

AUGUST 30 1999 - THE BLOOD BAND IS AWASH IN ALLEGATIONS OF THEFT AND FRAUD BY TRIBAL ADMINISTRATORS [Alberta Report by Will Gibson]

As Floyd Many Fingers surveys the Blood First Nation reserve, a vast expanse of prairie twice as large as the city of Calgary, he sees a land rich in potential but for many generations now desperately poor. Mr. Many Fingers, 72, still mounts a horse every day to check the cattle herds of nonnative ranchers that lease Blood land for grazing. He is one of the few band members with a job, on a reserve where an estimated 80% of the 7,300 residents are on welfare. In the region surrounding the 331,000-acre reserve just south of Lethbridge, the unemployment rate is hovering around 4%.

While the rote response of most native politicians to complaints about social and economic conditions on reserves is to blame governments for failing to transfer enough off-reserve tax dollars into band council coffers, former Blood chief Harley Frank sees things rather differently. Mr. Frank, who now farms on the reserve, notes that a five-year self-government deal signed in 1995 between the band and Ottawa pumps \$42 million a year into the reserve, with scant beneficial effect. "This is insanity because nothing has changed, nothing has improved," he says.

Mr. Many Fingers, who served on the band council in the 1970s, blames the current chief and council and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) for the reserve's myriad social and economic problems. "There is a lot of turmoil," he says. "We live in a bad place." So bad, in the view of Mr. Many Fingers and four other band members, that they have launched a lawsuit against the chief, the band council and INAC alleging that the band's electoral system violates Blood political customs.

More money, may, in some ways, have made things worse. Messrs. Many Fingers and Frank point to at least three investigations involving allegations of corruption against band employees. **On July 31, for example, former band land manager Lyman Tailfeathers pleaded guilty to theft over \$5,000. He had been charged April 8 with theft and fraud following an 18-month RCMP investigation, which began when over \$300,000 in band funds went missing. Constable Gus Maurice, a Cardston RCMP officer who headed the investigation, says the fraudster was collecting rental fees from non-native farmers who lease land and grain bins on the reserve, and funnelling the money into a personal account.**

The band's tribal police confirm that they are currently investigating another allegation of fraud within the reserve's land department. "All I can say is, yes, and that's it," says Sergeant Walter Coles.

Another investigation centres on the activities of two social workers who toil within the band's welfare bureaucracy. Brent Singer and Juanita Creighton administer a program under which band members on welfare get \$ 1,200 every two years to buy new furniture. Typically clients go to one of the furniture stores in Lethbridge, pick out the furniture they want and present the bill to their caseworker, who pays the store.

Banking records and tax documents. filed in the 1997 divorce and 1998 bankruptcy of Linda Gould-Hawke, former co-owner of the now-defunct J&L Furniture in Lethbridge, show that in the mid-1990s, Mr. Singer and Ms. Creighton received a number of cheques totalling \$15,000 and \$13,000 respectively from Ms. Gould-Hawke's store. When another former store employee' brought the 'payments to the attention of the local media, the band council hired private detective Dave Broughton; a retired RCMP commercial crimes investigator, to examine the case. According to Blood financial advisor Randall Spohn, Mr. Broughton wrapped up his investigation August 13 and his report will be passed to the "proper authorities." Mr. Spohn would not specify whether that meant the RCMP, the tribal police or some other agency.

Ms. Gould-Hawke says she did not view the payments made to the Blood social workers as direct inducement to get more clients to her store. But she kept on paying Mr. Singer and Ms. Creighton until early 1998, when she says her lawyer- and accountant told her that it was wrong. "I never thought about it. I was just trying to survive," insists Ms. Gould-Hawke, who now works as a cashier in a department store. "It seemed like it was a part of business.

Blood financial advisor Spohn says the investigations into the Bloods' land and welfare departments show that the system is working because it has ferreted out problems within the band administration. "I would be worried about an organization where there was no allegations because then I would be concerned about whether our controls were wrong, he says.

Ms. Gould-Hawke, however, questions the band's enthusiasm to investigate its own. She claims that after she came to believe that it might be wrong to give thousands of dollars to people who were handling her customers' money, she made several complaints to the tribal police, but nothing happened. The police only came looking for her, she says, after the media got wind of the situation. At point, she decided not to co-operate with the private detective hired by. the reserve to look into her concerns. "Broughton represents the reserve and I don't trust anybody from the reserve anymore," says Ms. Gould-Hawke.

Her skepticism is shared by former Blood chief Frank, who believes that near-universal welfare on the reserve suits the self-interest of band officials and INAC bureaucrats. "If we were suddenly to become very wealthy and self-sufficient, a lot of civil servants would lose their jobs because there would be nothing to administer," surmises Mr. Frank. Moreover, he adds, it is almost inevitable that people who work in a welfare system that intentionally fosters the chronic dependence of its clients will be debauched by it. "It breeds corruption," he says. "It breeds crime".

[Source: <http://www.highbeam.com/Search?searchTerm=Blood+band+welfare+state>]

BRIEF HISTORY OF BLOOD TRIBE LANDS DEPARTMENT

July 21, 1999: Former band land manager Lyman Tailfeathers pled guilty to theft over \$5,000. He was charged April 8 with theft and fraud following an 18-month RCMP investigation which began when over \$300,000 in band funds went missing. RCMP officer who headed investigation says fraudster collected rental fees from non-native farmers who lease land and grain bins on the reserve, and funneled the money into a personal account.

2000-2014: Lyman Tailfeathers was replaced in band land management by his nephew Elliott (Tailfeathers) Fox who became Director of Blood Tribe Lands Department.

March 2001 to January 2013: In his position as Lands Director Elliott (Tailfeathers) Fox received personal cheques totalling \$35,720.00 from non-native farmer Joachim Hengerer and Hengerer Farms. For what? Shake-down money to secure land leases?

March 8 2001: No. 19203, \$2,000.00

April 12 2001: No. 19337, \$3,000.00

April 4 2002: No. 22833, \$500.00

Aug 26 2002: No. 20638, \$4,000.00

March 27 2003: \$500.00

November 28 2003: \$3,800.00

October 7 2004: No. 25239, \$2,000.00

August 8 2005: No. 26674, \$5,000.00

Aug 19 2005, No. 26675, \$4,500.00

Aug 19 2005, No. 26676, \$1,500.00

May 11 2008, No. 30798, \$500.00

August 12 2008, \$420.00

March 20 2009, No. 32007, \$1,000.00

June 28 2012, No. 37193, \$6,000.00

January 8, 2013, No. 38078, \$1,000.00

TOTAL AMOUNT: \$35,720.00

NOTE: Photocopies of actual cheques follow.

HENGERER FARMS LTD.

BOX 1055
GLENWOOD, ALBERTA T0K 2R0
PHONE (403) 626-2637

19203

M 8/01
DATE

PAY TO
THE ORDER OF

Elliot Fox

Two thousand

\$ 2000.00

/100
DOLLARS



Alberta Treasury Branches
TEL - 227-3350
INNISFAIL, AB. T4G 1S7

HENGERER FARMS LTD.

PER

PER

[Signature]
[Signature]

FOR

⑈019203⑈ ⑆08329⑈219⑆ 1086324⑈ 24⑈ ⑈0000200000⑈

TELLER STAMP HERE

ALBERTA TREASURY

0 ECU BC BRANCHES 8909
03122001 001
3700021005

07229-219
ALBERTA TREASURY BRANCHES
310-6 STREET S.
LETHBRIDGE, ALBERTA
MAR 09 2001

[Signature]

1091794-01

219 ALBERTA TREASURY SECURITY CHECK PAPER
BRANCHES 0909 COLOURED MICRO-PRINTED BORDER
03/12/01 017

*2000-
200-
1800 cash*

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS SECURITY FEATURES - SEE REVERSE

HENGERER FARMS LTD.

BOX 1055
GLENWOOD, ALBERTA T0K 2R0
PHONE (403) 626-3637

19337

PAY TO
THE ORDER OF

Elliot Fox

DATE

April 12/01

Three Thousand

se/100 \$ 3000.00
DOLLARS



Alberta Treasury Branches

TEL - 227-3350

INNISFAIL, AB. T4G 1S7

HENGERER FARMS LTD.

PER

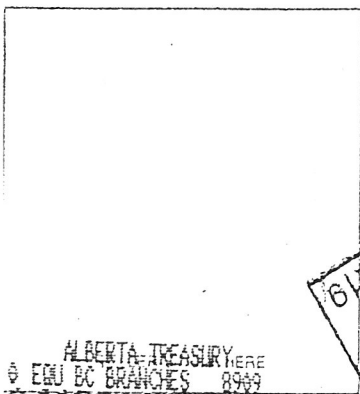
PER

FOR

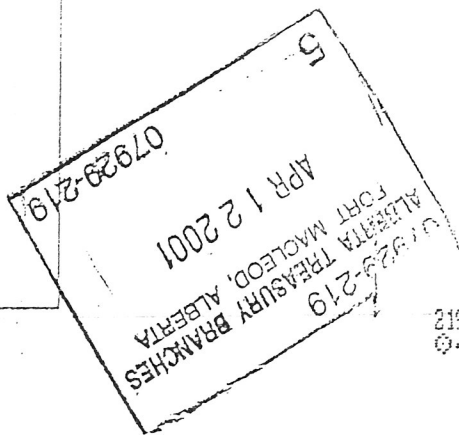
Loan

⑈019337⑈ ⑆08329⑈219⑆ 1086324⑈24⑈

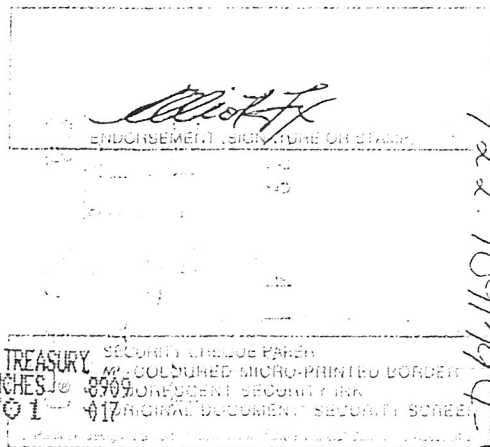
⑈0000300000⑈



ALBERTA TREASURY
EDM BC BRANCHES 8909
04122001 001
37000784
CANADA



APR 12 2001
ALBERTA TREASURY BRANCHES
FORT MACLEOD, ALBERTA
07929-219



ALBERTA TREASURY
BRANCHES 8909
04/12/01
SECURITY FEATURES
MICRO-PRINTED BORDER
FLUORESCENT SECURITY MARK
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SECURITY SCREEN

722.1091994-01

HENGERER FARMS LTD.

BOX 1055
GLENWOOD, ALBERTA T0K 2R0
PHONE (403) 628-3637

22833

DATE April 4/02

PAY TO
THE ORDER OF

Elliot for

Levi Smith

\$ 500.00

/100
DOLLARS



Alberta Treasury Branches
TEL - 227-3350
INNISFAIL, AB. T4G 1S7

HENGERER FARMS LTD.

PER [Signature]

FOR Kainai Rec. Mch. Hockey team

PER [Signature]

⑈072833⑈ ⑈08329⑈219⑈ ⑈086324⑈ 24⑈

⑈0000050000⑈

AP '02 05 1
SCOTIABANK
DATA CENTRE
CALGARY

ALBERTA TREASURY
0 EQU BRANCHES 8909
04052002 001

3100072502

ALBERTA TREASURY
219 BRANCHES 8909
04/05/02 017

60880-002-001
SCOTIABANK
CALGARY, ALBERTA
640 60889-882

67385

[Signature]

90822816

HENGERER FARMS LTD.

BOX 1055
GLENWOOD, ALBERTA T0K 2R0
PHONE (403) 626-3637

20638

PAY TO
THE ORDER OF

Elliot Fox

DATE *Aug 26 / 02*

four thousand

\$ 4000.00
DOLLARS



Alberta Treasury Branches
TEL - 227-3350
INNISFAIL, AB. T4G 1S7

HENGERER FARMS LTD.

PER

PER

[Signature]
[Signature]

FOR

⑈020638⑈ ⑆08329⑈ 219⑆ 1086324⑈ 24⑈ ⑈0000400000⑈

07229-219
ALBERTA TREASURY BRANCHES
319-6 STREET S.
LETHBRIDGE, ALBERTA

AUG 26 2002

12 07229-219

ALBERTA TREASURY
0 EQU BC BRANCHES 8999
08262002 001
3500044022

CASH.

AUG 26 2002

ALBERTA TREASURY
BRANCHES
08/26/02

[Signature]
722-1016794-01

40161

07229 219
 ALBERTA TREASURY BRANCHES
 3000 8000000 S.
 APR - 2 2003
 7 07229-219

ALBERTA TREASURY
 0 EQU BC BRANCHES 8909
 04022003 001
 3700046879

Miss H
 219
 04/02/03 017
 ALBERTA TREASURY
 219 BRANCHES 8909
 04/02/03 017

HENGERER FARMS LTD.
 BOX 1055
 GLENWOOD, ALBERTA T0K 2R0
 PHONE (403) 826-3637

Mar 27/03
 DATE

PAY TO
 THE ORDER OF

Elliot Fox

\$ 500.00
 100/100
 DOLLARS



Alberta Treasury Branches
 TEL - 227-3350
 INNISFAIL, AB. T4G 1S7

HENGERER FARMS LTD.

PER

PER

[Signature]
[Signature]

FOR *Kenneth Warriors - Benton*
Donair
 0071837 08329 219 086324 24

00000050000

07229-219
ALBERTA TREASURY BRANCHES
219 STREET S.
EDMONTON, ALBERTA

APR - 2 2003

ALBERTA TREASURY
0 EQU BC BRANCHES 8909
04022003 001

3700046878

07229-219

ALBERTA TREASURY
219 BRANCHES 8909
04/02/03 017

HENGERER FARMS LTD.
BOX 1055
GLENWOOD, ALBERTA T0K 2R0
PHONE (403) 626-3837

21000
Mon 27/03
DATE

PAY TO
THE ORDER OF

Elliot Fox

Five hundred

\$ 500.00
DOLLARS



Alberta Treasury Branches
TEL: 227-3350
INNISFAIR, AB. T4G 1S7

HENGERER FARMS LTD.

PER

PER

FOR Kainai / Kodjaks Novice
Donion team

[Signature]

U. Grosvenor

⑈021838⑈ ⑈08329⑈ 219⑈ ⑈086324⑈ 24⑈

⑈0000050000⑈

ATE
CALGARY PROCESSING CTR
12/01/03
12012003 8909
001
3600156792

07929-215
DEC 1 - 2003
FORT MACLEOD, ALBERTA
ALBERTA TREASURY BRANCHES
07929-215

ATE
CALGARY PROCESSING CTR
12/01/03

722-1894
12-18-03

HENGERER FARMS LTD.
BOX 1056
GLENWOOD, ALBERTA T0K 2R0
PHONE (403) 828-3637

23842

Nov 28/03

PAY TO
THE ORDER OF

Elliot Fox

DATE

thirty eight hundred

\$ 3800.00



Alberta Treasury Branches
TEL - 227-3350
INNISFAIL, AB. T4G 1S7

HENGERER FARMS LTD.

PER

PER

FOR

023842 08329 219 1086324 24

0000380000

HENGERER FARMS LTD.

BOX 1055
GLENWOOD, ALBERTA T0K 2R0
PHONE (403) 626-3637

25239

Oct 7/04
DATE

PAY TO
THE ORDER OF

Elliott Fox

two thousand

\$ 2000.-
w/100
DOLLARS



Alberta Treasury Branches
TEL - 227-3350
INNISFAIL, AB. T4G 1S7

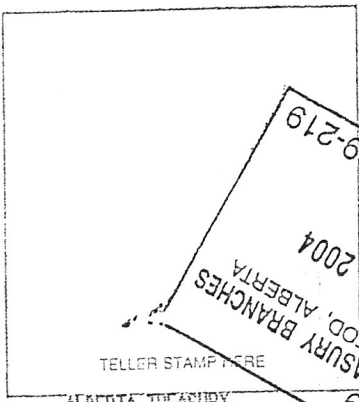
HENGERER FARMS LTD.

PER *[Signature]*
PER *[Signature]*

FOR

⑈025239⑈ ⑆08329⑈ 219⑆ 1086324⑈ 24⑈

⑈0000200000⑈



TELLER STAMP HERE

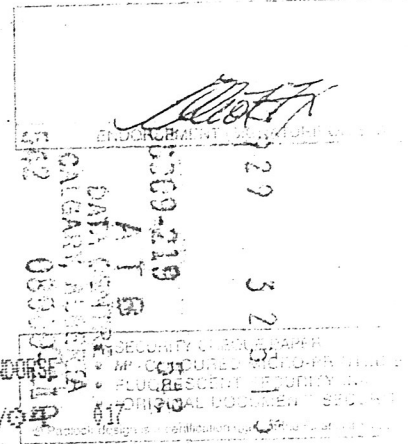
ALBERTA TREASURY
EDM BC BRANCHES 8909
10002004
PRINTED IN CANADA

⑈0000200000⑈

07929-219
1
OCT 0 8 2004
ALBERTA TREASURY BRANCHES
FORT MACLEOD, ALBERTA
07929-219

OCT - 8 04

10
14
11
12



HENGERER FARMS LTD.

BOX 1055
GLENWOOD, ALBERTA T0K 2R0
PHONE (403) 626-3637

26674

PAY TO
THE ORDER OF

Elliot Fox

DATE *Aug 8/05*

Five thousand

\$ 5000.⁰⁰
100 DOLLARS



Alberta Treasury Branches
TEL : 227-3350
INNISFAIL, AB. T4G 1S7

HENGERER FARMS LTD.

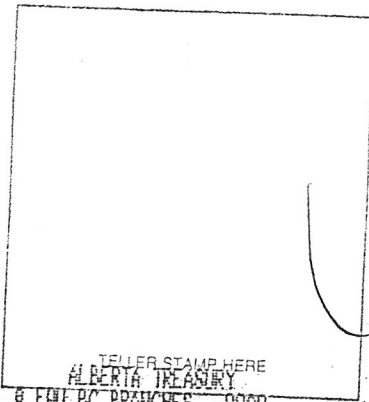
PER *[Signature]*

PER *[Signature]*

FOR

⑈026674⑈ ⑈08329⑈ 219⑈ 1086324⑈ 24⑈

⑈0000500000⑈



TELLER STAMP HERE
ALBERTA TREASURY
8 EMU BC BRANCHES 8909
08222005 001
PRINTED IN CANADA

4995.00
12
07849-219
AUG 19 2005
LETHBRIDGE, ALBERTA
#601 MAYOR MAGRATH DRIVE
LETHBRIDGE MAIN
ALBERTA TREASURY BRANCHES
07849-219

Elliot Fox
DR #
90070-103
Star fax card
PKT ENDORS
16
20/22/03/55015240
SECURITY INK
COLOURED MICRO-PRINTED EDG
SECURITY PAPER

*P.O. Box 2541
Carlton AB*

HENGERER FARMS LTD.

26675

BOX 1055

GLENWOOD, ALBERTA T0K 2R0

PHONE (403) 626-3637

Elliot Fox

DATE *Aug 19/05*

PAY TO
THE ORDER OF

fourty five hundred

\$ *4500.00*



Alberta Treasury Branches

TEL - 227-3350

INNISFAIL, AB. T4G 1S7

HENGERER FARMS LTD.

PER

PER

FOR

⑈026675⑈ ⑈08329⑈219⑈ ⑈086324⑈ 24⑈

⑈0000450000⑈

TELLER STAMP HERE

ALBERTA TREASURY

0 EDU BC BRANCHES 8909

08192005 001

3500015034

Elliot Fox

DL: 90070-103

PL# ~~37~~ 935-8

PKT. ENDORSE

08/19/05

- SECURITY COLOURED PAPER
- MP - COLOURED INKHO-PRINTED
- FLUORESCENT SECURITY MARK
- 017 ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SECURITY

C/S 4250352461

HENGERER FARMS LTD.

BOX 1055

GLENWOOD, ALBERTA T0K 2R0

PHONE (403) 626-3637

26676

PAY TO
THE ORDER OF

Elmer Fox

DATE

Aug 19/05



Alberta Treasury Branches

TEL - 227-3350

INNISFAIL, AB. T4G 1S7

HENGERER FARMS LTD.

PER

PER

1500
DOLLARS

\$ *1500*

FOR

⑈026676⑈ ⑆08329⑈219⑆ 1086324⑈ 24⑈

⑈0000150000⑈

TELLER STAMP HERE

ALBERTA TREASURY

0 EDU BC BRANCHES 8909

08192005 001

001 BRINTES IN CANADA

3500015035

PKT ENDORSE

08/19/05

017

DL 90070-103

319-9558

CJS 435035-240,

HENGERER FARMS LTD.
BOX 1055
GLENWOOD, ALBERTA T0K 2R0
Tel: (403) 626-3637

30798

DATE 20 May 11/08
Y Y Y Y M M D D

PAY to
the order of

Ellen Fox

\$ 500.00

100 DOLLARS

ATB Financial

4962 - 50 ST.
INNISFAIR, ALTA. T4G 1S7

HENGERER FARMS LTD.



RE

Rocky Horton

PER

PER

⑈030798⑈ ⑈08329⑈ 219⑈ ⑈086324⑈ 24⑈

⑈0000050000⑈

Acct #1281013
#7269

MAY 12 08

01269 005
ROYAL BANK
07269 009

Endorsement - Signature or Stamp

Mietz

BACKVERSO

COMM 20080512
ROYAL BANK
ALBERTA PC

2700252726

ALBERTA TREASURY
BRANCHES 20080512
CALGARY AT PC

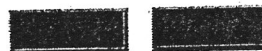
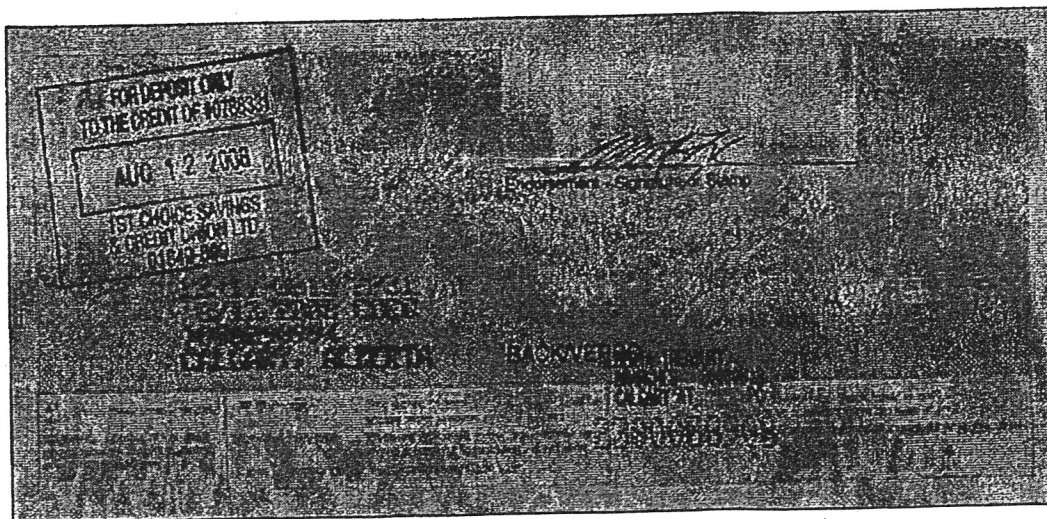
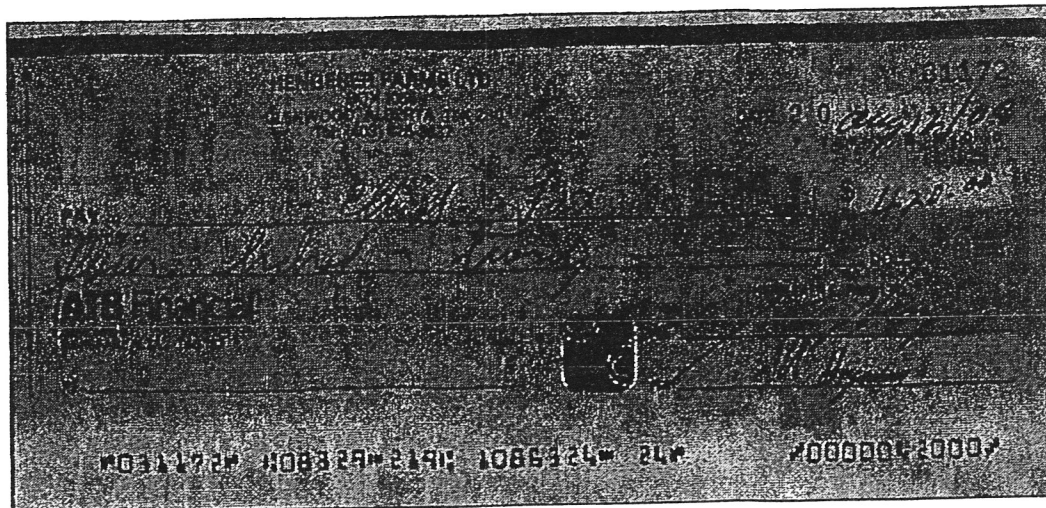
2300386471

Cheque Item Image

User: ATB Innisfail

Request #: 5192503
 Transit - FI #: 08329-219
 Sequence #: 2300088908
 Date: 08/13/2008

Description: Hengerer 4
 Account #: 108632424
 Amount: \$420.00 CAD

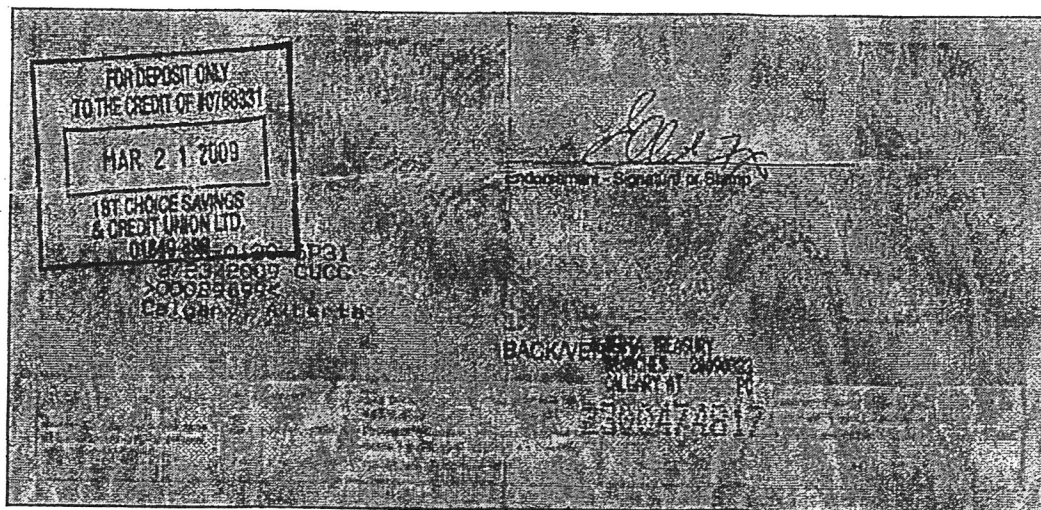
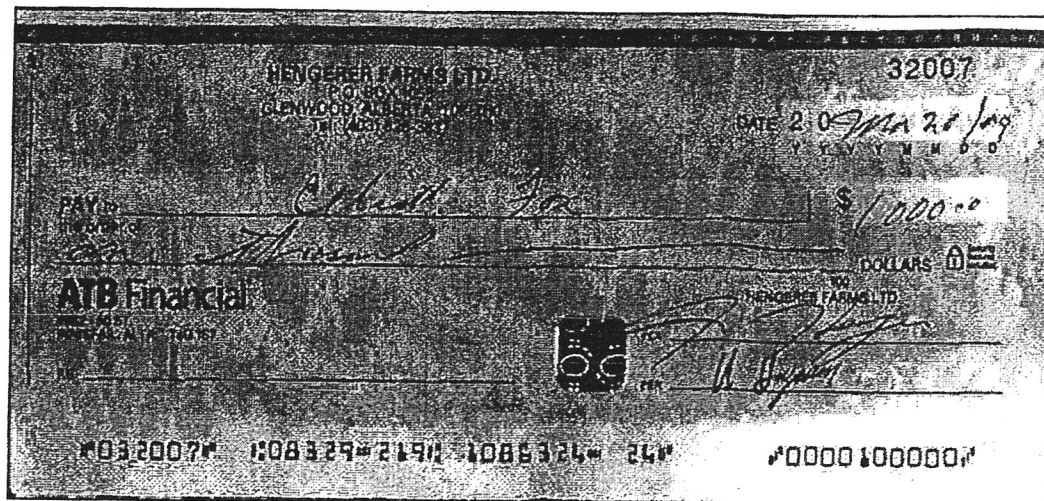


Cheque Item Image

User: ATB Innisfail

Request #: 5192495
Transit - FI #: 08329-219
Sequence #: 2300474817
Date: 03/23/2009

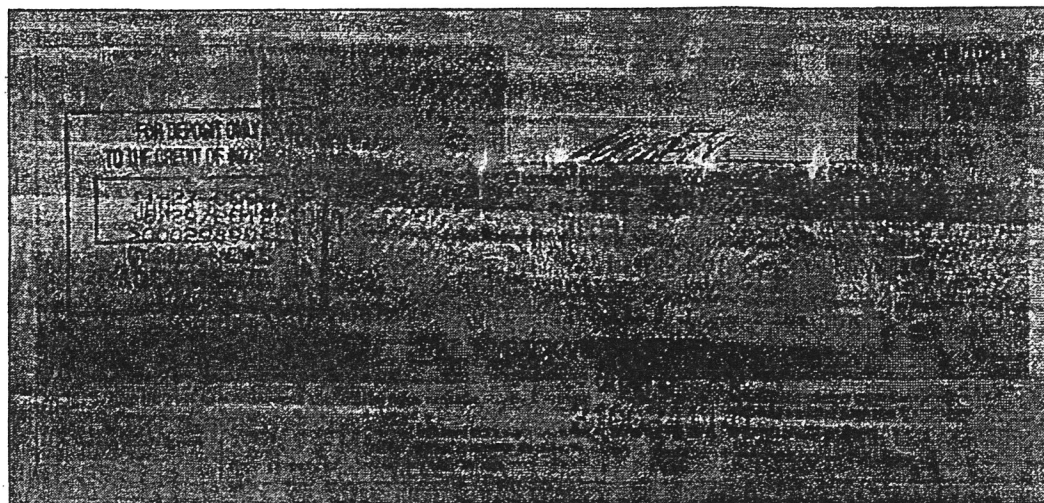
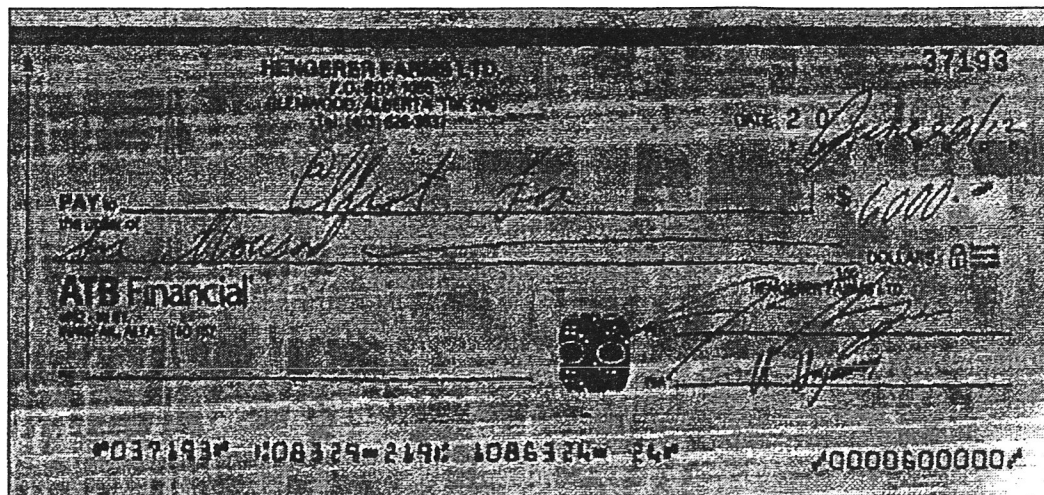
Description: Hengerer 3
Account #: 108632424
Amount: \$1,000.00 CAD



Cheque Item Image

User: ATB Innisfail

Request #:	5192485	Description:	Hengerer 2
Transit - FI #:	08329-219	Account #:	108632424
Sequence #:	2100341141	Amount:	\$6,000.00 CAD
Date:	06/29/2012		



Cheque Item Image

User: ATB Innisfail

Request #:	5192476	Description:	Hengerer 1
Transit - FI #:	08329-219	Account #:	108632424
Sequence #:	2200503571	Amount:	\$1,000.00 CAD
Date:	01/09/2013		

