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Lac La Ronge Indian Band

Lac La Ronge Indian Band – Press Release

Closure of Meechewin Place

On April 4th, 2019, the Lac La Ronge Indian Band (“LLRIB”) obtained judgment against Henry McKenzie in the sum of \$3,063,799.48. Prior to this time, the LLRIB had tried unsuccessfully for a number of years to negotiate a resolution of the amount outstanding with Mr. McKenzie. The debt arose out of Mr. McKenzie’s failure to remit to the LLRIB, its share of the fuel and tobacco received by him. The funds were to be used by the LLRIB for Community/Elder purposes and instead Henry McKenzie retained and used them for his own purposes.

As a consequence, the LLRIB passed BCR # 2021/22 – 027 on May 12, 2021 which provides in part for the following:

1. That the License granted by the Lac La Ronge Indian Band to Henry McKenzie to operate as a First Nation Fuel and Tobacco Retailer on Indian Reserve #156 is hereby immediately terminated, and rescinded;
2. That the Lac La Ronge Indian Band is authorized to change the locks of the premises known as Meechewin Place on Indian Reserve #156 and to utilize the premises for any purposes the Lac La Ronge Indian Band sees fit, and is authorized to take any other steps as may be deemed advisable for the purposes of securing and taking possession of the said Meechewin Place;
3. That the Lac La Ronge Indian Band Executive shall be authorized to make such applications to the courts, or to request the assistance of the R.C.M.P. to remove any person or person(s) associated with Henry McKenzie from the premises currently occupied by “Meechewin Place” on Indian Reserve #156;

On June 10, 2021, the LLRIB took the necessary steps to implement BCR # 2021/22 – 027 and terminated the license granted to Henry McKenzie to operate as a Fuel and Tobacco Retailer on Indian Reserve #156 and took possession of the premises and contents known as Meechewin Place.

For further information, please contact the solicitor for LLRIB, Anil K. Pandila, Q. C. of Pandila & Co. (306) 764-2720.