

**Meeting notes**  
**Off Reserve Meeting**  
**March 17, 2026**

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**Purpose**

Rainy River First Nation meeting to discuss off-reserve member support and programming.

**Takeaways**

1. Future meetings will require cameras on and status card ID for verification.
2. Next meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2026, at 6:00 PM CST.
3. Day Scholar Revitalization Society grant applications are due by May 15, 2026.
4. Friendship centers offer funding and support for off-reserve members.
5. Membership backlog is nearly complete, with only seven applications pending.
6. Finance is exploring direct deposit and faster mail options for U.S. members.
7. Addictions and mental health support is available for off-reserve members.
8. Trust funds may assist with emergency needs, but not regular expenses.
9. Communication improvements are underway, including a potential portal on the website.

**Meeting logistics**

1. Future meetings will require cameras on and status card ID for verification.
2. Next meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2026, at 6:00 PM CST.
3. Meeting agenda and summary notes were reviewed.

**Day Scholar Revitalization Society grant**

1. Grant applications are due by May 15, 2026.
2. Eligible applicants can receive up to \$10,000 for healing and cultural activities.
3. Members are encouraged to apply and seek support if needed.

**Friendship centers**

1. Friendship centers offer funding and support for off-reserve members.
2. Members are encouraged to explore available resources in their area.
3. Further research will be conducted to provide more information.

**Membership processing**

1. Membership backlog is nearly complete, with only seven applications pending.
2. Letters will be sent to applicants with updates on their status.
3. Registrar Gwen Medicine will attend the next community meeting for questions.

## **Financial and emergency support**

1. Finance is exploring direct deposit and faster mail options for U.S. members.
2. Trust funds may assist with emergency needs, but not regular expenses.
3. Members are encouraged to contact the band office for specific needs.

## **Addictions and mental health support**

1. Support is available for off-reserve members through the band's addiction department.
2. Members can contact Adam at the addiction department for assistance.
3. Treatment centers are available across Canada and the U.S.

## **Communication improvements**

1. Communication improvements are underway, including a potential portal on the website.
2. Members are encouraged to use existing platforms for updates and information.
3. Suggestions for better communication methods are welcome.

## **Action items**

1. **Research Friendship center resources and report back to members.**  
Lynn Blackburde
2. **Ensure programming document is available on all communication platforms.**  
Lauren Hyatt
3. **Organize support meeting for Day Scholar grant applicants.**  
Lynn Blackburde
4. **Explore direct deposit and faster mail options for U.S. members.**  
Finance Department
5. **Complete membership backlog and send letters to applicants.**  
Gwen Medicine