



Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Inc.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 21, 2025

Honouring Fire Chief Raymond McKay of Pimicikamak Cree Nation

It is with profound sadness that Pimicikamak Cree Nation announces the passing of Fire Chief Raymond McKay.

Chief McKay was a dedicated leader who served his Nation with unwavering courage and commitment. His efforts during one of the most devastating wildfire seasons in Manitoba's history were instrumental in protecting lives and property across the region.

This past summer, northern firefighters faced relentless danger, working tirelessly to safeguard homes, families, and communities across Manitoba. Chief McKay's courage and commitment inspired countless others, and his legacy will live on in every firefighter who continues the work he so passionately led.

To honour his memory, a special funeral service is being planned, with a ceremonial procession of firefighters from across Manitoba, including First Nations and municipal departments, who are invited to participate. We encourage all fire crews to join us in solidarity and remembrance.

"Chief Raymond McKay stood on the front lines for our people," said Chief David Monias. "His bravery and leadership saved lives. I am proud of the work he did, and of every firefighter who stood beside him this summer. Let us honour him with unity and respect."

Plans are underway for a firefighter parade-style procession at Chief McKay's funeral service, symbolizing the strength and sacrifice of those who serve.

Details of the funeral service will be shared as soon as they are confirmed.

Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Inc. (MKO) is a non-profit, political advocacy organization that has represented 26 First Nation communities in Manitoba's North since 1981. The MKO represents more than 72,000 First Nations people.

