



Kitsaki
Management

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Media Release: Kitsaki Announces Departure of Long-time CEO Russell Roberts

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KITSAKI MANAGEMENT LIMITED PARTNERSHIP – After nearly two decades in leadership, CEO Russell Roberts will be leaving his role at Kitsaki Management Limited Partnership (“Kitsaki”) in the coming months. A band member of Lac La Ronge Indian Band, Roberts first joined Kitsaki as Manager of Business Development before assuming the role of CEO in 2005.

Roberts’ executive career has seen him gain experience and expertise in commercial banking, business development, strategic planning, corporate governance and internal controls, negotiation, organizational structure, operations, and more. Under Robert’s leadership, Kitsaki businesses have flourished and shifted along with the market, and the company’s overall portfolio has expanded and diversified.

“Working for my community has been so rewarding and I couldn’t be more proud of what we’ve achieved with Kitsaki over the years,” says Roberts. “Through booms and busts, we’ve maintained a stable group of successful businesses, and grown our investments by pursuing opportunities that are in line with our values. We’ve built relationships and created sustainable partnerships with industry, government, and communities that have given us the flexibility to weather economic challenges, provided quality employment opportunities for Indigenous peoples across the province, and enabled us to invest in our own communities.”

Kitsaki was created by LLRIB leadership in 1981 as a vehicle to pursue an active role in regional economic activity and provide opportunities for band members to engage in the wage economy. While early development focused on providing services to the region’s mining sector, the group of companies has since grown to include investments in catering and hospitality, insurance, environment, forestry, consulting, vegetation, and more. Kitsaki and its entities employ well over 700 people across Saskatchewan and continue to grow every day. For the past 40 years, the company has supported many community initiatives and charities, served millions of meals, trained hundreds of people, driven thousands of kilometres, participated in hundreds of community events, and much more. Kitsaki continues to work toward growing its portfolio and exploring new opportunities.

“We’re very grateful for everything Russell has contributed to Lac La Ronge Indian Band’s business development over the years. Thanks in part to his hard work, Kitsaki has been recognized as a leader in community economic development, and shared many best



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practices along the way,” says Kitsaki President Tammy Cook-Searson. “On behalf of Kitsaki’s board and staff, LLRIB leadership, and our community, we want to congratulate Russell and wish him all the best as he moves on to explore new adventures.”

Kitsaki has engaged Aplin Group to lead an executive search for its next Chief Executive Officer, with the intention to fill the role by July 2022. The company has invested in and committed to succession planning and looks forward its next chapter, and to continuing to provide opportunities and benefits for its communities, partners, and the people of Saskatchewan.

About Kitsaki

Kitsaki Management Limited Partnership has managed the economic development activities of the Lac La Ronge Indian Band (LLRIB) since 1981. Dedicated to investing in long-term sustainable business that meet the appropriate profitability, risk and employment criteria, Kitsaki has built a diverse portfolio of investments that includes Northern Resource Trucking, Athabasca Catering, Kitsaki Vegetation, First Nations Insurance Services, CanNorth, and many more.

About LLRIB

With a population of more than 11,000, Lac La Ronge Indian Band (LLRIB) is the largest First Nation in Saskatchewan, rich in Woodland Cree culture, language, and connection to the land. Located in north-central Saskatchewan in Treaty 6 territory, LLRIB includes six communities: Little Red River, Morin Lake (Hall Lake), La Ronge, Sucker River, Stanley Mission, and Grandmother’s Bay. LLRIB is governed by an elected Chief and 12 Councillors. Chief Tammy Cook-Searson has served in her role since 2006.

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