Goal 4

Create good visitor knowledge and experiences

The ancestors walked the trails that their descendants now share with visitors. Sharing Thaidene Nëné means offering meaningful and authentic experiences for visitors, while also contributing to the vitality of ongoing local Indigenous use. The descendants of the ancestors have knowledge and stories to share with visitors that will enrich their experience when they come to Thaidene Nëné.

It is important that visitor experiences have a cultural connection to the ancestors' stories, and that these stories are conveyed in a culturally appropriate and authentic way. It is also important that we work to tell the whole story of Thaidene Nëné, to shine light on the existence and resilience of the ancestors. As Thaidene Nëné employees and tour operators share this knowledge with visitors, visitors will gain increased reverence for the land, and will tread lightly and with respect. The stories of Thaidene Nëné also reach beyond those who can visit, to all Canadians and to the world.

Thaidene Nëné is just beginning to welcome the world. Developing the infrastructure, protocols and activities that contribute to meaningful experiences for visitors will take time. Understanding who will come to Thaidene Nëné and why, and what their impact will be, will help guide this work and ensure that visitation is sustainable. It will also be important for Thaidene Nëné staff to promote practices for all users that keep the land and water clean and ensure sites are respected.

Objectives

4.1 Thaidene Nëné has a diverse visitor offer that provides opportunities to understand and appreciate local Indigenous cultures, histories and values in an accessible, inclusive, and meaningful way.

Targets/Indicators

- 4.1.1 A tourism strategy is developed that identifies target markets and prescribes authentic, cultural experiences that connect visitors to the land, people and way of life. Product development for visitor markets is harmonized with the use and enjoyment of Thaidene Nëné by local Indigenous people.
- 4.1.2 Signatory Indigenous governments are engaged to create a Commemorative Integrity Statement (CIS) for Fort Reliance National Historic Site and revise the Historic Sites and Monuments Board commemoration to reflect the heritage values of the site more accurately.
- 4.1.3 A heritage recording and a condition assessment are completed for Fort Reliance National Historic Site.



Goal 4 (continued)

Create good visitor knowledge and experiences

Objectives		Targets/Indicators	
4.2	Visitors are welcomed, learn how to respect places of cultural and spiritual importance, and are informed of culturally appropriate behaviours if visiting important sites to ensure visitation is sustainable.	4.2.1	A visitor orientation program is developed. It includes allowable uses of Thaidene Nëné and a visitor code of conduct.
		4.2.2	Visitors receive orientation programming and robust trip planning materials.
		4.2.3	Guardians, staff, and tourism operators working in Thaidene Nëné are trained and supported to welcome visitors and provide them with authentic experiences.
		4.2.4	Visitor access to and behavior at important sites is managed through appropriate tools such as zoning and regulations.
		4.2.5	Zoning and closures are communicated to visitors and enforced.
		4.2.6	A site-specific plan is developed for the Taché/Kaché region, which includes guidelines for visitation.
4.3	activities and languages are central to visitor experiences, products, and promotion.	4.3.1	Interpretive programs are developed based on Indigenous cultures and ways of life and include Indigenous languages.
		4.3.2	Thaidene Nëné products, promotions, advertisements, and visitor orientations include Indigenous cultures, ways of life, and languages.
		4.3.3	Public appreciation for Thaidene Nëné is fostered through promotion and storytelling, even for those who may never visit.

