

# CASE STUDY FRAMEWORK:

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## STRENGTH IN STRUCTURE – GOVERNANCE & ADMINISTRATION AT WLMN

### Overview

Willow Lake Métis Nation (WLMN) has been methodically strengthening its administrative and governance systems to ensure services are delivered with transparency, care, and cultural alignment. Under Executive Director Stella Lavallee's leadership, WLMN models a future-focused governance approach rooted in Métis self-determination and community well-being.

### Governance in Action: From Policy to People

#### Transparent Leadership

- All governance decisions are made with Citizens front of mind.
- Continuous policy refinement ensures support systems remain responsive to community needs.
- Leadership prioritizes clarity, accountability, and intentional growth.

#### Administrative Focus Areas

- **Policy Creation and Administration** – Ensures consistent, fair services.
- **Citizenship Program** – Strengthens identity, belonging, and access to services.
- **Support Programs** – Address needs in food security, health, employment, and education.

# Programs That Empower

## Workforce Development

- **Class 3 Driver's License Program:** Helped Citizens gain trade-related employment.
- **Security Guard Training Program:** Delivered job-ready certification and career mobility.

## Accessibility and Innovation

- WLMN launched a technology access initiative in 2023, including Fibre Optic internet.
- Clear administrative systems ensure Citizens can navigate supports with ease.
- A culture of listening and learning drives continuous improvement and adaptation.

## Life-Stage Supports

- **Bereavement Assistance Policy:** Compassionate care for grieving families.
- **Wills Support Initiative:** Legal and planning tools to protect future generations.
- **Community Investment & Citizen Support Policy:** Funds programs and direct Citizen assistance.
- **Education & Employment Services:** Career training and goal advancement.

## Self-Determination in Practice

- WLMN exercises Métis sovereignty by designing and managing its own governance model.
- Decisions are made based on Elder wisdom, youth energy, and collective purpose.
- Governance is not static — it evolves to meet new challenges and future needs.

## Looking Ahead

WLMN is building a Nation designed to last, with administration and governance systems that reflect Métis culture and community values. Ongoing investments in policy, support services, and Citizen engagement are creating a future where every Citizen can thrive.