



# SILVER LINING CONSULTING Newsletter

## SLC's Founder & CEO Jennette Pierre won the National Trail Blazer Award from the Lands Advisory Board



## WELCOME TO THE JANUARY 2026 EDITION

Dear Readers,

As winter settles in—dusting the mountains in white and wrapping the land in a quiet, sparkling stillness—we at Silver Lining Consulting find ourselves reflecting on a season rich with growth, connection, and possibility. This time of year invites pause, but behind the scenes, our work has been anything but still.

Across the nation, we've been planting seeds, nurturing meaningful partnerships, and stepping into new opportunities that advance land governance and community-driven change. Some of this work has happened quietly, but each step has been intentional and deeply energizing.

In this edition, we're delighted to share a few highlights from the journey: inspiring successes, thoughtful updates, and a special spotlight on the people and projects that continue to shape our path forward.

So pour yourself something warm, get comfortable, and join us for a glimpse into what we've been building. The days may be shorter, but the horizon ahead is bright and we're just getting started.

## LANDS ADVISORY BOARD: TRAIL BLAZER AWARD



### Honouring Excellence in Land Governance: Jennette Pierre Receives National Trailblazer Award

Every year, the Lands Advisory Board (LAB) shines a spotlight on individuals whose passion, dedication, and innovation are making a real difference in the world of First Nation land governance. The prestigious Framework Agreement Awards of Excellence celebrate those who go above and beyond to advance the vision of the Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management—championing self-determination and supporting communities as they reclaim control of their lands.

### Traiblazer Award: Celebrating Vision, Courage, and Impact

Among the standout honorees for 2025 is Jennette Pierre, Founder and CEO of Silver Lining Consulting, who received national recognition with the Trailblazer Award—an honour given to individuals who lead with innovation, courage, and an unwavering commitment to First Nation land governance.

Jennette's journey has been marked by bold ideas, collaborative spirit, and a deep respect for the communities she serves. Through her work with Sumas First Nation, she has played a vital role in advancing land governance in meaningful and impactful ways. Her ability to bring people together, think creatively, and act with integrity has made her a guiding light in the sector.

"I couldn't be more proud," Jennette shared upon receiving the award at the 2025 LAB National Annual General Meeting. "This recognition is a reflection of the incredible teamwork and shared vision we've built together."

She offered heartfelt thanks to her colleagues at Sumas First Nation—especially the Lands Staff, Lands Advisory Committee, and Lance Hunt of Arcadis—whose collaboration, dedication, and trust have been instrumental in this shared success.

### A Moment of Pride and Possibility

Jennette was one of four Trailblazer Award recipients this year, each recognized for their exceptional leadership and contribution to the future of First Nation land management. Her recognition is not only a personal milestone, but also a celebration of the collective strength and progress of the communities she works with.

Jennette sends a warm congratulations to all of this year's Trailblazer Award recipients! Your work is shaping a stronger, more empowered future for First Nation land governance across Canada—and inspiring others to follow in your footsteps.

## SPOTLIGHT:

### HOW SUMAS FIRST NATION IS COLLABORATING WITH ARCADIS TO ADVANCE RECONCILIATION

#### How Sumas First Nation is Collaborating with Arcadis to Advance Ecological Reconciliation

Sumas First Nation is restructuring their land, economy, and the future of their community one truckload of soil at a time.

When we talk about environmental rehabilitation, we rarely think of a soil truck pulling into a First Nation reserve. Yet in Abbotsford, BC, Sumas First Nation is doing just that to set a new precedent for what it means to restore their land one load of clean, regulated soil-fill at a time. This innovative approach to land development and reuse carries a deeper meaning for the Nation: one centered around the revival of a culture, the rebuilding of an economy, and the reassertion of Indigenous governance and sovereignty.



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[Read the Article](#)

## LOOKING AHEAD:

### JENNETTE PIERRE TO SPEAK AT BUILDEX 2026



As her journey with Silver Lining Consulting continues to gain momentum, Jennette Pierre has been invited to take the stage at one of Canada's premier industry events—BUILDEX 2026, happening February 12–13 at the Vancouver Convention Centre.

Jennette will be featured as a Main Stage panellist, joining Lance Hunt of Arcadis in a powerful conversation

[BUILDEX  
Vancouver 2026](#)

### Indigenous Leadership in Land Stewardship: Law and Partnerships

Thursday, February 12 at 2:30 PM – 3:30 PM

As the built sector increasingly acknowledges the importance of reconciliation and collaboration with Indigenous communities, this panel will explore how law, governance, and design intersect in shaping land management and development projects across Canada. A central focus will be on the Sumas First Nation's groundbreaking Soil Law – a first-of-its-kind initiative in British Columbia that reclaims authority over environmental regulation and resource management on their lands. Panelists will show how the Nation's leadership, paired with technical expertise, is advancing ecological protection, cultural values, and economic revitalization through this precedent-setting approach.

With over 300+ exhibits and thousands of attendees, BUILDEX is one of the largest gatherings of architecture, construction, engineering, and real estate professionals in Western Canada. This appearance is not only an honour but also a powerful platform to share Indigenous-led insights and approaches to land-based development.

This exciting opportunity marks another milestone in Jennette's mission to create space, elevate voices, and support First Nations in building thriving futures on their lands.

## KEHEWIN CREE NATION LAND USE PLAN PROJECT

Silver Lining Consulting is honoured to be working in collaboration with Arcadis and alongside Kehewin Cree Nation (KCN) to support the development of their first-ever Land Use Plan. This important work is rooted in community values, leadership guidance, and meaningful engagement, ensuring the plan reflects the Nation's vision for the land now and for future generations.

The project began in September with early planning and relationship-building, including meetings with KCN leadership to help guide the overall direction and priorities of the Land Use Plan. These initial conversations helped shape a process grounded in respect, collaboration, and community leadership.

In November, our team had the privilege of spending time in the Kehewin Cree Nation community. Jennette and the Arcadis team travelled to Alberta to facilitate in-person engagement sessions, creating space for open dialogue, shared learning, and the exchange of community knowledge. During this time, we also worked closely with community youth in Grades 8–12, ensuring their voices, ideas, and future aspirations were meaningfully included in the planning process. Youth engagement was a key part of this work, recognizing the important role young people play in shaping the long-term future of their Nation.



The insights and perspectives shared by community members are now guiding the development of the Land Use Plan, which is beginning to take form. Once the first draft is complete, the project team will return to Kehewin Cree Nation to share the draft findings with the community and leadership. This next phase will provide an opportunity for further input, discussion, and refinement before final revisions are made. The completed Land Use Plan will then be presented to KCN leadership for review and approval.

This project has been a meaningful and rewarding experience for our team. We are grateful for the opportunity to learn from the Kehewin community and to support a planning process that reflects their values, knowledge, and vision. We look forward to continuing to build this relationship and to sharing many more experiences with Kehewin Cree Nation in the future.

## CELEBRATING LAND CODE SUCCESS: FIVE MORE FIRST NATIONS REGAIN LAND GOVERNANCE

Silver Lining Consulting extends heartfelt congratulations to five First Nations communities that have recently voted YES to their Land Codes—an empowering step toward self-determination and community-led land governance under the Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management.

**We proudly recognize:**  
**Sagime Anishinabek (Greenfall, Saskatchewan)** – the 123rd Framework Agreement signatory

**Missanabie Cree First Nation (Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario)** – the 124th

**Semiahmoo First Nation** – the 125th

**Tseyum First Nation (North Saanich, British Columbia)** – the 126th

**Pópkw'em First Nation** – the 127th community to approve their Land Code

Each of these Nations has successfully developed and ratified their community-led Land Code, reclaiming authority over their lands and resources. This is more than a legal milestone—it's a bold affirmation of sovereignty, community strength, and a vision for the future rooted in Indigenous values and governance.

At Silver Lining Consulting, we are honoured to witness this incredible momentum. Congratulations to each of these communities—we wish you continued success, strength, and inspiration as you move forward on your land governance journeys!

That's right! The Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management is a historic government-to-government agreement, signed in 1996, that allows First Nations to opt out of 44 land-related sections of the Indian Act and take back control of their reserve lands and resources through their own Land Code.

Unlike federal programs, participation is completely voluntary, and each community develops its own Land Code based on its unique needs, laws, and traditional governance practices. To date, over 120 First Nations across Canada have reclaimed jurisdiction over their lands through this powerful agreement.

[FNLRC WEBSITE](#)

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Have a story or insight to share? Email us at [admin@silverliningconsulting.ca](mailto:admin@silverliningconsulting.ca) or connect on Facebook. Your feedback helps us serve you better.

Thank you for reading the Silver Lining Consulting Newsletter.  
Wishing you a successful and innovative winter season!

Jennette Pierre, Founder & CEO  
Silver Lining Consulting



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