

Francis First Charger (Ninnaisipistoo: Owl Chief) Chief Executive Officer



Francis First Charger is the proud father of two children, a daughter, Beth, who is an audit officer and his son, Jeremiah (Velma), who is a welder. Francis and his wife, Judy First Charger, this year celebrated their 34th anniversary. They have two grandchildren, many traditional children, spiritual children and grandchild too many to list. Judy serves is an administrative assistant for their own consultant business.

Francis First Charger was born and raised on the Kainai First Nation (Blood Indian Reserve). He was raised in the traditional, cultural and spiritual ways of the Blackfoot people. He has six diplomas in agricultural and several letter of recognition and a certificate in management and financial accounting. He has been a Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) for two tribal elections and was a CEO for the 2005 Kainai Board of Education elections.

Mr. First Charger has managed his own consultant firm, Francis First Charger & Consultant Group for the past 18 years. He has been employed in some major projects in the past, including his role as the General Manager of the Blood Tribe Agricultural Project (BTAP) a \$ 66.5 million dollar project. He was involved in the construction, implementation, recruitment, and operational phases with BTAP. He was one of the people instrumental for coordinating the Japanese export of Timothy hay - eventually an annual \$ 13.5 million dollar global industry. He was the past General Manager of Alberta Indian Agricultural Development Corporation (AIADC) when he was only 32 years old, the youngest general manager of that company at the time. Also, he has done international work for the Kainai/Blood Tribe in Japan for export of Timothy Hay to the Pacific Rim, in the US

for a special agricultural project, in South America for an exchange program, and he is now working on some possible projects with the Central America Indigenous people.

Mr. First Charger has served on many committees in the past 20 years including serving on Aboriginal Council of Lethbridge as a corporate /spiritual advisor and a Treaty 7 representative on the First Nation's Forestry Program

Presently, Mr. First Charger serves on several committees: affordable housing for the City of Lethbridge; a steering committee for an economic impact study for the Kainai First Nation /Blood Tribe; and he works for the Faculty of Management at the U of L in its elders' program. He is the special advisor to Lethbridge College President.

Francis has worked for Red Crow Community College since 2003 first as the Project Coordinator for Traditional Knowledge and Land Use Study – Certificate Program:, program development, proposal writer and doing other special projects.

Francis is presently the Chief Executive Officer CEO for the Mikai'sto Foundation.