

Leq'á:mel First Nation

41290 Lougheed Highway
Deroche, BC V0M 1G0



LOAN POLICY FOR THE PURPOSE OF LFN MEMBERSHIP

Approved at a duly convened meeting of the
Leq'á:mel First Nation Chief and Council
on October 17th 2001.

The Leq'á:mel First Nation has set aside \$12,000.00 of band revenue to be used for making loans to Leq'á:mel First Nation members. The maximum amount per loan shall be \$1,500.00 and the individual band member may only apply for two (2) loans per year. This lending policy shall be used for such matters as purchasing the necessary things to return to work, secure ones ability to retain ones employment, or to help out with cost of living when the need arises.

LOANS WILL ONLY BE APPROVED IF THERE IS FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR THE LOAN.

All loans must have the approval of the Leq'á:mel First Nation Revenue Finance Committee (RFC), with the Leq'á:mel First Nation Chief and Council making the final decision.

GENERAL LOANS

Loans shall only be made under the following conditions:

1. Must be a Leq'á:mel First Nation member on the LFN membership list.
2. The applicant / co-signer must be eighteen (18) years of age.
3. The applicant must have a co-signer.
4. The applicant / co-signer must be a member in good financial standing with the Leq'á:mel First Nation.
5. In the case where the applicant / co-signer has declared bankruptcy in the past they would be considered to be in good standing if the applicant / co-signer has abided by the terms and conditions of the final decision or outcome of the declared bankruptcy. If it is found that the applicant / co-signer has not fulfilled the bankruptcy terms and conditions the application for member loan will not be considered. Once the applicant / co-signer has fulfilled their obligations regarding the bankruptcy they would then be awarded a Certificate of Discharge. This certificate would then put them in good standing again.
6. Both the applicant and co-signer must show that they have the ability repay the loan.
7. Co-signers cannot co-sign for more than two (2) loans at one time.
8. Applicants can only have one (1) loan at a time.
9. All loans shall have a minimum repayment of \$100.00 per month. Payments will be calculated accordingly.
10. All loans shall have a lending rate of 7% applied to the principle amount of the loan. (7% lending rate approved by LFN Membership 16th September 1998)
11. All loans shall have a \$25.00 service charge applied, with the exception of loans made to LFN Elders.
12. If requested, the applicant shall provide post-dated cheques to repay the loan.
13. No loan application will be approved if the applicant has not filled out and signed a loan agreement. No loan applications will be considered if presented at a membership meeting.
14. All loans shall be reviewed each month with concerns noted and contact to co-signer if necessary.
15. A spreadsheet record for each loan will be opened to keep track of the loan payments received. These records will be placed in the applicant's personal file once the loan has been paid in full.
16. All loans will be interest free for the first thirty (30) days.

17. All loans and loan payments are public information, on request, to the Leq'á:mel First Nation Membership.

FUNERAL LOANS

Funeral loan will be made available to the immediate family of a deceased Leq'á:mel First Nation member for an amount up to \$1500.00.

Immediate family members shall include: children, step-children, parents, step-parents, sisters, step-sisters, brothers, step-brothers, and spouses, including common-law.

The funeral loans will only be considered from one family member; one loan per funeral.

Funeral loans will be available for members of the immediate family for a non-member spouse or member of immediate family as defined, up to an amount of \$1500.00.

FUNERAL DONATIONS

All Leq'á:mel First Nation members are entitled to a donation of \$1500.00 dollars that is to be applied to the funeral costs. They are also entitled to an additional \$500.00 that is to be used for funeral / memorial dinner.

In the case where the family chooses to have a private dinner, this amount will be lowered to \$250.00.

Donations will be available up to a maximum of \$200.00 based on the distance the member has to travel to the funeral. This travel will only be considered one (1) time per funeral or if fairly local the maximum amount has been reached.

EMERGENCY DONATIONS

1. Emergency Food Donation

Leq'á:mel First Nation members will be eligible to apply for a donation for food one time a year.

Members requesting this form of donation must be able to prove that initial contact has been made to Sto:lo Nation – Social Development and they have been denied assistance from them.

This type of donation will be handed out in the form of a food voucher. The amount of the food voucher will be determined by family size or by the need identified.

2. Emergency Medical Transportation

Leq'á:mel First Nation members will be eligible to apply for a donation of up to \$500.00 to cover transportation when medical emergency situations occur. Each application will be assessed on its own, based on the individual need and the distance one has to travel. To access these dollars your application must be accompanied with documentation from the doctor.

EMERGENCY LOANS

Emergency Loans will be available to Leq'á:mel First Nation members for the following reason:

1. Medical Reasons

Leq'á:mel First Nation members shall be eligible for a loan of up to \$500.00, based on medical reasons provided their request is accompanied with a Doctors referral stating that the expenses are necessary for that persons recovery.

2. Employment Reasons

Leq'á:mel First Nation members are eligible for a loan up to \$1000.00 to secure an employment opportunity. They must show that they have spent the money on work clothes, necessary work tools, short-term vehicle insurance (maximum 3 months), or transportation to the job. Failure to follow these guidelines would result in the member being no longer eligible for future loans. The applicant must provide a letter from eh employer indicating whether or not the job would be long term or short term.

3. Waiting for Benefits or Compensation

Leq'á:mel First Nation members who have been laid off or were injured on the job shall be considered eligible for a loan up to \$500.00 to help them survive until their benefits or compensation starts.

4. Child Respite

Leq'á:mel First Nation members shall be eligible for child respite loans for an amount of \$50.00 per week for a maximum of three (3) weeks. This will allow the member ample time to establish caregiver status.

Loan Agreement

I am applying for a:

- Donation
- General Loan
- Emergency Loan
- Funeral Loan

I have read the loan policy and fully understand the conditions that been set out in order to receive a loan.

I am requesting a loan in the amount of \$_____.

I will be making a monthly loan payment of

- \$100.00 (minimum)
- \$_____ (other)

I hereby agree to the default clause as stated below:

In the event that the applicant / co-signer defaults in their repayment of the loan the Leq'á:mel First Nation may apply to the loan any distributions or discretionary funds that are specific to the applicant / co-signer. Distributions and discretionary funds include: Christmas distribution, honorariums, travel reimbursements, casual earnings, and education allowances. I agree / understand that Leq'á:mel First Nation can hold up to 30% of these monies that will be applied as a loan payment.

I hereby agree to the terms stipulated in the loans policy.

 Applicant Name Applicants Signature Date

I hereby agree to the terms stipulated in the loan policy as a co-signer.

 Co-Signer Name Co-Signers Signature Date



Endorsed By

 Chief Date Councillor Date

 Councillor Date Councillor Date

 Councillor Date