

Doig River First Nation

LESSONS IN LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT

2017
MNP-
AFOA CANADA
ABORIGINAL
COMMUNITY
EXCELLENCE

Award

FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

2017 WINNING COMMUNITY



A LITTLE ABOUT US

Doig River First Nation
is located in Northern
British Columbia,

POPULATION = 308 TOTAL REGISTERED

REGISTERED MALES
ON RESERVE

71

ON OTHER RESERVES

11

ON OWN CROWD LAND, OTHER CROWD
LAND, ON OTHER BAND CROWN LAND

0

OFF RESERVE

72

REGISTERED FEMALES
ON RESERVE

64

ON OTHER RESERVES

3

ON OWN CROWD LAND, OTHER CROWD
LAND, ON OTHER BAND CROWN LAND

0

OFF RESERVE

87



WHAT WE'VE ACCOMPLISHED

- Financial Administration Law
- FMB Certification
- Strong, healthy financial position
- Increased own-source revenues from \$5 M to \$25 M in two years through partnerships with industry
- Successful negotiations with all levels of government and industry
- Establishment of our K'ih tsaa?dze Tribal Park
- Reduced dependency on income assistance
- Construction of new community facilities
- Increased community member engagement
- Preservation of our language, culture and history





LESSONS LEARNED FOR LEADERS

- **Engaging Community Members**
 - Frequent open meetings
 - Live voting
 - Ensuring accountability
 - Setting realistic expectations
 - Being present in the community
- **Respecting Management**
 - Following the “Chain of Command”
 - Supporting Management decisions & respecting their expertise
 - Directing members to the proper channels
- **Engaging Expertise**
 - Using external experts where necessary
 - Supporting internal capacity development with external resources



LESSONS LEARNED FOR MANAGERS

- **Communication, Communication, Communication**
 - Being present & available to membership
 - Keeping Chief & Council in the loop
 - Being prepared for negotiations, meetings and other events so we put our best foot forward
- **Investing in People**
 - Supporting training that is targeted and relevant
 - Working through the training as a group for support
 - Giving time to Elders
- **Managing Contractors**
 - Staying on top of them to ensure they are focused on Doig
 - Ensuring that they “buy-in” to Doig’s success, and feel appreciated for their contributions







Wuujo Aasanláá