

## Article for March 2018 - Rezound & Website

Whitefish River First Nation Boundary Claim Trust Working Group

Greetings Citizens!

My name is Esther Osche and as the Trust Coordinator for the Whitefish River First Nation Boundary Claim Trust Working Group you can expect a monthly report that provides an update on the activities of the Trust Working Group and our engagement with citizens on the development of a draft Trust Agreement. The Working Group has now completed their ***Community Information Sessions On and Off-Reserve***.

**Purpose of A Trust Agreement for the Whitefish River First Nation:** The Whitefish River First Nation has reached a draft Boundary Claim Settlement Agreement with the federal government of Canada that specifies a settlement offer amount. The draft Settlement Agreement requires the First Nation to develop a Trust Agreement to flow, preserve and protect the Settlement Agreement funds.

**A Trust Agreement** is a Rule Book that preserves and protects the settlement offer funds for today's and future citizens.

**A Trust Operates** as a separate legal entity and its function along with Trustees, are limited to receiving the Settlement funds, investing the Trust property and, making an annual payment to the First Nation. The decision to determine how to spend the annual payment is left up to the community and is outlined in the Trust Agreement.

**The Trust Working Group's Role in the Development of a Draft Trust Agreement:** The Working Group provides representation and input into a draft Trust Agreement template. They will accomplish this with input from the citizens at community sessions.

**The February Information Sessions** three sessions took place as planned on February 22<sup>nd</sup> in Birch Island, February 23<sup>rd</sup> in Sudbury and February 24<sup>th</sup> in Toronto. The Birch Island Session had a turnout of twenty-five (25) citizens in attendance. On hand was special guest speaker Dwayne Nashkawa, CEO of Nipissing, who shared the Nipissing Trust Development story with attendees. In case you missed the story it is available on the Trust webpage at the first community session in Whitefish River First Nation. Another opportunity to hear the Nipissing story will be at our next session on March 22<sup>nd</sup> and it will also be webcast. The Sudbury session had a turnout of seven (7) citizens and, the Toronto session had a turnout of six (6) citizens. All sessions presented an educational understanding on trusts and trust designs and, on understanding investments and investment policies.

The Trust Working Group will now prepare to move into the next stage of the **WRFN Trust Process** by preparing for the ***Community Engagement Sessions Both On and Off-Reserve***. These sessions will engage citizens to begin the process of what they want included in the draft Trust Agreement design. A Draft Trust Survey has been

designed to facilitate this engagement. The Trust Working Group encourages all citizens to attend as this marks the beginning of creating the draft Trust Agreement. Your input is **valued** and **important**. Please make every effort to attend. This is your chance to have a say on what goes into the content of a draft Trust Agreement.

**The WRFN Website on Trust Development:** Access will be through the Membership Portal. We encourage citizens to check in on a regular basis and to help spread the word on this important development. All updates and presentations will be uploaded to the website following the sessions.

**The WRFN Trust Process Chart:** the chart has been developed as a guide for all to follow as the development of the draft trust agreement process unfolds. The Process chart is attached for your review.

**“INSERT PROCESS CHART HERE”**

## MEETING SCHEDULE

**IMPORTANT** - Please mark the following dates and times on your calendar and plan to attend the sessions to provide your input into the draft trust agreement design.

**Please Note:** the February Sessions ***“Understanding Trusts & Trust Investments”*** have now been removed from the schedule and can be viewed in the Portal.

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SESSION – DEVELOPMENT OF DRAFT TRUST AGREEMENT

<p><b><u>BIRCH ISLAND</u></b>            March 22, 2018            WRFN Community Center            Time: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm</p>	<p><b><u>SUDBURY</u></b>            March 23, 2018            N'Swakamok Friendship Center            Basement Meeting Room            Time: 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm</p>	<p><b><u>TORONTO</u></b>            March 25, 2018            Native Canadian Center of            Toronto - Auditorium            Time: 11:00 am to 1:00 pm</p>
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### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SESSION – PRESENTATION OF DRAFT TRUST AGREEMENT

<p><b><u>BIRCH ISLAND</u></b>            May 10, 2018            WRFN Community Center            Time: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm</p>	<p><b><u>SUDBURY</u></b>            May 11, 2018            N'Swakamok Friendship Center            Basement Meeting Room            Time: 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm</p>	<p><b><u>TORONTO</u></b>            May 12, 2018            Native Canadian Center of            Toronto - Auditorium            Time: 4:00 am to 6:00 pm</p>
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