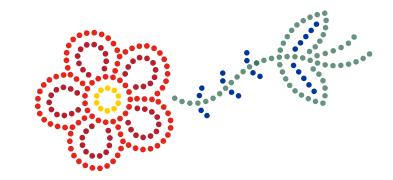
## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



## DEAR COMMUNITY PARTNERS,

As we close out 2023, it is with great pride that I reflect on the significant strides we have made as a community. Our collective efforts in administration, business development, consultation, community programs/services, and housing have borne fruit, and I am excited to share some of our accomplishments.

Housing remains central to our community's growth. By the end of 2023, we expect seven families to be comfortably settled in their new homes, and we look forward to welcoming two more early in 2024. We've added five new homes to our community, and acquired nine new lots, including a 5.5 acre commercial lot.

In a bid to enhance digital connectivity, we have partnered with *Telus* to provide high-speed internet access and basic television services to all Chard Métis Nation (CMN) citizens and staff, regardless of where in Canada they reside. The cost of these services will be covered by the community, underscoring our commitment to technological inclusivity.

Our *Elder Care Program* has been a remarkable success. We now cover all home utility costs, property taxes and medical expenses for our elders and have implemented a benefits program for their prescription medications. This initiative reaffirms our dedication to the well-being of our invaluable elders.

Our newly installed children's playground generously donated by *Stream Source*, a member owned and partnered company, is already bustling with daily activity and will be upgraded again in the Spring of 2024. Meanwhile, our inaugural *Cultural Camp* held in September offered an enriching experience for many community members, neighbours and industry partners, with cultural activities ranging from beading, games, and smoking meats.

We also hosted our first ever Chard Métis Dene Group of Companies (CMD Group) *Reverse Trade Show and Career Fair* which was a resounding success, bringing together our strategic partners and neighbouring producers with our community and its members to showcase our growth, capabilities and our beautiful community.

In the realm of consultation, we took a significant step by submitting our application for the *Government of Alberta's Credible Assertion Program* in November 2023. This initiative aims to clarify and establish processes for Métis communities' inclusion in land and resource decisions.

We are also proud of our *15 active partnerships* within the CMD Group which offers a wide range of services moving us closer to our end goal of being a one stop shop for our clients. The increased revenue from these partnerships has enabled us to increase community initiative contributions, member support, emergency relief for medical and bereavement needs, post-secondary education, events, elder care, and home repairs & maintenance.

I can honestly say that as we look ahead to 2024 our community's future has never been brighter, we remain committed to building on these achievements and working tirelessly for the betterment of our community.

Best Regards,

JUSTIN HERMAN, CEO

