

Voices from Reserves...

"I am glad to see that there is a band transparency web site being launched, it's unfortunate that it's necessary, however that is the sad reality of many First Nations Bands these days."

- Annie Brass, Kawacatoose First Nation Band Member, Saskatchewan

"In the past I have been threatened and attacked for speaking out and asking questions."

- Albert Taylor, Sioux Valley Dakota First Nation, Manitoba

"The government is far away and state you have to go through the local INAC office [for information], where they refer you back to the leadership. I have requested copies of the budgets for several years from both INAC and Chief and Council and have never received anything."

- Whistleblower, Enoch Cree Nation, Alberta

"First Nations under band custom have difficulties in acquiring accountability from their first nation leadership. The department of Indian Affairs washes their hands of the problem every time."

- Lac des Mille Lac Alliance Council, Ontario

"People in my community routinely have trouble getting information from our band council."

- Phyllis Sutherland, Peguis First Nation, Manitoba

"My Band keeps its members in ignorance, no meetings, no committees and no information on band budgets or expenditures. Keeps them in power and free spending for themselves and their supporters."

- Norman Martell, Waterhen Lake First Nation, Saskatchewan

"My Chief and Council of the O-Chi-Chak-Ko-Sipi First Nation need to be more accountable and transparent with the funds that the band receives, and, to expend those funds accordingly for efficient and effective delivery of the programs and services that they were entrusted with."

- Mike Ahmo, O-Chi-Chak-Ko-Sipi First Nation, Manitoba

"Our community's politicians need to be accountable. If they have nothing to hide then they would disclose how they are spending band funds."

Solange Garson, Tataskweyak Cree Nation, Manitoba