



Darin Bellerose, The Greenhouse Manager

## Who We Are

### About Us

Thessalon First Nation acquired the Bio Centre in the year 2000 through a land negotiation with the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Now owned and operated by the Band, the Bio Centre is a key economic asset for Thessalon First Nation.

### Opportunity for Investment

The Bio Centre is a unique resource for economic development in Thessalon First Nation. Currently the community is exploring ways of operating the facility to its fullest potential, including a possible venture into organic produce among other products.

Recognizing the opportunities and challenges of diversification, the community is seeking to identify new possible industries, markets and partnerships that could expand the use of the Bio Centre for the First Nation's benefit. Staff recognize the need to align the economic outlook of this unique resource with education, motivation and training opportunities.

### Contact Us

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### THESSALON FIRST NATION



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# THESSALON FIRST NATION

A PLACE OF PEACE AND FREEDOM



## BIO CENTRE



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## Facilities

The Thessalon Bio Centre is a high quality facility currently dedicated to growing seedlings for forestry contracts. In the past the facility has produced as much as 1.5 million tree seedlings per year. These seedling contracts allowed employment for two full time staff and up to 10 seasonal jobs for band members.

- 42 ha (100 acres), 20 acres of cleared fields,
- 17 climate controlled greenhouses,
- 6000 square foot refrigeration building,
- Lab equipment/ instruments



Chief Alfred Bisailon

*“Thessalon First Nation Bio Centre has the potential to be developed with the right partnerships; Economic viability and sustainability for our Bio Centre has always been our goal.”*

## Ownership and Control

Thessalon First Nation owns the Bio Centre. This means that this a major step in developing an economic base for the community.

With Government having a more focused attention to Aboriginal Economic Development translates to a higher potential to leverage funding for diverse and alternative growing ventures.

### GRAPHIC MAP

Close proximity to Great Lakes and U.S border. Highlights include easy access for market along both the Canada and U.S border. This location also has access to waterways such as little rapids, a deep water port in the Town of Thessalon and McCraiths location can be used to produce energy making it a prime location for economic development. We are also located in close proximity to an airstrip suitable for small aircraft down McCraiths Rd. and have access to the Trans-Canada highway via Hwy 129

