



About ONION LAKE FIRST NATION

Onion Lake Cree Nation is located 50 km North of Lloydminster, Canada, and is approximately 58,737 hectares. It is the only reserve to straddle the Alberta-Saskatchewan border, making it Canada's only border Cree Nation. Onion Lake is of the Treaty Six Territory which was signed by Chief Sakaskohc at Fort Pitt in 1876. It was only in 1914 when Makaoo and Sakaskohc amalgamated to be one band. There are both band-owned and privately owned businesses on reserve, providing the community with essential services and employing both residents and non-residents (www.onionlake.ca/about).

HIGHLIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Onion Lake Cree Nation is a member of Treaty 6 and became a signatory on September 9, 1876.
- Onion Lake Cree Nation is located approximately 50 km north of Lloydminster.
- Chief Seekaskootch's Band signed Treaty 6 at Fort Pitt on September 9, 1876, while other River Cree signed an adhesion to Treaty 6 in 1878 as the Makaoo Band. The Bands received adjacent reserves in 1879.
- Pěkapēsik Lodge is a medical boarding home operated by Onion Lake Cree Nation, located in Saskatoon at 1605 Victoria Ave. They offer their services to all First Nations people. The lodge is wheelchair accessible. Their goal is to provide care and support to First Nations' peoples. The lodge has a 15 room capacity.
- Onion Lake opened its first urban office in Saskatoon in 2010. The goal of the urban office is to support off reserve members with services such as food bank and transitional assistance, referral services, housing applications, etc.
- Onion Lake recently added 15 new addiction treatment spaces for withdrawal management to their existing services offered at Ekweskeet Healing Lodge.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Total Population: 7,031 persons (April, 2024)

On Reserve: 4,488 persons/Off Reserve: 2,543 persons

Total Reserves/Settlements/Villages: 144,732 acres

(Source: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, https://fnp.ppn.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNMain.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=344&lang=eng)

TRIBAL COUNCIL AFFILIATION

Independent

ECONOMICS

IN SASKATOON REGION

Land Holdings (Total)	
1605 Victoria Ave, Saskatoon	0.2 acres
Status: Operated as Victoria Lodge	
Business Developments - Current	
Full Time, Part-Time, Seasonal Employee	172 (total)

Business Developments – Proposed

OUTSIDE SASKATOON REGION

Company	Employees
Onion Lake Group of Companies Corporation	
All Nations Building Supplies	10
Askiy Apoy Hauling	10
Beretta Pipeline Construction	38
OL Net	2
Makaoo Mall Developments	33
Onion Lake Gas	11
Onion Lakes Enterprises	45
Onion Lake Oil Well Servicing	12
Onion Lake Vacuum & Pressure	1
OLCN SGI MVD	1
T&L Custom Cabinets and Millworks	9

Source: www.onionlake.ca





FIRST NATION COMMUNITY PROFILE

HOME RESERVE INFORMATION

Location

The home reserve land is located 50 km north of Lloydminster.

Services

Services on-reserve include membership emergency assistance, Elders program, band housing and Elders lodge, women and youth program, community development centre, employment training and careers program, social assistance/SAET, fire rescue and peacekeepers, public works such as road maintenance, water and sanitation, and off-reserve urban offices in Saskatoon and Edmonton. Departments include Communication, Treaty Governance, Native Justice, Lands & Resources/Duty to Consult, and Health.

The Onion Lake Health Department offers an ambulance service, pharmacy, school dental program, clinic/laboratory and x-ray services, community nurses, assisted living, group homes (baby & youth homes), adult disability home, healing & wellness, Ekweskeet rehabilitation, and medical transportation.

Onion Lake Cree Nation is home to Big Chief Park, Heritage Park and Racing Track, Buffalo Compound, MMIMW Site, splash parks, Full Gospel Church, Holy Rosary Roman Catholic Parish, and Mamaweohkamihk Soup Kitchen.

Education

“Onion Lake Cree Nation values education and as such must empower and strengthen the youth by enriching their spirit through educating in a Nehiyaw-based environment” (<https://oleducation.ca/>). Onion Lake has five schools: Kihew Waciston School (Cree Immersion), Pewasnakwan Primary School, Chief Taylor School, Eagleview School, and Sakaskohe High School. Education services include the Gift of Language Program, daycare, OL Bus Lines, post-secondary education, and SITAG/LMA.

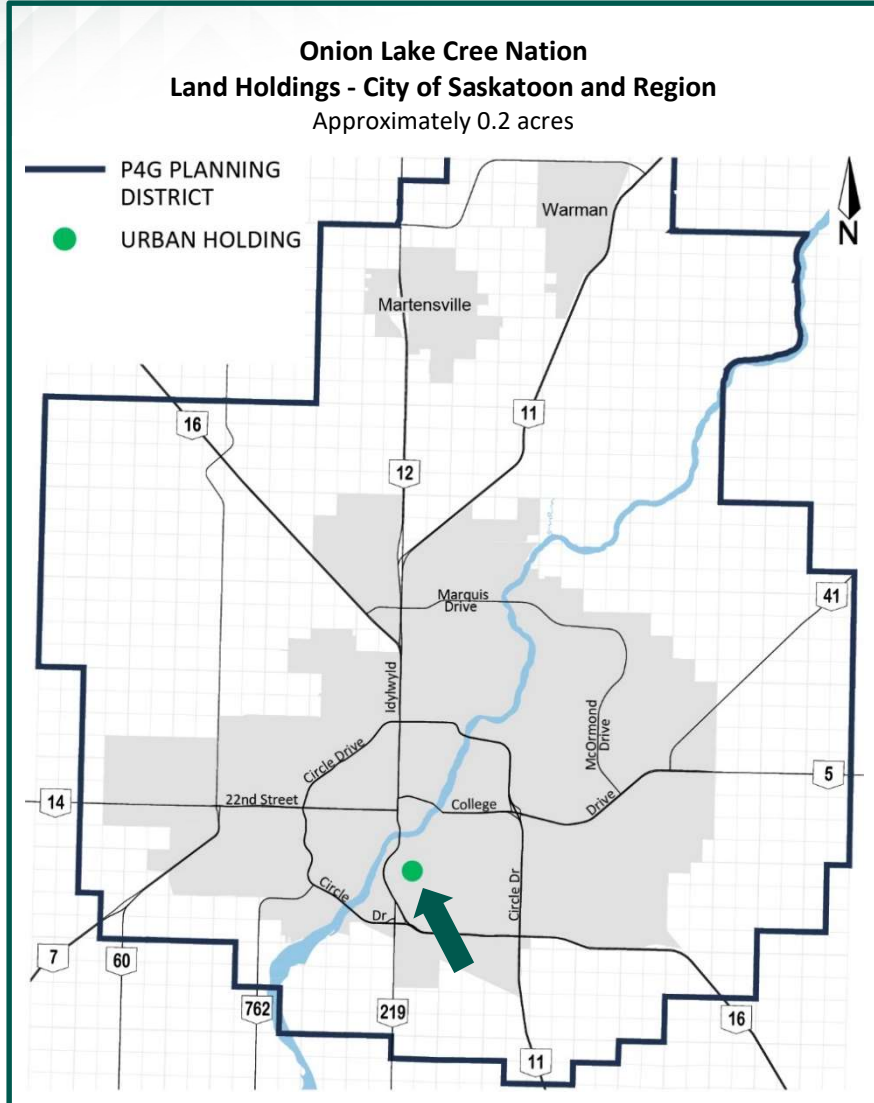
GOVERNANCE

Chief: Henry Lewis
Councillors: Irene Carter
Timothy Chief
Bernadene Harper
Ivan Harper
Laurie Ann Jimmy
Doreen Masson
Hubert Pahtayken
Joe Waskewitch Jr.

Election Term: June 18, 2022 to
June 17, 2026

CONTACT INFORMATION

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FOR MORE INFORMATION



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Saskatoon Regional Economic Development Authority (SREDA)
306-664-0720 • info@sreda.com • www.sreda.com

