

Flora Beardy



Flora Beardy is a respected Elder of the York Factory First Nation. Until her recent retirement, she was a translator for York Factory First Nation Future Development Program, which was established to represent York Factory First Nation in negotiations regarding all hydro development projects.

Flora has served on the Wapusk National Park Management Board as a representative of York Factory First Nation since December 1996. Her extensive knowledge of the traditional and cultural background of the York Factory First Nation is an asset to the Management Board.

Flora recently appeared before the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission during the Commission's review of the proposed Keeyask Generation Project. Flora was part of the panel of the Kaweechiwasihk Kay-tay-a-ti-suk Inc., which discussed matters related to the consideration of Traditional Aboriginal Knowledge and Customary Law principles in respect of the Project, particularly in respect of heritage resources, Lake Sturgeon and Caribou. Flora is also the Chairperson of the Kaweechiwasihk Kay-tay-a-ti-suk Inc.

Flora also recently appeared before the Manitoba Public Utilities Board during the Board's proceeding regarding the "Needs for and Alternatives To" Manitoba Hydro's Preferred Development Plan. Flora was part of a panel of Elders and Traditional Land Users presented by the Consumers' Association of Canada (Manitoba Branch).

A self-described "people person", Flora worked for Parks Canada as an Historic Park Interpreter for 15 seasons. During this time she wrote the script for a video on York Factory National Historic Site.

Fluent in the Cree language, she worked for four years on an oral history project with York Factory Cree Elders.

The success of this project led to her being awarded both the Department of Canadian Heritage Prairie Regional and the national Treasury Board Awards of Excellence in 1996. She is co-author of *Voices from Hudson Bay: Cree Stories from York Factory*, published by McGill-Queens.

Councillor Roger Ross

Councillor Roger Ross has served in leadership, management, administrative and advisory capacities for the Manto Sipi Cree Nation since 1980.

Roger Ross was Chief of the Manto Sipi Cree Nation in 1991, again from 2001 to 2003 and from 2006 to 2009.

Mr. Ross was Councillor of the Manto Sipi Cree Nation from 1995 to 2001 and again from 2008 to 2010. Councillor Ross' current term is from June, 2012 to June, 2014.

Councillor Ross has served the Manto Sipi Cree Nation primarily in various capacities involving financial administration. Councillor Ross has served as Executive Director, the Manager of the Manto Sipi Band Store and as Assistant Band Manager. Councillor Ross' first position in 1980 with the Manto Sipi Cree Nation was as the Welfare Administrator.

Councillor Ross currently holds the Council Portfolio responsibility for the East Side Road Authority (ESRA) and the East Side Transportation Initiative. Councillor Ross is responsible for managing the engagement of the Manto Sipi Cree Nation in the Side Transportation Initiative (ESTI), including the administration of ESTI-related contracts. The ESTI is a strategic initiative to provide improved, safe and more reliable transportation service for the remote and isolated communities on the east side of Lake Winnipeg, including a 648 km east-west route linking the Island Lake and Northern Cree (Bunibonibee and Manto Sipi Cree Nations and God's Lake First Nation) communities to PR 373.

Councillor Ross is also familiar with matters concerning Manitoba Hydro electricity service to the Manto Sipi Cree Nation, including capital projects related to the provision of electricity service, including the previous provision of electricity produced by diesel generators, the negotiations and construction activities associated with the North Central Transmission Project and the retrofitting of homes and community facilities following the in-service of the North Central Transmission Project. Councillor Ross is also familiar with matters related to Manitoba Hydro billing issues, including matters related to billing arrears and service disconnections.

In his capacity as Chief, Councillor Ross was the representative of the Manto Sipi Cree Nation to the East Side First Nations Council, which was established to help the East Side Round Table prepare a sustainable development plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg planning area. Also in his capacity as Chief, Councillor Ross was the representative of the Manto Sipi Cree Nation to the Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin Council, which was created to continue the development of traditional land-use plans and broad area plan for the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

MICHAEL ANDERSON

Biographical Information:

Michael Anderson is the Director of the Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak, Inc. (MKO) Natural Resources Secretariat and has held this position since 1988. MKO represents the thirty northern-most First Nations in Manitoba, the ancestral lands and traditional territories of which cover almost three-quarters of the present-day province of Manitoba. The MKO First Nations have a combined population of more than 65,000 First Nation citizens.

Michael Anderson provides MKO and the MKO First Nations with research, policy analysis and negotiations support. Mr. Anderson has made numerous presentations on behalf of MKO and the MKO First Nations to government review boards, commissions, committees, conferences and seminars which addressed lands, water, natural resources, the environment and the operation and regulation of electricity, water and wastewater systems.

Mr. Anderson has participated in proceedings before the National Energy Board, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission, the Manitoba Public Utilities Board and the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission, as well as before Standing Committees of the House of Commons, the Senate of Canada and the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba. Mr. Anderson also appeared before the Expert Panel on Safe Drinking Water for First Nations.

Mr. Anderson participated in the development of methodologies used by MKO and many MKO First Nations and other First Nations in the conduct of Land Use, Occupancy and Habitation Studies, Traditional Knowledge research and Treaty Land Entitlement studies. Mr. Anderson has facilitated or participated in the design or conduct of such studies in northern Manitoba, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Nunavut and Quebec. Mr. Anderson is responsible for the selection, purchase, installation, systems testing and operator training related to the Geographic Information System and Image Analysis System utilized by the MKO Natural Resources Secretariat.

Mr. Anderson participated in the negotiation, development and drafting of the first Crown-First Nation Consultation Protocol to be entered into between the province of Manitoba and a First Nation in Manitoba and acted as an advisor during the development of the first Multi-Project Consultation Framework. Mr. Anderson also participated in the development of "toolkits" for application by those MKO First Nations which are entering into a Crown-First Nation consultation and accommodation process with Manitoba or Canada.

Mr. Anderson has served as a facilitator of processes to codify and incorporate Customary Law Principles into environmental management frameworks, including into the environmental protection plans and monitoring plans related to major resource projects such as those related to the Wuskwatim hydroelectric project.

Michael Anderson has served as a negotiator on behalf of MKO and several MKO First Nations regarding numerous settlements, agreements and mediation processes, including arrangements involving Manitoba Hydro and the governments of Manitoba and Canada regarding the provision of electricity services to remote communities served by diesel generators. Mr. Anderson was also a designated negotiator on behalf of First Nations regarding the Wapusk National Park Establishment Agreement between Canada and the province of Manitoba.

Mr. Anderson served as the MKO representative to the Manitoba Management Committee of the First Nation Forestry Program for the duration of the program and was appointed by the Committee as Manitoba's delegate to the National Council of the First Nation Forestry Program. Mr. Anderson participates as a technical member of the National Fisheries Committee of the Assembly of First Nations. Michael Anderson has also been appointed by the Assembly of First Nations to serve as an advisor to Canada's delegation to the Joint Management Committee established to guide the implementation of the *Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards*.