

Welcome MARR Delegates

From the communities and members of the
Municipality of Clanwilliam - Erickson

And

Rolling River First Nation



Working group members signing Cooperation Agreement – Note traditional materials, sage tobacco, cloth and sweet grass used in many Anishinabe Ceremonies.

Meeting was held at the Anishinabe Sharing Lodge – Riding Mountain National Park the working group plans to create a sacred bundle to help tell and preserve the story. The working group also had a traditional friendship pipe made to also help remind us forever of the cooperation agreement made.

Background

Rolling River Anishinabe Nation

- 2014 began meeting and working with the Municipality of Clanwilliam – Erickson
- Helped to create a Shared Vision Statement
- Communities established Co-council or leadership meetings
- Local community groups developed a local food bank
- Realized a Jointly funded efforts towards resolving regional solid waste management

Municipal Efforts

- 2017 working towards policy reforms that allows the Band to have meaningful participation
- Signed a Cooperation agreement – 2015 and in 2017
- Joint funding – 2016/17
- Municipal Lagoon study – 2018 (To allow RRFN to use lagoon for Septage disposal)
- Road repairs – 2017
 - (Municipal road that is the main access to Rolling River)

New developments

- Development of the 5 community working group and members
 - RRFN
 - Keeseekoowenin
 - Harrison Park
 - Clanwilliam –Erickson
 - Riding MNP
- Regional solid waste management and recycling initiative:
 - Joint options report study March 2017
 - Signed a new Cooperation Agreement August 2017
 - Incorporate Anishinabe traditions into activities
 - Creation of friendship pipe kept by local community Elder on behalf of the working group
 - Creation of sacred bundle to tell our story and related traditional teaching

❖ Our Keys to success include

- Strong leadership – strong leaders never show or get angry:
- Support from INAC and province
- Cooperative values include Respect, Caring and Sharing:
- Equality leads to the use of a moderator instead of a chairperson – everyone must have an equal say and opportunity
- Respecting the Anishinabe tradition of Passing of tobacco
- The sharing of Traditional Anishinabe’s Knowledge
- Recording minutes of meetings
- Following up on next steps which are assigned tasks that need to be completed in order to move forward
- The scheduling of meetings that suit all schedules and or commitments
- Respect for jurisdictional responsibilities
- Following government environment regulations
- Working closely with government resources and with INAC.
- Clear communications emails and teleconferences
- Cooperation agreement – a written agreement that is developed to meet local group or member standards .
- And in the realizing that mutual success is the only way to all succeed.

For us its been Learning by doing

- Learn by understanding the other, plan to engage
- Work on the things you can change
- Where possible plan to involve the youth
- Meet as much as possible
- Plan for informal meetings – breakfast meetings it get the small stuff done.
- Invite and invest in engaging with each other/set that time aside
- Developing trust is key
- Be willing to share your time and energy
- Community signs are recognized as a form of reconciliation between Our First Nation and the Municipality – first ever in Canada.

❖ Finding the path

- For us it all began with Strong leadership
 - Remember Strong leaders often carry the load when things become slow
- Realize that our activities affect each other directly or indirectly
- For us we develop a Shared Vision statement
- We developed a process for open communications with emails and teleconferences we have one of those set up for this Friday.
- You will need to develop support from Government, for us INAC
- You will need to develop change from within and together –
- Focus on common issues or concerns
- Invest in each other - we are making a scared bundle and traditional friendship pipe
- The future is a planned process - between us as communities



Shared Vision Statement - 2015

**Thank you and good luck to all MARR participants –
2017 from the communities of Rolling River First
Nation and the Municipality of Clanwilliam-Erickson**