

# COMMUNITY ACCORD

Made this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_

BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF

\_\_\_\_\_ FIRST NATION (“THE FIRST NATION GOVERNMENT”)

AND

\_\_\_\_\_ (“THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT”)

## WHEREAS:

All citizens of the First Nation and the Municipality trace their origin to societies of different cultural traditions, beliefs and values, and have created, or have had created on their behalf, distinct local governing institutions; and

The First Nation is a signatory of Treaty No. \_\_\_, and the Municipality is located within the Treaty No. \_\_\_ territory. As such, we are all Treaty People; and

In recognition that the land entitlement provisions of the Treaty remain outstanding, the First Nation has signed a settlement agreement with the Crown in right of both Canada and Manitoba, which provides various implementation procedures aimed at fulfilling the entitlement; and

The First Nation Government and the Municipal Government (“the Parties”) deem recognition, respect, co-operation, partnership and reconciliation to be the foundation of their communities’ common good. Paramount is the respect for and appreciation of each other’s diverse backgrounds, and their respective rights and jurisdictions, and therefore agree as follows:

## Article 1 - Mutual Recognition

1.1 The Municipal Government recognizes the First Nations people as the original inhabitants of this land, acknowledges their Traditional Territory and, as we are all Treaty People, respects the terms and intent of Treaty No. \_\_\_\_\_. In addition, the Municipal Government recognizes the inherent right for self-government and recognizes, acknowledges and respects the Chief and Council as the duly elected and properly constituted governing authority for the First Nation and its citizens (OPTIONAL: , and recognizes the authority of the First Nation’s Land Code governing its reserve lands).

1.2 The First Nation Government recognizes, acknowledges and respects the Municipal council as a duly elected and properly constituted Municipal Government established under the provisions of the *Manitoba Municipal Act (C.C.S.M. c. M225)* and having all of the authority and responsibilities of a Manitoba municipality.

1.3 The Parties each have distinct authorities and responsibilities towards their citizens and residents, and acknowledge that the interests of all persons living in the two communities are best served by working together in the spirit of cooperation.

## Article 2 - Relationship Building

2.1 The Parties agree that they will meet regularly and formally at least once per year, to promote and encourage open and constructive dialogue.

2.2 The Parties will form working groups, as needed from time to time, to explore and initiate mutually beneficial activities designed to facilitate economic diversification, to protect cultural heritage resources, to promote community growth, to increase investment, to generate employment, and/or to pursue other agreed-to objectives.

2.3 The Parties are committed to open communication based on the principle of respect in order to address questions or concerns that may arise.

2.4 From time to time, as necessary based on mutually agreed-to objectives, joint meetings of the Parties may be open to the public to inform and to receive community input and feedback. These meetings shall be co-chaired by one member from each of the Parties.

## Article 3 - Dispute Resolution

3.1 The Parties are committed to make bona fide efforts to resolve any disputes arising between them by amicable negotiations, and by providing frank, candid and timely disclosure of all relevant facts, information and documents to facilitate those negotiations.

3.2 Where a dispute between the Parties arises, either party may, at any time, call a special joint meeting to resolve the issue.

3.3 Where the Parties are unable to resolve a dispute, either party may request that a facilitator be used to explore dispute resolution options. Options for seeking the involvement of a facilitator include the Chairperson of the Implementation Monitoring Committee established under the Manitoba Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement (1997) or from federal and/or provincial government departments appropriate to the subject matter in dispute.

#### Article 4 - Living Document

4.1 This is intended to be a living document, subject to change from time to time and renewal following the respective election cycles.

4.2 Any changes to this document must be mutually agreed to by the Parties.

#### Article 5 - Appended Agreements

5.1 To the extent that the interactions between the Parties require formal contractual arrangements to provide for specific programs and/or services delivered by one party for the benefit of the other in exchange for appropriate consideration, those contractual arrangements may be appended to this document.

#### Article 6 - Appended Agreements

Signatures...