



Chief Mel Grandjamb

Fort McKay First Nation | 2019-2023

Leadership Record & Key Achievements

Mel Grandjamb served as Chief of Fort McKay First Nation from 2019 to 2023, leading a period of governance reform, economic growth, infrastructure development and strong community protection. His leadership emphasized financial discipline, Treaty rights and long-term sustainability.

2019

Governance & Treaty Protection

- Elected Chief on April 5, 2019
- Launched governance reforms focused on transparency and accountability
- Initiated the Moose Lake Treaty Rights Appeal, elevating Treaty protection to a national level

2020

Administration Reform & COVID-19 Response

- Strengthened administration and business governance structures
- Introduced a long-term housing strategy with no new debt
- Led Fort McKay through the COVID-19 pandemic with decisive emergency measures, including checkpoints, curfews and relief programs

2021

Community Safety & Economic Expansion

- Opened the Edmonton Urban Office to support off-reserve members
- Established the Community Peace Officer Program
- Expanded the Soogadin Services partnership into a leading Indigenous-owned industry provider
- Significantly increased wellness, mental health, youth and cultural programming

2022

Education, Infrastructure & Diversification

- Opened the new Elsie Fabian School (September 2022)
- Advanced economic diversification with a 39.2% ownership stake in GlassMasters Autoglass
- Progressed Oilsands Development Corporation projects and industry negotiations

2023

Housing, Stability & Financial Strength

- Completed nine new community homes, increasing total housing to 281 homes
- Delivered all housing and infrastructure projects with no new debt
- Finalized the Fort McKay First Nation Pension Plan
- Launched Small Business Grants to support local entrepreneurs
- Advanced land stewardship and Park Ranger initiatives

Key Outcomes

- New Elsie Fabian School built and opened
- 281 total community homes; nine built during term
- No new debt incurred during major projects
- Edmonton Urban Office established
- GlassMasters Autoglass investment (39.2%)
- Soogadin Services partnership significantly expanded
- Moose Lake Treaty Rights protections advanced
- Community Peace Officer Program launched
- Pension Plan created and finalized
- Expanded wellness, addiction support and cultural programming
- No increases to Chief or Council wages; no bonuses added