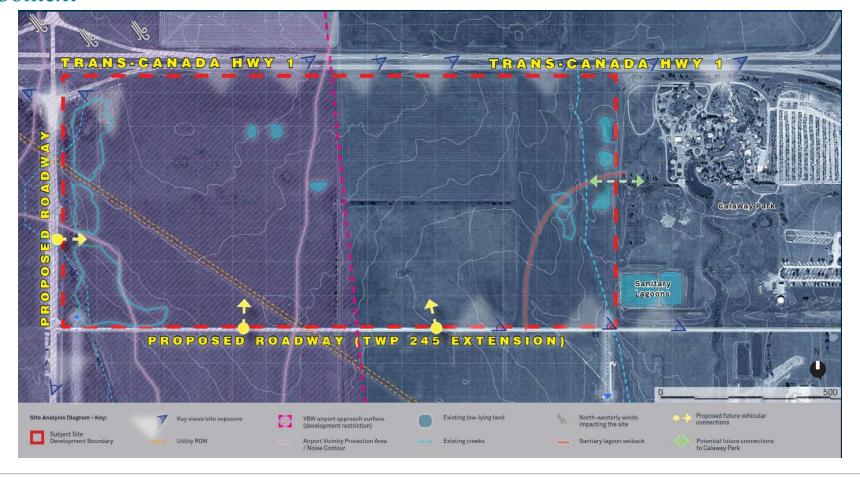
2. Statistics Canada, Total Aircraft Movements at the Top 10 Canadian Airports, Feb 2022

3. Transportation Alberta, Highway Traffic Counts, 2023

4. Macrotrends, Calgary, Canada Metro Area Population, Feb 2025



# Site Context





# **Economic Development Possibilities**

1

### **MEDICAL**

Community clinics, recovery centers, or specialized medical facilities could provide accessible and culturally relevant healthcare to the indigenous community.

2

# RESIDENTIAL & SENIOR HOUSING

Affordable housing developments and senior living communities can offer safe, sustainable environments and foster stability In future generations.

3

### **RETAIL**

Businesses, shopping centers, and service hubs can create jobs, generate revenue, and promote economic self-sufficiency while promoting Indigenous culture. 4

# COMMERCIAL-MEDICAL LIFE SCIENCES

Office spaces and co-working hubs can support entrepreneurship, attract external investment, and strengthen Indigenous-led economic initiatives. 5

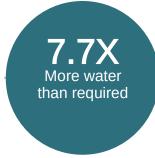
### **OTHER**

Education centers, cultural institutions, tourism initiatives, and recreational facilities can all preserve Indigenous traditions, enhance quality of life, and create opportunities for community engagement.









This land has 1050-acre-foot water license on the elbow river which is a critical asset for long-term regional planning

- Enables responsible community expansion, ensuring homes and businesses have reliable water access
- Excess water enables development without encumbering Rocky View's water supply
- Enables water availability for future businesses, recreation, and community projects





# Economic Empowerment Through Land Development



## **Economic Empowerment**

- Enable Bearspaw to drive their own economic future
- Create lasting income through ownership, jobs, and skills-building
- Prioritize long-term value creation for their nation



### Job Creation

- Create meaningful jobs for Bearspaw Nation members
- Prioritize First Nation hires in construction and operations
- Offer training and support to grow Nation-led businesses and their people



### **Revenue Generation**

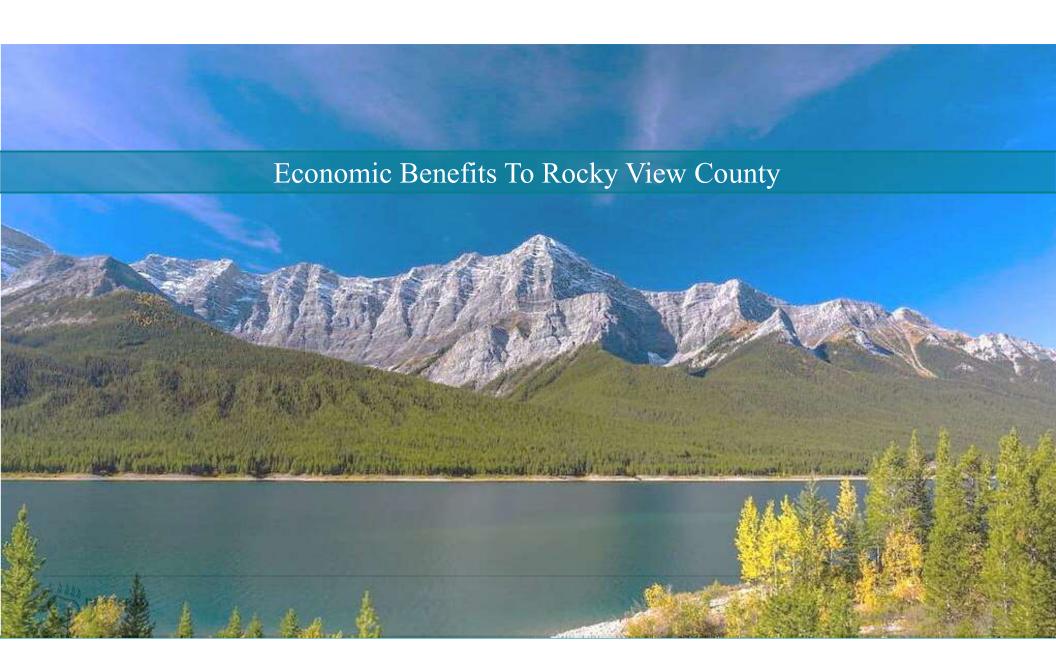
- Steady income means greater self-reliance, better services, and longterm prosperity
- Reinvest profits into Nation-led growth initiatives
- Foster greater quality of life for Bearspaw Nation members



### Long-term Prosperity

- Build a self-sustaining economy that puts Bearspaw in control
- Empower the Nation to define its own economic future
- Break reliance on government aid through lasting prosperity





# Benefits to Rocky View County



### **Larger Tax-base Created**

- Grow the tax base through strategic land development
- Turn underutilized lands into long-term municipal revenue
- Strengthen public services with stable, growing tax contributions



### Job Creation

- Attract new employers and boost local job opportunities
- Create construction, retail, and service jobs for County residents
- Support long-term employment through sustained economic growth



### **Revenue Generation**

- Unlock new service fee revenue from utilities, roads, and emergency services
- Grow property tax revenues from new developments
- Turn land activation into long-term fiscal gains for the County



## Community Economic Growth

- General economic prosperity to surrounding businesses and property values
- Contributing to the diversification of housing types, businesses, and services in RVC



# The Ask



# WORK TOGETHER TO BE BETTER NEIGHBOURS AND PARTNERS

Invite RVC to participate in learning about local and national indigenous stories, histories, and perspectives so RVC and Bearspaw First Nation can move forward together

Presentation April 16, 2025



# ESTABLISH FIRST NATIONS-MUNICIPAL COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

This working group will work on an expedited basis to develop the project vision, appropriate planning, economic development and reconciliation, collaborating between Bearspaw First Nation and Rockyview County

2 – 4 Months



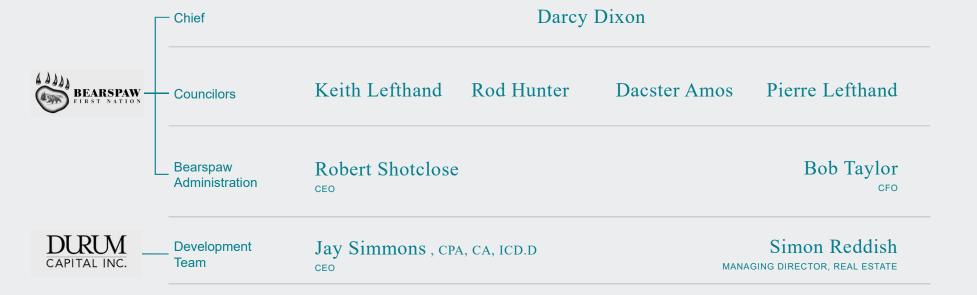
# APPROVAL TO PROCEED TO A MASTER SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Collaboration on delivering an efficient plan that benefits both the Nation and local communities

6 - 12 Months



# Our Team





# General Disclaimer

## **GENERAL DISCLAIMER**

This is not a formal offering document. Prospective purchasers of this investment opportunity will be provided with a formal Offering Memorandum and will need to be qualified for investment prior to making any investment. No person has been authorized to give any information or to make any representation not contained in the formal Offering Memorandum. No securities regulatory authority or regulator has assessed the merits of the proposed offering or reviewed the formal Offering Memorandum. This investment opportunity is speculative and involves a high degree of risk. There is a risk that any investment made will be lost entirely or in part. Only prospective investors who do not require immediate liquidity of their investment and who can afford the loss of their entire investment should consider this investment.

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# References

### Slide - Current Economic Status

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#### Slide - The Ask

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# Appendix

