# OpportUnity



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#### Land acknowledgement

We acknowledge that Alberta is the traditional and ancestral territory of many peoples, presently subject to Treaties 6, 7, and 8. This encompasses the Blackfoot Confederacy – Kainai, Piikani, and Siksika – the Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, Nakota Sioux, Stoney Nakoda, and the Tsuu T'ina Nation and the Métis People of Alberta, including the Métis Settlements and the five territories of the Métis Nation within Alberta. We are grateful for the many First Nations, Métis and Inuit who have lived and cared for these lands and their resources for generations. We give thanks for the traditional Knowledge Keepers and Elders who are here with us today and those who have gone before us and for what they have taught us about the gifts these lands offer.



## Introduction

#### The key to prosperity exists within opportunity.

Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation (AIOC) was developed to create opportunities for Indigenous groups in Alberta. It's plainly stated in our name. Look a little deeper, and you may see something else that is vital to our success.



Central to our mission is the need – and desire – to foster meaningful collaboration. For it is only through partnership and cooperation that we will achieve our goals, and maximize the impacts. On many levels. For everyone involved.

#### **Uniting Indigenous Neighbours**

Through loan guarantees AIOC is bringing together neighbouring First Nation and Métis groups as investment partners.

#### Partnership With Industry

Industry is proactively partnering with Indigenous groups to responsibly advance projects and share prosperity from economic development.

#### **Reconciliation With Government**

By creating AIOC, the Government of Alberta has developed a meaningful and effective framework to pursue reconcili-action through economic participation.

#### **Connection to Capital**

Providing Indigenous investors with loan guarantees opens the door to participation in large-scale capital projects that were previously not possible.

#### Return on Investment for Albertans

AIOC is bringing Indigenous investment together to support four key sectors of the Alberta economy: natural resources, agriculture, transportation and telecommunications.

#### **Expanding Impacts**

Alberta's groundbreaking model is being emulated (to a degree) by the Provincial Government of British Columbia and the Federal Government. Our success has inspired the Federal Government to develop their national program.

## 2023-2024 Highlights

## AIOC Loan Guarantee Capacity Doubles

The Government of Alberta increased AlOC's loan guarantee capacity from the initial \$1 billion to \$2 billion in fiscal 2023-24 and \$3 billion in fiscal 2024-25, reflecting our program's demand, success, and impact.



#### **15 New**

Alberta Indigenous groups participating in equity ownership

3 New Indigenous Partnerships Closed

Due to restrictions in the *Indian Act*, Indigenous involvement in large-scale business opportunities would not be possible without a government loan guarantee. AIOC is helping Indigenous communities become equal partners in opportunity and prosperity.

## Our Cumulative Impact (Since 2019)

42 Indigenous Groups

30 First Nations

+
12 Métis groups

7 Deals Closed

with more in the pipeline

\$680 Million+

in loan guarantees

\$1.5
Billion

in facilitated Indigenous investment

## Minister's Message



## As Alberta's Minister of Indigenous Relations, I am continuously impressed by the outstanding work of the Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation (AIOC).

By removing long-standing barriers to Indigenous investment, the AIOC has been a game changer and a key part of Alberta's commitment to economic reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.

This year has certainly been no exception. In fact, 2023-24 may go down as one of the most significant years in the AIOC's impressive, nearly five-year history. That's because we fulfilled an important mandate item and tripled the AIOC's loan guarantee capacity to \$3 billion. This is an unprecedented and unparalleled level of support for major Indigenous investments among the provinces. Many provinces are looking to the AIOC, which was the first of its kind in Canada, as an inspiration for their own programs. This should be a source of pride for all of us in Alberta.

In 2023-24, the AIOC also backed three major investment deals that will provide benefits for Indigenous communities for years to come. In July 2023, a \$103 million AIOC loan guarantee made it possible for the Northern Lakeland Indigenous Alliance to invest in a major pipeline system operated by Wolf Midstream Canada.

December 2023 was an eventful month for the AIOC, with two more deals announced, totalling more than \$170 million in loan guarantees to 16 communities between the two projects. You will find more information about these investments in this report. These were highlights of an amazing year, and there is much more to come.

The AIOC has provided more than \$680 million in loan guarantees since it began in 2019, benefitting 42 Indigenous communities in Alberta. As a result, more than \$1.3 billion is expected to flow to these communities over the next 30 years, and that number will continue to rise as the AIOC supports more investments.

Alberta is leading the way on economic reconciliation, and that is due in no small part to the AIOC. It's been a pleasure watching this amazing organization continue to evolve, and with an expanded mandate to support projects in more sectors and a total capacity of \$3 billion, the sky is the limit.

While we look forward to the exciting year ahead, it's important to reflect on the progress we have made together on our shared journey towards economic reconciliation, together as partners with Indigenous Peoples across this beautiful province.

Thank you to the AIOC and all its partners for your dedication to supporting strong, sustainable and thriving Indigenous communities.

Rick Wilson, Indigenous Relations

## Message from our Board Chair





The success of these projects, as supported by AIOC, has become a beacon of hope and progress." It is a positive time for Indigenous people in Canada. After more than a century of being held back from full economic participation, we are now seeing a path forward.

Only a few short years ago, it was said that major projects could not get done in this country. The relationships with Indigenous peoples were too contentious, the risks too uncertain.

What changed was a genuine effort to create meaningful partnerships between Indigenous groups and industry.

Together, we've demonstrated that obstacles can be overcome, and prosperity can be achieved, when collaboration and economic reconciliation are prioritized. By establishing partnerships rooted in mutual values, both industry and Indigenous peoples benefit, alongside all Albertans.

The success of these projects, as supported by AIOC, has become a beacon of hope and progress. Since 2019 we have provided over \$680 million in loan guarantees across 7 deals that support investment by 42 First Nations and Métis Groups in Alberta. These transactions are already yielding meaningful returns.

We were thrilled when the Alberta government announced the tripling of AIOC's loan guarantee capacity to \$3 billion. This demonstrates a tangible long-term commitment to Indigenous economic prosperity.

On behalf of the entire board, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Rod Graham. His experience and expertise are a welcome addition to our team.

I would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Aroon Sequeira for his tireless work and valuable contributions from the inception of AIOC and the initial full four years of our operations. Aroon helped us turn a dream into a reality.

Stephen Buffalo, AIOC Board Chair

## Message from our CEO



Last year was transformational for AIOC and the Indigenous Peoples we support, as a result, Indigenous partnerships are now a cornerstone of Alberta's economic strategy.

In our 23-24 fiscal year, AIOC nearly doubled the number of investments by Indigenous Nations and communities through three new loan guarantees. Each new deal brings a step change in economic prosperity for the communities involved, one that will provide positive impact for generations to come. I am proud to say that 42 Alberta First Nations and Métis groups have investments made possible through the AIOC program.

AIOC's first project, the Cascade Power Plant, has delivered power to the grid and will become fully operational very soon. This is critical infrastructure for the province, and it will ensure that we are able to meet the baseload power requirements that were in jeopardy just a few months ago.

Each of these transactions is unique. Each has been a step-change toward generating financial gains, building bridges, fostering trust, and creating sustainable impact.

The momentum and positive tangible results have garnered recognition at home and abroad. I was thrilled to carry our approach to Indigenous reconciliation to the world through the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 28) and the Alberta government has carried on showcasing our success at CERA Week and other events. We proudly accepted the 2024 Resource Leader of the Year award from the Alberta Chamber of Resources.

We're showing the path forward through a sustainable and replicable model that has attracted interest from countries including Mexico, Chile, Argentina, Japan, Australia, the US and the UK. Most importantly, we have seen other Canadian jurisdictions follow our lead. We have been proud to work closely with the federal government and the province of BC in launching similar programs and we look forward to working with them closely on future projects that transcend provincial borders to further broaden the impact of economic reconciliation.

I am so optimistic about the year ahead.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Alberta government, our board of directors and the amazing team at AIOC for helping to transform the way Indigenous Peoples participate in the Canadian Economy.

Hiy hiy.

Chana Martineau,
AIOC Chief Executive Officer



Imagine what can be achieved in four more years when determination, collaboration, and innovation converge toward a common goal."

## What We Do

In 2019, recognizing the imperative laid out by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, the Government of Alberta took a bold step. They understood that adversarial relationships between First Nations and industry could be transformed into meaningful partnerships based on shared values.

AIOC was created with the singular purpose of facilitating Indigenous investment and partnerships in the development of Alberta's natural resources, agriculture, telecommunications, and transportation sectors.

Our purpose is to be a catalyst for partnerships and projects that generate sustainable inter-generational revenues for Indigenous groups. We bring essential financial tools that reduce the costs of borrowing capital and make financing more affordable and accessible.

More and more corporations are realizing the tremendous value of partnering with their Indigenous neighbours in a meaningful way – sharing the benefits and the risks of their projects. As the model proves successful, we can build a foundation of knowledge, trust and insight that sets the stage for future partnership and shared prosperity.

Our commitment to envisioning what is possible goes beyond accessing capital and improving lending terms. It looks at the impact economic prosperity can have on Indigenous groups, removing barriers and improving lives. For too long, Indigenous groups have faced a multitude of systemic barriers that made it difficult to access the same opportunities that are readily available in non-Indigenous communities.

Removing barriers for Indigenous groups to access the capital required to drive projects in Alberta's natural resources, agriculture, telecommunications and transportation sectors changes that. It accelerates Indigenous ingenuity to create sustainable revenue that could be used to support a range of social, educational, housing, cultural and economic opportunities that will move communities and Alberta forward.



AIOC is empowering Indigenous communities. We're helping to make their aspirations and economic independence a reality."

Chana Martineau CEO, AIOC



## CommUnity

The scale of the projects we backstop often brings together multiple First Nations and Métis groups. Each community shares in the revenues – and invests back into projects that benefit its members.

## **How We Work**

AIOC's primary strategic goal is to drive sustainable returns for Indigenous groups. AIOC empowers Indigenous investment that provides real, immediate financial returns to First Nations and Métis groups. This enables Indigenous leadership to determine how those distributions are used to support their communities' objectives and participation in the economy.

To make this possible, AIOC serves as an economic ecosystem catalyst, removing barriers to accessing the capital Indigenous groups need to invest in projects or acquisitions in Alberta's natural resources, agriculture, telecommunications and transportation sectors.

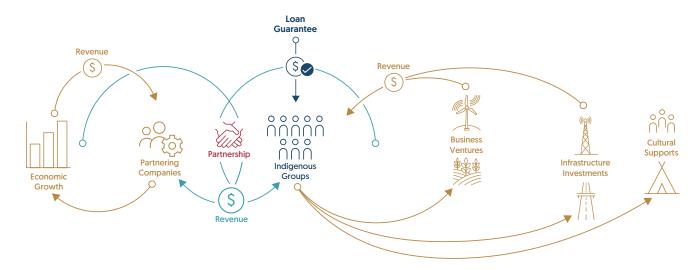
So, how do we do that? We start by building meaningful, trusted partnerships. Soon after our launch in 2019, we began meeting with Indigenous groups across Alberta to understand their needs, goals and priorities and discuss their ideas for projects and initiatives. At the same time, we focused on driving education and awareness with industry, lenders and other key stakeholders who can support the ecosystem. These connections have helped us build an in-depth understanding of the regions, resources and investment opportunities that exist across our province and in neighbouring jurisdictions.

Once those relationships have been created and opportunities identified, we get to work **helping our partners transform ideas into commercially viable projects or acquisitions.** With the ability to provide up

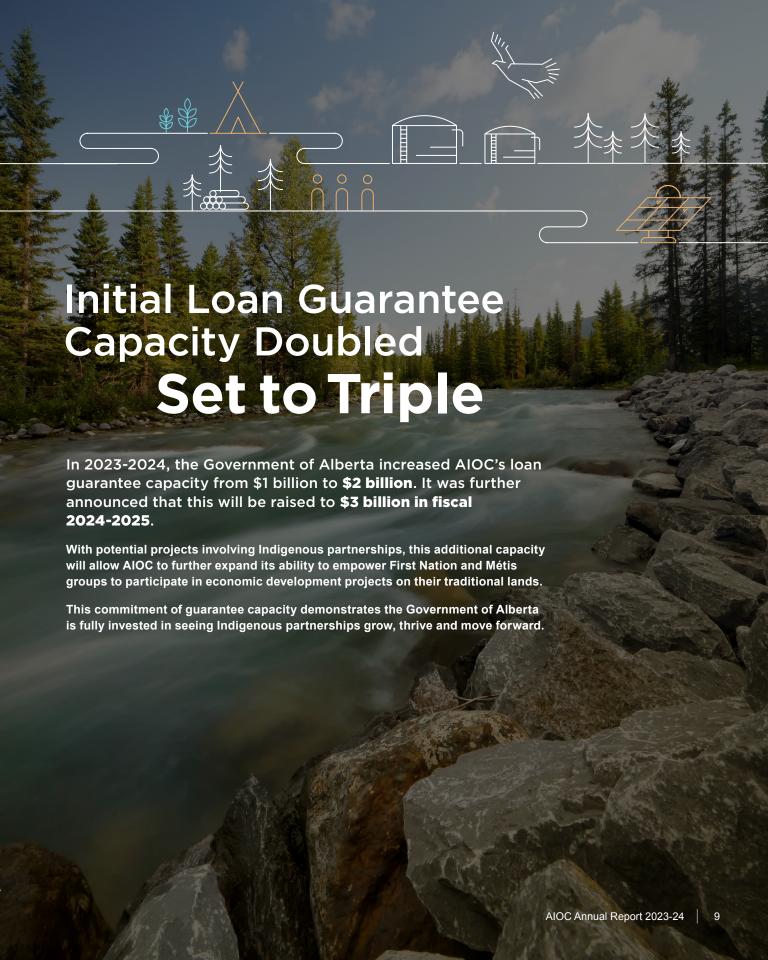
to \$2 billion in **loan guarantees** in 2023-24 (rising to \$3 billion in 2024-25), we provide security to obtain access to and help to reduce the cost of capital, improve lending terms and make financing more affordable for Indigenous groups.

We also provide **capacity supports** that allow Indigenous groups to connect with experts to assess large-scale investments. This can include legal, technical and financial expertise to help Indigenous groups move toward being long-term strategic partners with industry.

AIOC is focused on identifying, assessing, catalyzing, supporting and completing mid- to large-scale, commercially viable projects supported by well-defined and risk-acceptable business and financial plans, strong business models and detailed transaction terms. The target range for a loan guarantee is a minimum of \$20 million to a maximum of \$250 million for a qualified project, which allows us to ensure projects with the biggest possible impact and lowest risks are given the support they need to realize their full potential.









#### How we measure success:

AIOC empowers Indigenous investment that provides real, immediate financial returns to First Nations and Métis groups. This, in turn, enables the Indigenous leadership to determine how those revenues are used to support their communities' objectives and participation in the economy.

#### **Three Deals Closed**

This past fiscal year, AIOC nearly doubled the number of projects we are backstopping through loan guarantees. We closed three deals, bringing the current number of projects up to seven. 22 Indigenous groups are participating as partners, 15 of those had not previously participated in an AIOC-backed deal. All three projects closed are in the natural resources sector. *For details, see pages 11-13*.





## **Project 1**

## **Access NGL Transportation System**

In June 2023, Wolf finalized the construction of a proprietary natural gas liquids recovery, transportation, and separation system with an ultimate capacity of approximately 70,000 barrels per day. The NGL Pipeline Assets connect a Wolf-owned and operated NGL recovery facility in the Wood Buffalo region with a Wolf-owned and operated NGL separation facility in Sturgeon County. The underlying business is supported by long-term commercial arrangements with NGL off-takers and a 25-year transportation service agreement (TSA) that ultimately allows for stable and predictable, multi-generational returns for NLIA and their respective Indigenous communities.



\$103 million

#### Left:

Stan Delorme, Chairman, Buffalo Lake Metis Settlement

#### Middle:

Chad Cardinal,
Chairman,
Kiking Metis Settlement

#### Right:

Chief Stan Houle, Whitefish (Goodfish) Lake First Nation



#### **Indigenous Partners**

Buffalo Lake Metis Settlement Kikino Metis Settlement Heart Lake First Nation Saddle Lake Cree Nation #125 Whitefish (Goodfish) Lake First Nation



We are proud to enhance our enduring relationships within the communities we operate. With AIOC's vital support, our meaningful partnerships build upon Wolf's dedication to create lasting value for stakeholders, including the communities surrounding our infrastructure. We proudly share with AIOC an enduring commitment to economic prosperity and stronger communities, now and for the future."

#### **Bob Lock** CEO, Wolf Midstream



#### Left:

Hank Giroux, Councillor, Driftpile Cree Nation

#### Right:

Chana Martineau, CEO, AIOC

\$150 million

## **Project 2**

#### Clearwater Midstream Assets

In December 2023, AIOC supported the second-largest deal since our inception: a \$150 million loan guarantee to support an equity investment in the Clearwater oil & gas midstream infastructure in Northern Alberta. The guarantee is on behalf of the 12 Indigenous Groups of Wapiscanis Waseskwan Nipiy Limited Partnership. It was the first AIOC-supported equity partnership for all 12 Indigenous groups involved.



The First Nations and Metis Settlements have collaborated to acquire assets from Tamarack Valley, thereby becoming our esteemed business partners. This significant agreement is a testament to our shared commitment to jointly develop resources and enhance capacity with our Indigenous partners through thoughtful resource management. Together with AIOC and Tamarack, these Indigenous partners are creating lasting economic advantages, fostering mutual understanding, promoting inclusive progress, and expanding Indigenous entrepreneurial skills. This fortifies our bonds and solidifies harmony within the communities we serve."

#### **Brian Schmidt**

CEO, Tamarack Valley Energy

#### **Project Partner**

Tamarack Valley Energy



#### **Indigenous Partners**

Driftpile Cree Nation
Sucker Creek First Nation
Kapewe'no First Nation
Sawridge First Nation
Swan River First Nation
Whitefish Lake First Nation
Peerless Trout First Nation

Loon River First Nation

Duncan's First Nation

East Prairie Metis Settlement
Peavine Metis Settlement
Gift Lake Metis Settlement













## Wembley Gas Plant Co-generation Facility

In December 2023, AIOC provided a \$20.5 million loan guarantee to support five Indigenous groups that collectively formed the Niyanin Nations LP ("NN LP") and financed an equity investment in the Wembley Gas Plant's Cogeneration facility.



We have a continuous focus on environmental excellence and on ensuring the economic benefits we create for our shareholders also cause economic growth and benefits in the communities around us — especially in Indigenous communities. For us, the cogen partnership represents a deepening of our commitment to both of these tenets. We feel fortunate to share in the economic and environmental benefits of this project with the Nations of the Niyanin partnership. We also commend the AIOC loan guarantee program for its instrumental role in facilitating sustainable partnerships and fostering economic development in our communities."

#### **Jonathan Wright**

CEO, NuVista Energy Ltd.



#### Left to right:

Steven Kroeker, CIO, AIOC

Jonathan Wright, CEO, NuVista Energy

Tracy Mclean, Councillor, Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation

Chief Sheldon Sunshine, Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation

Rosalyn Goodswimmer, Councillor, Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation

David MacPhee, President, Aseniwuche Winewak Nation of Canada Brandy Giroux, Councillor, Sucker Creek First Nation

Keith Lawrence, Councillor, Duncan's First Nation

Connie Calliou, Councillor, Sucker Creek First Nation

Shirley Haggart, Vice President, Aseniwuche Winewak Nation of Canada

Project Partner
NuVista Energy Ltd.



#### Indigenous Partners

Horse Lake First Nation
Duncan's First Nation
Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation
Sucker Creek First Nation
Aseniwuche Winewak Nation
of Canada

#### **Leading the Way - Events & Honours**

AIOC is sharing our message of unity, and our model of meaningful reconciliation, with stakeholders and decision-makers at home and abroad.

As our successes add up, we have been able to change minds while creating opportunities: among Indigenous groups, industry, government, financial markets, investors and the public. The overwhelming response wherever we go is: "Finally. A way forward that is not simply all talk. This is progress in action."





## COP28 - 2023 UN Conference of Climate Action

This year, the United Nations Climate Change Conference was hosted in Dubai. As part of the Alberta delegation, AIOC CEO Chana Martineau participated in several panel discussions and a fireside chat involving Premier Danielle Smith. We shared how our model of meaningful Indigenous participation and partnership is a critical part of a broader conversation around fair and responsible energy transition and resource development. Chana explained how these partnerships build economic and social opportunities for Indigenous groups, and contribute to emissions reductions.



#### AIOC receives the 2023 Alberta Chamber of Resources Leadership Award

For over 25 years, the Alberta Chamber of Resources has recognized individuals and organizations who have made significant contributions to the resource sector. CEO Chana Martineau humbly accepted the 2023 Resource Leadership Award on behalf of the team at Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation.

In her speech, Chana acknowledged, "This award is not our triumph alone; it is a triumph for First Nations and Métis groups, highlighting the collective effort and collaboration that defines our purpose."

She highlighted the pivotal role played by the UCP government and our industry partners (Kineticor, Suncor, Strathcona Resources, Enbridge, Wolf Midstream, Tamarack Valley Energy and NuVista Energy) for their leadership in reconcili-action. Also recognized were those who do the heavy lifting behind the scenes to close these complex deals – advisors, investors and legal teams.



May this award inspire others to embrace the transformative power of collaboration, imagination and reconciliation."





#### Inaugural AIOC Stampede Event

AIOC hosted over 120 guests representing Indigenous groups, government and industry. Held at Rotary House, on the Stampede Grounds, it was a chance to network in a relaxed setting.



#### AIOC Fall Networking Event

This year, we replaced our annual forum event with a more informal networkingstyle gathering that brought together over 250 guests from Indigenous groups and industry.





## Impacts in Action

**Project Profile** 



New Multiplex a Massive Win for Whitefish (Goodfish) Lake First Nation



We had to come up with a way to heal our community," explains Chief Stan Houle, of the Whitefish (Goodfish) Lake First Nation.















Thirty-two years ago, a fire tore away the heart of the Whitefish (Goodfish) Lake First Nation. Their beloved arena had burnt to the ground. The community languished for decades, lacking the funds or ability to rebuild. Members were forced to drive to neighbouring communities over an hour away to get ice time for their children.

It only compounded the impacts of intergenerational trauma and lack of opportunities for the Nation's members.

According to Tom Jackson, CEO of Goodfish Lake Business Corporation, members of the Whitefish (Goodfish) Lake First Nation wanted to take control of their situation.

"Historically the Government has provided a lot of programs and services that we depend on. But we'd like to move away from full dependence... and be independent ourselves." Jackson reflects.

The Nation identified an opportunity to invest in a new natural gas power plant near Edson, in partnership with five other Indigenous groups.

"(The Cascade Power Plant) is part of our traditional territory. We now own a portion of that power plant. The equity that flows from that comes to the Nation. We can do anything we need with it," Jackson beams.

What made this business venture possible was the creation of a new initiative called **Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation (AIOC)**. Established by the Government of Alberta, AIOC was set up to provide loan guarantees to First Nation and Métis groups so they could qualify for bank loans or third party loans at preferred rates.

Previously, it was virtually impossible for First Nations to secure loans because they couldn't use Federal lands (or on-reserve assets) as collateral. This kept them on the sidelines.



Through these deals we get to help our brothers and sisters at home."

Chief Stan Houle
Whitefish (Goodfish) Lake First Nation

The Cascade Power Plant was the first project backstopped by AIOC in 2020, through a \$93 million loan guarantee.

Just a few years later, the impact is already starting to be felt.

Whitefish (Goodfish) Lake First Nation recently held a sodturning ceremony to signal the start of construction on a **state-of-the-art multiplex facility**. The plans are truly impressive.

"People look at it as a building. But to us, it is so much more. It's the start of bringing our people back together," explains Chief, Herb Jackson.

By investing in large-scale projects with projected longterm returns, Indigenous Groups can take control of their futures and share in prosperity.

Whitefish Lake First Nation has since partnered in **two more ventures with AIOC's support**. This includes equity deals on projects by Enbridge and Wolf Midstream. One is a partnership involving 23 Indigenous Groups. The other is a five-group partnership.

"AIOC stepped in. They helped open doors to opportunities previously beyond reach, navigating deals with Enbridge, Wolf Midstream, and Cascade. Through these deals we get to help our brothers and sisters at home," Chief Houle says.



#### Watch the Video

Watch this inspiring story as told by members of the Whitefish (Goodfish) Lake First Nation, and learn how meaningful economic participation is changing lives.





# Looking Ahead Unity in Continuity

Although AIOC is proud of what we have accomplished so far, we recognize that we have a relatively new organization with more to learn and more work to do. We will move forward with even greater focus, alignment and urgency to create impact.

As an organization, our goal is to evolve from being viewed as a participant in transactions, to being embraced as a catalyst in shared prosperity. We continue to focus on understanding the broader impacts of these partnerships at a community and cultural level.

While we have made incredible strides in a little under five years, AIOC is looking to continue to grow and refine our offering. Our goal is to facilitate deals across the province to ensure that ALL Indigenous groups benefit and share in prosperity.

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Our goal is to facilitate deals across the province to ensure that ALL Indigenous groups benefit and share in prosperity."

# Management Discussion and Analysis

Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation (AIOC) is pleased to provide an overview of AIOC's performance, strategic initiatives, and outlook for the future.

- Corporate Overview: AIOC was established with the primary mandate of facilitating economic development and
  investment opportunities for Indigenous communities in Alberta. The corporation acts as a catalyst by providing
  financial backstopping, expertise, and partnership opportunities to support Indigenous investments in our
  mandate sectors; natural resources, agriculture, transportation, telecommunications and related infrastructure.
- 2. Financial Performance: During the fiscal year 2023/24, AIOC provided three loan guarantees totaling \$273.5 million. AIOC continues to evaluate project proposals based on commercial viability and appropriate risk and reward, in order to remain financially prudent and fiscally responsible.
- 3. Project Highlights: AIOC provided loan guarantees for three landmark partnership deals. The first loan guarantee facilitated a \$103 million investment by Northern Lakeland Indigenous Alliance Holdings in a natural gas liquids pipeline. The second loan guarantee allowed Wapiscanis Waseskwan Nipiy to invest \$150 million to buy an equity share in Clear Water Infrastructure Limited, which indirectly holds oil and gas midstream infrastructure. The third loan guarantee was for \$20.5 million and enabled Niyanin Nations to purchase an equity interest in the Wembley gas plant cogeneration facility.
- 4. Strategic Initiatives: AIOC continued to focus on strategic initiatives aimed at achieving long-term sustainability and growth. Some key areas of focus included:
  - a) Partnership development: AIOC actively sought partnerships with government agencies, private sector entities, and Indigenous Communities to leverage expertise, and resources. These collaborations enhanced the capacity of Indigenous Communities and increased the success rate of projects.
  - b) Comprehensive project evaluations: AIOC continued to evaluate projects, with a focus on commercial viability and appropriate risk and reward for the Indigenous Communities. AIOC also continued to focus on high quality assets and transaction structures that could support what is often 100% leverage while the AIOC-guaranteed loan is outstanding. There remains no loan losses or indications of loan impairment to date.
  - c) Engagement: AIOC continued to focus on open engagement with Indigenous Communities and key stakeholders. AIOC conducted regular meetings, presentations, and information sessions to ensure that projects align with community values, cultural heritage, and sustainable development goals.
- Outlook and Future Plans: Looking ahead, AIOC remains committed to its mission of fostering economic
  development and investment opportunities for Indigenous communities. AIOC will continue to prioritize
  sustainable development practices, and meaningful engagement.

In conclusion, Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation made significant progress in its mandate to empower Indigenous Communities through economic development initiatives. AIOC's fiscal responsibility, project highlights, strategic initiatives, and commitment to partnership and community engagement position us well for accelerated success in the future. AIOC remains dedicated to supporting Indigenous investments in medium and large scale projects and driving meaningful change for Indigenous Communities and all citizens of the province of Alberta.

#### **Accountability Statement**

Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation's (AIOC) Annual Report for the period ended March 31, 2024, was prepared under the Board of Directors' direction in accordance with the Planning and Reporting Guide, and the ministerial guidelines established pursuant to the *Alberta Public Agencies Governance Act* (APAGA) and the *Fiscal Planning and Transparency Act*. All material economic, environmental or fiscal implications, of which we are aware, have been considered in preparation of this report.

#### **Annual Statement of Governance Practices**

Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation (AIOC) is a Crown Corporation of the Province of Alberta committed to the highest standards of corporate governance. AIOC is committed to maintaining these standards to fulfill our mandate effectively.

This statement provides an overview of our governance framework, including the roles of the Board of Directors, management, and our commitment to transparency and ethical practices.

#### 1. Board of Directors:

- · Highly qualified and diverse Board composition
- · Complete operational independence
- · All directors are fully independent of management
- Three standing committees support specialized oversight and expertise:
  - 1. Audit and Risk
  - 2. Governance and Human Resources
- 3. Investment
- Regular performance assessments and director development programs
- Director appointments are made with the intention of creating a board comprised of individuals who, in the aggregate, have the full range of proven skills, knowledge and experience necessary to effectively oversee AIOC in achieving its objectives.

#### 2. Roles and Responsibilities:

- Board sets strategic direction, oversees risks, and monitors performance.
- Management handles day-to-day operations, executing the Board's direction.
- Directors are required to act honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the corporation and, as such, are required to exercise due care, diligence and skill, and manage risk appropriately in their oversight of AIOC

#### 3. Risk Management:

- Board ensures effective risk management processes.
- Strong internal controls for asset safeguarding and reliable reporting.

#### 4. Transparency and Accountability:

- Timely and accurate financial reporting.
- · Disclose key information to stakeholders.

#### Whistleblower Report

There were no disclosures of wrongdoing filed between April 1, 2023 and March 31, 2024.

## Financial Statements

March 31, 2024

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## Management's Responsibility for Financial Reporting

The accompanying Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation (AIOC) financial statements have been prepared and presented by management, who is responsible for the integrity and fair presentation of the information.

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards. The financial statements necessarily include certain amounts based on the informed judgments and best estimates of management.

In fulfilling its responsibilities and recognizing the limits inherent in all systems, the AIOC has developed and maintains a system of internal control to produce reliable information for reporting requirements. The systems are designed to provide reasonable assurance that AIOC transactions are properly authorized, assets are safeguarded from loss and the accounting records are a reliable basis for the preparation of the financial statements.

The Auditor General of Alberta, the AIOC's external auditor appointed under the *Auditor General Act*, performed an independent external audit of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards and has expressed his opinion in the accompanying Independent Auditor's Report.

AIOC's Board of Directors are responsible for ensuring that management fulfills its responsibilities for financial reporting and internal controls. The Board of Directors exercises this responsibility through the Audit and Risk Committee. In both the presence and absence of management, the Audit and Risk Committee meets with the external auditors to discuss the audit, including any findings as to the integrity of financial reporting processes and the adequacy of our systems of internal controls. The external auditors have full and unrestricted access to the members of the Audit and Risk Committee.

[Original signed by Chana Martineau]

[Original signed by Hamid Shahzad]

Chana Martineau
Chief Executive Officer

Hamid Shahzad Senior Financial Officer

## Auditor General OF ALBERTA

#### Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors of the Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation

#### **Report on the Financial Statements**

#### **Opinion**

I have audited the financial statements of the Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation (the Corporation), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2024, and the statements of operations, change in net financial assets, and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Corporation as at March 31, 2024 and the results of its operations, its changes in net financial assets, and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

#### **Basis for opinion**

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of my report. I am independent of the Corporation in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in Canada, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

#### Other information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the *Annual Report*, but does not include the financial statements and my auditor's report thereon. The *Annual Report* is expected to be made available to me after the date of this auditor's report.

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read the other information identified above and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I will perform on this other information, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to communicate the matter to those charged with governance.

## Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Corporation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless an intention exists to liquidate or to cease operations, or there is no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Corporation's financial reporting process.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Corporation's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Corporation's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Corporation to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

[Original signed by W. Doug Wylie FCPA, FCMA, ICD.D] **Auditor General** May 21, 2024 Edmonton, Alberta

## **Statement of Operations**

Year Ended March 31, 2024

(in thousands)

	2024			2023		
		Budget Actual		Actual		
Revenues (Notes 2(b), 3, 4 and 7)						
Government transfers						
Government of Alberta grants	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	2,750
Premiums, fees and licences		2,185		5,097		1,406
Other revenue		540		430		230
		6,725		9,527		4,386
Expenses (Note 2(b) and Schedule 1)						
Operating costs		4,307		4,365		3,625
Indigenous opportunities initiatives – Capacity grants		4,000		2,630		1,636
		8,307		6,995		5,261
Annual operating (deficit) surplus		(1,582)		2,532		(875)
Accumulated surplus at beginning of year		3,591		3,591		4,466
Accumulated surplus at end of year	\$	2,009	\$	6,123	\$	3,591

## **Statement of Financial Position**

As at March 31, 2024

(in thousands)

	2024	2023
Financial assets		
Cash	\$ 8,310	\$ 6,439
Due from Government of Alberta (Note 9)	1,000	650
Accounts receivable	22	_
	9,332	7,090
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and other accrued liabilities (Note 10)	114	256
Deferred revenue (Note 11)	3,147	3,295
	3,261	3,551
Net financial assets	6,071	3,539
Non-financial assets		
Tangible capital assets (Note 16)	45	46
Prepaid expenses	7	7
	52	53
Net assets	6,123	3,591
Net assets		
Accumulated surplus	6,123	3,591
	\$ 6,123	\$ 3,591

Contractual rights (Note 8)

Contingent liabilities (Note 13)

Contractual obligations (Note 14)

Approved By	Approved By	Approved By
[Original signed by Chana Martineau]	[Original signed by Stephen Buffalo]	[Original signed by Maureen Moneta]
Chana Martineau CEO	Stephen Buffalo Board Chair	Maureen Moneta Chair of Audit and Risk Committee

## **Statement of Change in Net Financial Assets**

Year Ended March 31, 2024

(in thousands)

	2024		2023	
Annual surplus (deficit)	\$	2,532	\$	(875)
Acquisition of tangible capital assets (Note 16)	(21)		_	
Amortization of tangible capital assets (Note 16)	<b>22</b> 24		24	
Increase (Decrease) in net financial assets	<b>2,533</b> (851)			
Net financial assets at the beginning of the year 3,538			4,389	
Net financial assets at the end of the year	cial assets at the end of the year \$ 6,071 \$		3,538	

#### **Statement of Cash Flows**

Year Ended March 31, 2024

(in thousands)

	2024	2023
Operating transactions		
Annual surplus (deficit)	\$ 2,532	\$ (875)
Non-cash items included in the annual deficit		
Amortization of tangible capital assets (Note 16)	22	24
	2,554	(851)
(Increase) Decrease in other receivables	(22)	7
Increase in due from the Government of Alberta	(350)	_
(Decrease) Increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(142)	14
(Decrease) Increase in Deferred Revenue	(148)	1,809
Cash provided by operating transactions	1,892	979
Capital transactions		
Acquisition of tangible capital assets (Note 16)	(21)	_
Cash applied to capital transactions	(21)	_
Increase in cash	1,871	979
Cash at beginning of year	6,439	5,460
Cash at end of year	\$ 8,310	\$ 6,439

#### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

March 31, 2024

#### Note 1 Authority and Purpose

Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation (AIOC) is a provincial corporation established on November 26, 2019, and operates under the authority of the *Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation Act*, Chapter A-26.3 of the Statutes of Alberta, 2019.

The mandate of AIOC is to facilitate investment by indigenous groups. The AIOC's mandate includes projects related to natural resources, agriculture, transportation, telecommunications, and related infrastructure.

AIOC is exempt from income taxes under the Income Tax Act.

#### Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards.

#### (a) Reporting Entity

The reporting entity is Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation, which is part of the Ministry of Indigenous Relations (Ministry) and for which the Minister of Indigenous Relations (Minister) is accountable. The Ministry Annual Report provides a more comprehensive accounting of the financial position and the results of the Ministry's operations. The financial statements reflect the assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenses of the reporting entity.

#### (b) Basis of Financial Reporting

#### Revenues

Revenues from transactions with performance obligations are recognized when AIOC provides the promised services to a payor.

Cash received for which goods and/ or services have not been provided or performance obligations have not been fulfilled by year-end is recognized as deferred revenue and recorded in accounts payable and other accrued liabilities.

Revenues from transactions with no performance obligations are recognized at their realizable value when AIOC has the authority to claim or retain an inflow of economic resources and identifies a past transaction or event that gives rise to an asset.

#### Loan guarantees fees

AIOC charges a one time set-up fee in connection with the issuance of loan guarantees. The set-up fee covers the costs of providing the proponent transaction advisory services and issuance of the defined-term loan guarantee.

The annual guarantee and monitoring fees represents the services for maintaining the guarantees and any costs related to facilitating access to capital, reducing the cost of borrowing for the life of the guarantee. Annual guarantee and monitoring fees are recognized annually over the terms of the loan guarantee.

#### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

March 31, 2024

#### Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices (Cont'd)

#### (b) Basis of Financial Reporting (Cont'd)

#### Government transfers

Transfers from all governments are referred to as government transfers.

Government transfers and the associated externally restricted investment income are recognized as deferred contributions if the eligibility criteria for use of the transfer, or the stipulations together with AIOC's actions and communications as to the use of the transfer, create a liability. These transfers are recognized as revenue as the stipulations are met and, when applicable, AIOC complies with its communicated use of the transfers.

All other government transfers, without stipulations for the use of the transfer, are recognized as revenue when the transfer is authorized and AIOC meets the eligibility criteria (if any).

#### Investment income

Investment income includes interest income and is recognized as revenue as earned.

#### Expenses

Expenses are reported on an accrual basis. The cost of all goods consumed and services received during the year are expensed.

Grants are recognized as expenses when the transfer is authorized, and eligibility criteria have been met by the recipient.

#### Valuation of Financial Assets and Liabilities

AIOC's financial assets and liabilities are generally measured as follows:

Financial statement component	Measurement			
Cash	Cost			
Accounts receivable	Lower of cost or net recoverable value			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	Cost			

AIOC has no financial assets or liabilities in the fair value category and has no derivatives or unsettled exchange gains or losses therefore the statement of remeasurement gains or losses is not included in these financial statements.

#### Financial Assets

Financial assets are assets that could be used to discharge existing liabilities or finance future operations and are not for consumption in the normal course of operations.

Financial assets are AIOC's financial claims on external organizations and individuals, at year end.

#### Cash

Cash is comprised of cash on hand and demand deposits.

#### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

March 31, 2024

#### Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices (Cont'd)

#### (b) Basis of Financial Reporting (cont'd)

#### Accounts receivable

Accounts receivable are recognized at the lower of cost or net recoverable value. A valuation allowance is recognized when recovery is uncertain.

#### Liabilities

Liabilities are present obligations of AIOC to external organizations and individuals arising from past transactions or events occurring before the year end, the settlement of which is expected to result in the future sacrifice of economic benefits. They are recognized when there is an appropriate basis of measurement and management can reasonably estimate the amounts.

#### Loan guarantee loss provision

A liability and expense for the provision for losses on loan guarantees is recognized when it is determined that a loss is likely.

#### Non-Financial Assets

Non-financial assets are acquired, constructed, or developed assets that do not normally provide resources to discharge existing liabilities, but instead:

- (a) are normally employed to deliver government services;
- (b) may be consumed in the normal course of operations; and
- (c) are not for sale in the normal course of operations.

Non-financial assets include tangible capital assets and prepaid expenses.

#### Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets of AIOC are recorded at cost and amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives. Any purchase of \$5,000 or more that falls within the definition of capital assets will be recorded as a capital asset.

New systems development costs for management information systems are treated as capital assets when anticipated direct development costs exceed \$250,000.

Major Enhancements to existing management information systems are to be capitalized only when enhancement costs exceed \$100.000.

Tangible capital assets are recognized at cost less accumulated amortization, which includes amounts that are directly related to the acquisition, design, construction, development, improvement, or betterment of the assets. Cost includes overhead directly attributable to construction and development, as well as interest costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition or construction of the asset.

Work in progress, which includes facilities and improvements projects, and development of information systems is not amortized until after a project is complete (or substantially complete) and the asset is put into service.

#### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

March 31, 2024

#### Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices (Cont'd)

#### (b) Basis of financial reporting (cont'd)

The cost, less residual value, of the tangible capital assets, excluding land, is amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Furniture and equipment 5 Years
Leasehold improvements 4 Years
Computer hardware and software 3 Years

#### Note 3 Adoption of Accounting Standard

Effective April 1, 2023, AIOC adopted the PS 3400 Revenue standard.

#### PS 3400 Revenue

This accounting standard guides how to account for and report on revenue, and precisely, it differentiates between revenue arising from exchange and non-exchange transactions. The standard provides a framework for recognizing, measuring and reporting revenue that arises from transactions that include performance obligations. Performance obligations are enforceable promises to provide specific goods or services to a payor.

AIOC adopted the new standard. There were no changes to the measurement of revenues after the adoption of the new standard, however the Note 7 was expanded to show categories of revenue.

#### Note 4 Change in Accounting Estimates for Revenues

Management incorporates critical judgements and accounting estimates in developing accounting policies for recognition and measurement. Effective April 1, 2023, based on the best information at a point in time and assessing the performance obligations, management made an estimation change for the reported amount of revenues earned from the set-up fees in connection with issuing loan guarantees. Previously AIOC estimated that the transaction advisory services represented 25% of the set-up fees while loan guarantees services represented 75% of the set-up fees. Therefore, AIOC recognized 25% of the set-up fees upon issuance of loan guarantee and deferred 75% of the set-up fees to be recognized annually over the terms of the loan guarantee. In current fiscal year, the estimate change is to recognize 100% of set-up fees upfront upon issuance of loan guarantees. The estimate change has been applied prospectively.

#### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

March 31, 2024

#### Note 5 Future Changes in Accounting Standards

On April 1, 2026, AIOC will adopt the following new conceptual framework and accounting standard approved by the Public Sector Accounting Board:

#### The Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting in the Public Sector

The Conceptual Framework is the foundation for public sector financial reporting standard setting. It replaces the conceptual aspects of Section PS 1000 Financial Statement Concepts and Section PS1100 Financial Statement Objectives. The conceptual framework highlights considerations fundamental for the consistent application of accounting issues in the absence of specific standards.

#### PS 1202 Financial Statement Presentation

Section PS 1202 sets out general and specific requirements for the presentation of information in general-purpose financial statements. The financial statement presentation principles are based on the concepts within the Conceptual Framework.

Management is currently assessing the impact of the conceptual framework and the standard on the financial statements.

#### Note 6 Budget

(in thousands)

A preliminary business plan with a budgeted deficit of \$1,582 was approved by the Board of Directors on June 2, 2023. The \$4 million budget was included in the 2023-24 Government Estimates under the Ministry of Indigenous Relations.

#### Note 7 Revenue

(in thousands)

AIOC provides services for the below categories of revenue. Revenue is recognized as AIOC satisfies the performance obligations as described in note 2 (b).

	Premiums, fees and licences
	Loan guarantee set-up fees
	Loan guarantee annual fees
	Loan guarantee monitoring fees
0	ther
	Investment income
	Recovery costs

2	024	2023		
\$	3,544	\$ 764		
	1,528	625		
	25	17		
\$	5,097	\$ 1,406		
\$	277	\$ 50		
	153	180		
\$	430	\$ 230		

# **Notes to the Financial Statements**

March 31, 2024

### Note 8 Contractual Rights

(in thousands)

Contractual rights are rights of AIOC to economic resources arising from contracts or agreements that will result in revenues in the future when the terms of those contracts or agreements are met.

Contractual rights from loan guarantee contracts

2024	2023					
\$ 24,455	\$	16,972				

Estimated amounts that will be received or receivable for each of the next five years and thereafter are as follows:

Loan guarantee contracts					
2024-25	\$	2,132			
2025-26		2,078			
2026-27		2,014			
2027-28		1,949			
2028-29		1,849			
Thereafter		14,433			
	\$	24,455			

### Note 9 Due From Government of Alberta

(in thousands)

Due from the Department of Indigenous Relations

	2024	2023
\$	1,000	\$ 650

Amounts due from the Department of Indigenous Relations are in respect of the fourth quarter grant of \$1,000, recognized as revenue but not received.

### Note 10 Accounts Payable and Other Accrued Liabilities

(in thousands)

Accounts payable
Other accrued liabilities

2024	2023
\$ 43	\$ 221
71	35
\$ 114	\$ 256

As at March 31, 2024, Accounts payable include \$Nil related to severance (2023: \$136).

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

March 31, 2024

### Note 11 Deferred Revenue

(in thousands)

Opening Balance
Additions
Recognized into Revenue
Closing Balance

2024	2023
\$ 3,295	\$ 1,486
1,582	2,590
(1,730)	(781)
\$ 3,147	\$ 3,295

Deferred revenue includes the unrecognized portion of fees received related to loan guarantees that will be recognized over the term of the guarantees.

### Note 12 Financial Risk Management

AIOC has the following financial instruments: accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities. AIOC has exposure to the following risks:

### (a) Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that AIOC will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with its financial liabilities. Liquidity requirements of AIOC are met through guaranteed grant funding from the Department of Indigenous Relations. This source of cash is used to pay operating expenses.

#### (b) Credit Risk

Counterparty credit risk is the risk of loss arising from the failure of a counterparty to fully honour its financial obligations with AIOC. The credit quality of financial assets is generally assessed by reference to external credit ratings. Credit risk can also lead to losses when issuers and debtors are downgraded by credit rating agencies usually leading to a fall in the fair value of the counterparty's obligations. Credit risk exposure for financial instruments is measured by the positive fair value of the contractual obligations with counterparties. The fair value of all loan guarantees is directly or indirectly impacted by credit risk to some degree. The majority of AIOC's loan guarantees are with counterparties considered to be investment grade.

# **Notes to the Financial Statements**

March 31, 2024

### Note 13 Contingent Liabilities

At March 31, 2024, AIOC was not named as defendant in any specific legal actions and there are no other known contingent liabilities.

Pursuant to an agreement dated August 27, 2020, AIOC provided a loan guarantee of \$93 million ("Cascade Loan Guarantee") in favour of ATB Financial as Agent and other Secured Creditors ("Creditor Group") to enable a consortium of six Alberta First Nations ("First Nations Group") to participate in the Cascade Power Project ("Cascade"). In the event that there is a breach of loan conditions between the Creditor Group and the First Nations Group, and that breach remains uncured, the Creditor Group has a right against AIOC to call on the Cascade Loan Guarantee up to a maximum value of \$93 million to offset any losses incurred by the Creditor Group with respect to amounts loaned by the Creditor Group to the First Nations Group in respect of Cascade. As AIOC is a Crown agent, AIOC's obligations under the Cascade Loan Guarantee are effectively underwritten by the Government of Alberta. As of the date of these financial statements, there have been no known breaches that could lead to a call on the Cascade Loan Guarantee.

Pursuant to an agreement dated April 1, 2021, AIOC provided a loan guarantee of \$25 million ("Lindbergh Loan Guarantee") in favour of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce as Agent and other Secured Creditors ("Creditor Group") to enable Frog Lake Midstream LP to retain ownership of certain infrastructure-related assets to the Lindbergh oil sands project. In the event that there is a breach of the loan and security documents between the Creditor Group and Frog Lake Midstream LP, and that breach remains uncured, the Creditor Group has a right against AIOC to call on the Lindbergh Loan Guarantee up to a maximum value of \$25 million to offset any losses incurred by the Creditor Group with respect to the obligations of Frog Lake Midstream LP to the Creditor Group in respect of Lindbergh. As AIOC is a Crown agent, AIOC's obligations under the Lindbergh Loan Guarantee are effectively underwritten by the Government of Alberta. As of the date of these financial statements, there have been no known breaches that could lead to a call on the Lindbergh Loan Guarantee.

Pursuant to an agreement dated November 30, 2021, AIOC provided a loan guarantee of \$40 million ("Northern Courier Pipeline Limited Partnership Loan Guarantee") in favour of ATB Financial as Agent and other Secured Creditors ("Creditor Group") to enable Tahsipiy LP, a consortium of 8 Indigenous Communities, to purchase an interest in the Northern Courier Pipeline Limited Partnership ("NCP"). In the event that there is a breach of the loan and security documents between the Creditor Group and Tahsipiy LP, and that breach remains uncured, the Creditor Group has a right against AIOC to call on the NCP Loan Guarantee up to a maximum value of \$40 million to offset any losses incurred by the Creditor Group with respect to the obligations of Tahsipiy LP to the Creditor Group in respect of NCP. As AIOC is a Crown agent, AIOC's obligations under the NCP Loan Guarantee are effectively underwritten by the Government of Alberta. As of the date of these financial statements, there have been no known breaches that could lead to a call on the NCP Loan Guarantee.

Pursuant to an agreement dated September 29, 2022, AIOC provided a loan guarantee of \$250 million ("Athabasca Indigenous Investments Loan Guarantee") in favour of ATB Financial as Agent and other Secured Creditors ("Creditor Group") to enable Athabasca Indigenous Investments Holdings LP ("Aii"), a consortium of twenty-three Indigenous Communities, to purchase an equity interest in the Enbridge Athabasca Region Trunkline. In the event that there is a breach of loan conditions between the Creditor Group and the First Nations Group, and that breach remains uncured, the Creditor Group has a right against AIOC to call on the Athabasca Indigenous Investment Loan Guarantee up to a maximum value of \$250 million to offset any losses incurred by the Creditor Group with respect to amounts loaned by the Creditor Group to the First Nations Group in respect of Aii. As AIOC is a Crown agent, AIOC's obligations under the Athabasca Indigenous Investments Loan Guarantee are effectively underwritten by the Government of Alberta. As of the date of these financial statements, there have been no known breaches that could lead to a call on the Alberta Indigenous Investment Loan Guarantee.

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

March 31, 2024

### Note 13 Contingent Liabilities (Cont'd)

Pursuant to an agreement dated July 25, 2023, Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation ("AIOC") provided a loan guarantee of \$103 million ("Northern Lakeland Indigenous Alliance Holdings Limited Partnership Loan Guarantee", or "NLIAHLP Loan Guarantee") in favor of ATB Financial as Lender ("Creditor") to enable Northern Lakeland Indigenous Alliance Holdings Limited Partnership ("NLIAHLP"), a consortium of five Indigenous Communities, to purchase an equity interest in the Access NGL Pipeline System ("Access NGL"). In the event that there is a breach of loan conditions between the Creditor and the consortium of Indigenous Communities, and that breach remains uncured, the Creditor has a right against AIOC to call on the NLIAHLP Loan Guarantee up to a maximum value of \$103 million to offset any losses incurred by the Creditor with respect to amounts loaned by the Creditor to the consortium of Indigenous Communities in respect of the NLIAHLP. As AIOC is a Crown agent, AIOC's obligations under the NLIAHLP Loan Guarantee are effectively underwritten by the Government of Alberta. As of the date of these financial statements, there have been no known breaches that could lead to a call on the NLIAHLP Loan Guarantee.

Pursuant to an agreement dated December 15, 2023, AIOC provided a loan guarantee of \$150 million ("Wapiscanis Waseskwan Nipiy (WWNLP) Limited Partnership", or "WWNLP Loan Guarantee") in favor of ATB Financial, Manulife Canadian Private Debt Fund and Manufacturers Life Insurance Company as Lenders ("Creditors") to enable Wapiscanis Waseskwan Nipiy ("WWN") limited partnership, a consortium of 12 Indigenous Communities, to purchase an equity interest in the Clearwater Infrastructure Limited Partnership ("CIP") oil and gas midstream infrastructure project. In the event that there is a breach of loan conditions between the Creditors and the consortium of Indigenous Communities, and that breach remains uncured, the Creditors have a right against AIOC to call on the WWNLP Loan Guarantee up to a maximum value of \$150 million to offset any losses incurred by the Creditor with respect to amounts loaned by the Creditor to the consortium of Indigenous Communities in respect of the WWNLP. As AIOC is a Crown agent, AIOC's obligations under the WWNLP Loan Guarantee are effectively underwritten by the Government of Alberta. As of the date of these financial statements, there have been no known breaches that could lead to a call on the WWNLP Loan Guarantee.

Pursuant to an agreement dated December 15, 2023, AIOC provided a loan guarantee of \$20.5 million ("Niyanin Nations (Niyanin) Limited Partnership", or "NNLP Loan Guarantee") in favor of CIBC as Lender ("Creditor") to enable Niyanin Nations ("Niyanin") limited partnership, a consortium of five Indigenous Communities, to purchase an equity interest in the Wembley gas plant. In the event that there is a breach of loan conditions between the CIBC and the consortium of Indigenous Communities, and that breach remains uncured, the Creditor has a right against AIOC to call on the NNLP Loan Guarantee up to a maximum value of \$20.5 million to offset any losses incurred by the Creditor with respect to amounts loaned by the Creditor to the consortium of Indigenous Communities in respect of the NNLP. As AIOC is a Crown agent, AIOC's obligations under the NNLP Loan Guarantee are effectively underwritten by the Government of Alberta. As of the date of these financial statements, there have been no known breaches that could lead to a call on the NNLP Loan Guarantee.

# **Notes to the Financial Statements**

March 31, 2024

### Note 14 Contractual Obligations

(in thousands)

Contractual obligations are obligations of AIOC to others that will become liabilities in the future when the terms of the contracts or agreements are met.

	2024	2023
Obligations under leases, contracts, and programs	\$ 176	\$ 466

Estimated payment requirements for each of the next five years and thereafter are as follows:

	\$ 176
2026-27	 36
2025-26	38
2024-25	\$ 102
Operating leases, contracts, and programs	

### Note 15 Benefit Plan

(in thousands)

AIOC provides benefits whereby it makes available contributions for Registered Retirement Savings Plans (RRSP) on behalf of employees of AIOC. The contributions are calculated based on a fixed percentage of the employee's salary to a maximum of the RRSP contribution limit as specified in the *Income Tax Act (Canada)*. The expense of \$165 (2023 – \$160) included in these financial statements represents the current contributions made on behalf of these employees.

# **Notes to the Financial Statements**

March 31, 2024

### Note 16 Tangible Capital Assets

(in thousands)

	Furniture & Equipment		Computer Hardware & Software		Leasehold Improvements		2024 Total	2023 Total
Estimated Useful Life	5 Ye	ars	3 Years			4 Years		
Historical cost								
Beginning of year	\$	55	\$	30	\$	13	\$ 98	\$ 99
Additions		_		_		21	21	_
Adjustments*		_		_		_	_	(1)
		55		30		34	119	98
Accumulated amortization								
Beginning of year		23		22		7	52	28
Amortization expense		11		8		3	22	24
		34		30		10	74	52
Net Book Value at March 31, 2024	\$	21	\$	_	\$	24	\$ 45	
Net Book Value at March 31, 2023	\$	32	\$	8	\$	6		\$ 46

<sup>\*</sup>Certain capital assets were expensed as the individual assets did not meet the threshold when applied to the asset on an individual basis as per AIOC's capital asset policy.

### Note 17 Comparative Figures

Certain prior period figures have been reclassified, where necessary, to conform to the current year presentation.

#### 

The Board of Directors approved the financial statements of AIOC on May 21, 2024.

### Schedule 1 Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation

# **Expenses – Detailed by Object**

March 31, 2024

(in thousands)
Salaries, wages, and employee benefits
Supplies and services
Capacity grants
Amortization of tangible capital assets (Note 16)
Total expenses

	20		2023			
В	Budget		Actual	Actual		
\$	3,037	\$	2,741	\$	2,118	
	1,246		1,602		1,483	
	4,000		2,630		1,636	
	24		22		24	
\$	8,307	\$	6,995	\$	5,261	

# Schedule 2 Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation

# **Salary and Benefits Disclosure**

March 31, 2024

			20	24			2	023
(in thousands)		C	Other cash		Other non-			
	Base salary (1)		benefits(2)	Са	ash benefits(3)	Total		Total
Board of Directors								
Board Chair <sup>(4)</sup>	\$ -	\$	28	\$	_	\$ 28	\$	34
Board Members <sup>(4)</sup>	_		114		_	114		123
Executive								
Chief Executive Officer <sup>(5)</sup>	252		_		59	311		263
Acting Chief Executive Officer <sup>(6)</sup>	-		-		_	_		59
Chief Investment Officer <sup>(7&amp;8)</sup>	160		_		37	197		355
Interim Chief Investment Officer <sup>(7&amp;8)</sup>	255		_		3	258		30
Senior Financial Officer	180		_		43	223		_
VP Investment(9)	110		_		29	139		_
VP Engagement(10)	156		_		31	187		372
Total	\$ 1,113	\$	142	\$	202	\$ 1,457	\$	1,236

Other than honoraria referenced below, the Chair and Members of the Board receive no remuneration for participation on the Board.

- (1) Base salary includes regular salary and retroactive pay.
- (2) Other cash benefits include honoraria and severance. There were no bonuses paid in 2024.
- (3) Other non-cash benefits include employer's share of all employee benefits and contributions, or payments made on behalf of employees including RRSP, health care, dental coverage, group life insurance, short- and long-term disability plans, car allowance, training fees, conference fees and fair market value of parking.
- (4) Remuneration and expenses of the Board are prescribed by Order in Council 2021-334 and revised by Order in Council 2022-148 issued on May 4, 2022 and 233/2023 issued on 18th December 2023. There were nine Board members during the year.
- (5) Chief Executive Officer position filled on July 4,2022.
- (6) Acting CEO worked from January 2022 to June 2022.
- (7) Position filled October 10, 2023.
- (8) After the CIO left in February 2023, an Interim CIO was hired to fill the vacant position. The interim CIO worked until December 2023 to close the existing projects and hand them over to the investment team.
- (9) Position filled October 16, 2023.
- (10) Position filled July 4, 2023; comparatives include severance amount for previous VP engagement.
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### Schedule 3 Alberta Indigenous Opportunities Corporation

# **Related Party Transactions**

March 31, 2024

Related parties are those entities consolidated or accounted for on the modified equity basis in the Government of Alberta's Consolidated Financial Statements. Related parties also include key management personnel and close family members of those individuals in AIOC. There were no transactions between AIOC and its key management personnel or close family members during the year.

AIOC had the following transactions with related parties reported in the Statement of Operations and the Statement of Financial Position at the amount of consideration agreed upon between the related parties.

		20	)24	2023				
(in thousands)	Entit	ies in the Ministry	Other Entities	Ent	ities in the Ministry	Oth	ner Entities	
Revenues	\$	4,000	-	\$	2,750	\$	_	
Grants from the Department of Indigenous Relations	\$	4,000	-	\$	2,750	\$	_	
Expenses		1	-		1		_	
Department of Indigenous Relations	\$	1	-	\$	1	\$	_	
Receivable from		1,000	-		650		_	
Department of Indigenous Relations	\$	1,000	_	\$	650	\$	_	

# **Our Board**

Stephen Buffalo, Board Chair

Gary Bosgoed, Vice Chair

Jim Boucher

**Ruby Littlechild** 

**Vitaliy Milentyev** 

**Maureen Moneta** 

**Ward Sutherland** 

**Hank Shade** 

**Rod Graham** 

Donavon Young, Ex Officio

Thank you

**Aroon Sequeira** 

for your time and dedication to the AIOC Board of Directors.



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