

# Aski Reclamation LP 'Seed Collection Program'



Aski Reclamation LP is wholly owned by  
Saulteau First Nations



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# ASKI RECLAMATION AT A GLANCE

- ▶ Aski was developed in 2018 with its first full season in 2019.
- ▶ Primary focus is on the “back end” of reclamation that encompasses:
  - ▶ site assessments,
  - ▶ plant prescription development,
  - ▶ installation of local native plants (seeding, staking and plug planting) and
  - ▶ adaptive management and monitoring.



2019 Reclamation Training with Saulteau band members

# LAND BASED HEALING



Saulteau band member  
Reclamation training 2019.

- ▶ Saulteau First Nations is still feeling the effects of colonization
- ▶ The seed collection started as an ethnobotany project that paired Saulteau Elders with youth and encouraged learning new skill sets that brought people out on the land
- ▶ Part of decolonization is practicing treaty rights and learning traditional land use
- ▶ Demonstrates an autonomy over traditional land use by working with industry to reclaim abandoned oil wells through a combination of traditional and western science





# GIVING BACK TO THE LAND

- In 2019, with the assistance of Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) - Aski's biologist and community member Carmen Richter lead the development of a seed collection program
- Aski also collaborates with Twin Sisters Native Plant Nursery – another Saulteau-owned business – in the collection and growing of seeds. TSNPN is a partnership with West Moberly First Nations
- Seed collected in 2019 and 2020 will provide source for upcoming years of reclamation work as we see an increase in activity for orphaned and abandoned wells to be reclaimed.



Carmen Richter



# BENEFITS OF THE SEED COLLECTION PROGRAM

- Restoring the land and ‘growing people’ using cultural and scientific teachings with land-based activities
- Returning the function of the land based on land use studies with the elders
- Creates ‘Food Security’ for the next generation of band members through restoration of damaged lands with plants native to the land

Watch “First Nations Reclaim Abandoned Well Sites in B.C” provided in ‘Video’ section.







2020 SEED COLLECTION PHOTOS





# 2020 SEED COLLECTION PHOTOS





## 2020 SEED COLLECTION PHOTOS



# HOW INVESTORS ARE HELPING ASKI RECLAIM NORTHEAST BRITISH COLUMBIA

## Government Investors

- ▶ The 2019 Grant was only available for one season with the 2020 seed collection wage subsidy funded through the federal government in collab with North East Advancing Society NENAS.
- ▶ *We are seeking a wage subsidy for the 2021 seed collector's season*

## Industry Investors

- ▶ By forming contracts with Aski, land reclamation is a common objective that utilizes the seed collection bank

## Community and Investors

- ▶ Enables First Nations to share traditional knowledge for end land use goals





# COMMUNITY BENEFITS FROM LAND RESTORATION

**Restoring the land establishes a land base for animals to return to**

- Investors are reclaiming the environment, by giving back to the land through sustainable harvesting of native seeds
- Land reclamation plays a significant role in climate change mitigation

**Offers employment for on reserve community members**

- A working community is a happy community

**All for the sustainability of people, culture and traditions**



# ASKI RECLAMATION ADMINISTRATION

## **GENERAL MANAGER**

**Alycia Aird**



## **PROJECT MANAGER**

**Sarah Ingles**



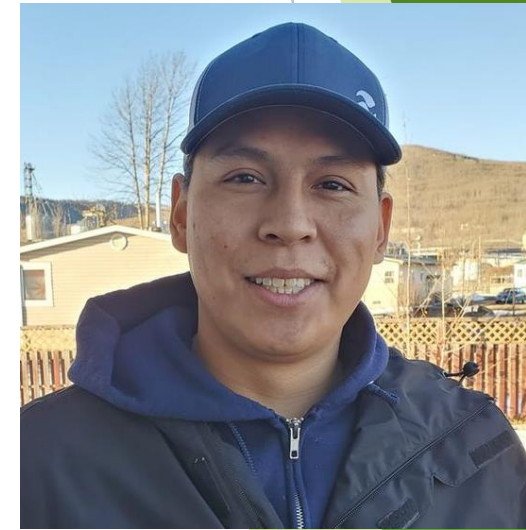
## **FINANCE CONTROLLER**

**Lana Johnson**



## **PROJECT COORDINATOR**

**Jason Ermineskin**







# Credits

- ▶ Saulteau First Nations (logo)  
[www.Saulteau.com](http://www.Saulteau.com)
- ▶ BCOGC “Oil and Gas Land Use in Northeast British Columbia”  
<https://www.bcogc.ca/files/reports/Technical-Reports/oil-and-gas-land-use-northern-bc.pdf>
- ▶ Alycia Aird – “Buds and Blossoms” for 2019 Reclamation Training Photos
- ▶ Carmen Richter for photos and video  
<https://www.facebook.com/CBCVancouver/posts/3545422192161976>
- ▶ Danyel Desjarlais for 2020 Seed Collection Photos
- ▶ Google images for photos used in slides

# THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

- ▶ FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ANYTHING SEEN IN THIS PRESENTATION OR YOU WANT TO BECOME INVOLVED WITH THIS AMAZING PROGRAM PLEASE CONTACT ASKI RECLAMATION'S GENERAL MANAGER AT [AAIRD@ASKILP.CA](mailto:AAIRD@ASKILP.CA)
- ▶ ON BEHALF OF SAULTEAU FIRST NATIONS CHIEF AND COUNCIL, ASKI WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF OUR HARD-WORKING EMPLOYEES WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE THROUGH THEIR DEDICATION
- ▶ THANK YOU TO WORLD INDIGENOUS FORUM FOR HOSTING ASKI RECLAMATION LP



“...as long as the sun shines, the grass grows and the rivers flow..”