



## About THUNDERCHILD FIRST NATION

Thunderchild First Nation, also known as piyesiw-awasis, is an independent Cree First Nation band government near Turtleford, Saskatchewan, with no affiliation with any Tribal Council, and is located approximately 113 kilometres northwest of North Battleford. The reserve was moved from its original location near Delmas, Saskatchewan, in 1909 to where it now currently resides near Turtleford, Saskatchewan. Approximately one third of the membership lives on the home reserve.

### HIGHLIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- In early 2019, Thunderchild First Nation achieved Urban Reserve designation for the Husky Gas & Convenience Store (formerly Retro Petro), located at 1135 Idylwyld Drive North in Saskatoon.
- Municipal Agreements were signed by Chief Wapass and Council and City of Saskatoon Mayor Clark and Council, on January 29, 2018, by way of a special signing ceremony.
- Thunderchild has established a recently formalized investment with Calgary-based Westleaf Cannabis, which will create up to 150 new jobs.
- Chief Gordon Thunderchild Commercial Centre, located on the home reserve, includes a gas station, grocery store, restaurant, and billiards. The Centre is named for the grandson of Piyesiw Awasis (Chief Thunderchild) (<https://www.thunderchild.ca/businesses>).
- Thunder Developments Inc. is engaged in a business partnership with Prairie Thunder, a shareholder in West Leaf Capital Inc., and has recently purchased Xterra Energy Services ([https://www.thunderchild.ca/businesses/thunder\\_developments.html](https://www.thunderchild.ca/businesses/thunder_developments.html)).

### DEMOGRAPHICS

Total Population: 3,079 persons (November, 2023)  
 On Reserve: 1,420 persons/Off Reserve: 1,659 persons  
 Total Reserves/Settlements/Villages: 67,458 acres  
 (Source: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, [https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND\\_NUMBER=349&lang=eng](https://fnp-ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=349&lang=eng))

### TRIBAL COUNCIL AFFILIATION

Independent - No Tribal Council Affiliation

### ECONOMICS

#### IN SASKATOON REGION

<b>Land Holdings (Total)</b>	0.3 acres
Urban Reserve	0.3 acres

**Status:** Husky Gas & Convenience Store

#### Employment (On Reserve)

Full Time, Part-Time, Seasonal Employee	14
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#### Business Developments - Current

Husky Gas & Convenience Store – 1135 Idylwyld Drive North	

#### OUTSIDE SASKATOON REGION

**Thunder Development Inc.**, which includes:

- Thunder Farms Ltd.
- Chief Gordon Thunderchild Commercial Centre Ltd
- Husky Gas – Saskatoon
- Thunder Security Ltd.
- Thunder Oil Ltd.
- Thunder Investments Ltd.
- Thunderchild Energy Services Ltd.

**Prairie Thunder Partnership**, which includes:

- Westleaf Inc.
- Prairie Thunder Resources

Source: [https://www.thunderchild.ca/businesses/thunder\\_developments.html](https://www.thunderchild.ca/businesses/thunder_developments.html)

Thunderchild First Nation  
 Urban Reserves - City of Saskatoon and Region  
 Approximately 0.3 acres

## HOME RESERVE INFORMATION

### Location

The home reserve is located about 10 kilometres southwest of Turtleford, SK.

### Services

Health care services such as home care and health nurses are available, as well as social development and community wellness support. There are also coordinated youth sports and adult sports programs managed by the members. Once construction of the new wellness center is complete, it will provide health care facilities, meeting rooms, a hockey arena, and a field house for the community. In 2022, Thunderchild celebrated the reopening of the Ochipwao Cultural Centre, which is administered by Awasisak Nikan Child and Family Services.

### Education

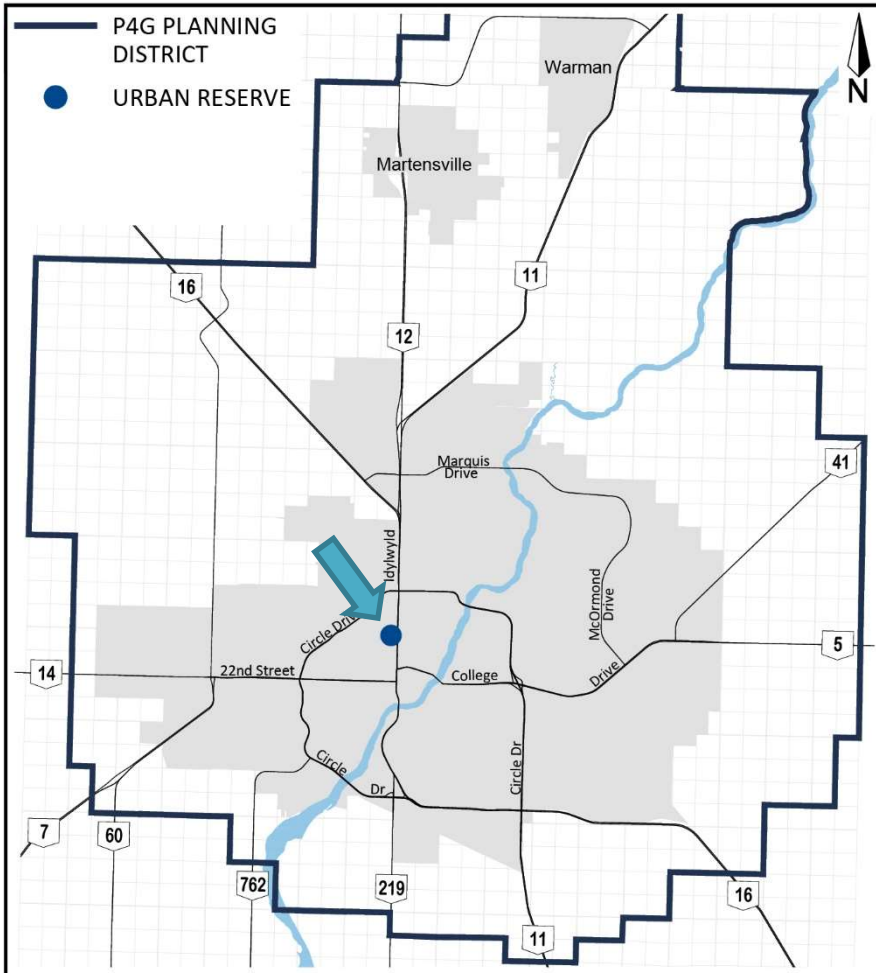
Built in 2002, Piyesiw Awasis Community School provides educational opportunities for approximately 300 students from Kindergarten to Grade 12. The school is a state-of-the-art place of learning with a focus on incorporating culture, language, and identity into both the design of the building and in the programs offered to students. The building resembles an eagle from above and features a teepee-shaped culture room. Community Elders are honored through photographs placed on the interior and exterior of the building. Post-secondary educational opportunities and support are also available to members through the Active Support for Education and Training Strategy (ASETS).

## GOVERNANCE

Chief: Delbert Wapass  
 Councillors: Enola Frank  
 Walter Jimmy  
 John Noon  
 Gerald Okanee  
 Leonard Sapp  
 Melvin Thunderchild  
 Billy Yellowhead  
 Election Term: October 18, 2022, to  
 October 26, 2026

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## For more information



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