

Application to Identify Beneficiaries Filed in Court

Sawridge Trusts has submitted an application to the Alberta Court of Queen’s Bench for advice and direction on the beneficiaries to the Sawridge Band Inter-vivos Settlement (1985 Trust).

The present definition of who qualifies as a beneficiary in the 1985 Trust Deed leaves some question in the mind of the Trustees of the Trusts as to whether the definition meets the requirements of current federal legislation.

In this Application to the Court, the Trustees are asking the Court to advise them

whether the present definition meets current requirements or if it needs to be modified.

All interested parties will have an opportunity to respond to this application before the Court and will receive notice when the documents are submitted or can look up the documents and responses on the Trusts’ website at <http://www.sawridgetrusts.ca/courtdoc>.

The Court will hear the Application in January 2012 once all interested parties have had an opportunity to respond.

This Application is expected to pave the way toward normalizing Trust, company and benefits operations by making it clear who are the beneficiaries to the 1985 Trust.

The applications also seeks to get Court to give its approval to transfers that occurred between the original 1982 Trust and the present 1985 Trust.



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Alberta Government Appoints New Assistant Deputy Minister, Child and Family Services



Trustee Catherine Twinn has been appointed as Assistant Deputy Minister for Aboriginal Policy and Initiatives for the Alberta Ministry of Child and Youth Services.

In an email to the Ministry staff, Steve MacDonald, the Deputy Minister, said: “I am

pleased to advise you that Ms. Catherine Twinn will be joining Children and Youth Services as the Assistant Deputy Minister, Aboriginal Policy and Initiatives beginning September 6, 2011.

Catherine brings over 30 years experience in policy development, advocacy, mediation, strategic planning and project management, team building, leadership and board governance, and an impressive record of community service.

“She is a member of the Sawridge First Nation, has provided legal counsel to several First Nations and has an excellent understanding of Aboriginal rights and values.

I believe that Catherine’s experience, wisdom and collaborative approach will be very beneficial as we continue our important work together to improve outcomes for our Aboriginal children, youth and families.”

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Established in 1985 and 1986 by the Chief and Council of the Sawridge First Nation under Chief Walter P. Twinn, Sawridge Trusts were set up to provide economic development, potential for employment, create an avenue for self sufficiency, self assurance, confidence and financial independence for the members of the Sawridge First Nation.

Monies from oil and gas development were invested in a number of businesses owned by the Trusts to provide long-term benefits to the beneficiaries and their descendants.

Modifications to Health Benefits

The Trusts have made some modifications to the Great West Life health benefits available to beneficiaries. Beginning in September 2011, the Trusts' Health Benefits Plan will now cover vision care up to \$350 for glasses and \$80 for eye exams every 24 months and orthodontic

benefits has been increased to \$2,500 lifetime benefit.

In addition to these changes to the health benefits plan, the Trustees are reviewing the Morneau Shepell Member Assistance Plan which provides counselling services. Counselling has been available for the

past year through email, telephone and in person but no one has made use of the service.

Trustees are considering whether to continue with the service or whether to develop another type of benefit that beneficiaries would find more useful.

Student Support Fund Benefit

With the beginning of a new academic year for post-secondary students, beneficiaries are reminded that the Trusts have a fund that is designed to assist students meet their post-secondary educational goals.

The Fund will assist students meet some of any shortfall in funding where federal

funding support through the Lesser Slave Lake Regional Council and other funding sources does not cover the total cost of the students' academic and living expenses.

The Trusts' Office has an electronic application form that students can fill in to apply for support. Anyone interested should contact the Trusts' Administrator

by telephone at 1-888-988-7723 or by email at paul@sawridgetrusts.ca.

Funding is limited and applications are considered on a first-come-first-served basis so qualifies beneficiaries and their dependants should apply soon if support is needed.

Bellwood 3rd Annual Addiction Symposium

Trustees Bertha L'Hirondelle and Clara Midbo and beneficiaries Frieda Draney and Kristina Midbo will be attending the 2011 Bellwood Addictions Symposium in Toronto from 4 October to 7 October.

The Symposium will look at both the clinical and corporate aspects of addictions and addictions treatment.

Bellwood Health Services is a well-known Canadian addictions treatment

centre. It works with individuals, families and organizations to treat alcohol and drug addictions, eating disorders, sexual addiction, problem gambling and post traumatic stress disorders.

This annual Symposium presents a number of recognized experts in the field of addictions treatment and prevention. Among the topics being addressed in this year's Symposium are various treatment

approaches, dealing with addictions in the workplace, and the role of integrative medical approaches in addictions treatment.

The Symposium also will look at the role of co-workers, family members and friends in supporting the treatment and healing of persons with addictions.