

ACADIA FIRST NATION
CHIEF AND COUNCIL MEETING
YARMOUTH OFFICE
JANUARY 14, 2014
PUBLIC MINUTES

PRESENT:

CHIEF DEBORAH ROBINSON

COUNCILLOR DEBRA WENTZELL

COUNCILLOR ANDREW FRANCIS

COUNCILLOR JEFF PURDY

COUNCILLOR TOM PICTOU

COUNCILLOR DARLENE COULTON

COUNCILLOR CHARMAINE STEVENS

COUNCILLOR MIKE PAUL

OPENING PRAYER: CHIEF DEBORAH ROBINSON

Presentation by Sarah Jeremy and Shalan Joudry was provided to Chief and Council on the current species at risk project that was undertaken. Project to continue in May 2014.

DECEMBER 10, 2013, minutes were reviewed and corrections made as required. Minutes approved subject to corrections. Tom made motion to accept minutes. Motion seconded by Mike Paul. Minutes were approved by consensus.

Fisheries: Discussion was held regarding fisheries. Initial fishery report on operations was positive, however, weather conditions were affecting the ongoing fishery. Band Manager was to follow up with fishery program to monitor progress.

The Basket Making proposal was further reviewed. The program is to be undertaken in the Wildcat community with a notice to be posted to seek an instructor within the budget available; there would be no stipend for participants; and a notice is to be posted to seek participants from the First Nation. No travel would be paid for participants.

Snowplowing was reviewed. It was confirmed that elders would be provided for on-reserve. Medical exceptions would be only considered on a case-by-case review for exceptional medical issues.

The garbage collection service provider went to all houses on reserve to explain the current garbage recycling and collection process. On-reserve support was positive. A future follow-up will be held with the community to further explain and support adherence to the current garbage collection and recycling requirements.

Scallop distribution has been ongoing. Currently a shortage exists for the Liverpool distribution. The issue was discussed and the cost and time associated with the harvesting the remaining quota (2000 pounds) was deemed to be too excessive and it was agreed that for the 2014 distribution the Liverpool 2013 shortage would be added to their 2014 distribution.

The Band Manager presented a draft travel policy for review. The draft travel policy was reviewed and comments provided. The Band Manager is to revise the draft policy based on the review and provide a second draft for discussion at the next council meeting.

Forestry Program has received approval of pay subsidy for two forestry workers. Approval provided to provide the additional resources for two forestry workers and a supervisor to continue work within the current forestry management program activities.

An update was provided by the Band Manager that Danny Walsh was invited to do a presentation to the council on a male health program opportunity for the community. Danny was unavailable due to medical reasons but provided a brief document outlining the program he wished to speak to council about in the future. Danny will contact council to arrange for the presentation in the future.

An invoice for snowplowing was discussed. Decision on payment made.

Band member request for educational assistance was reviewed. The request was referred to Janice Francis to determine level of support to be provided by the Education program.

Request for presentation of Walking the Prevention Circle was scheduled for the February 11 meeting.

A request by the Health Program to have the use of the Winners Corner building for an elders centre was deferred as the Winners Corner building was previously designated for economic development purposes given its road-front location.

The policy of the AFN not funding services denied by the Non-Insured Health Benefits program was re-affirmed.

Band member requests were reviewed and decisions made with respect to each request as per AFN policy and practices.

Requests for funding support submitted by Wanda Westhaver were reviewed and decisions made on a case-by-case basis.

CMHC will be doing their three year Client Visit to AFN. Visit to be scheduled to co-ordinate with the March 2014 Chief and Council meeting in Yarmouth.

The report by the AFN Health Department on key activities held for the community over the past fiscal year was tabled as an information item with the Council.

The January 2014 housing report was tabled for information.

There was a notice tabled from DFO regarding potential clam closures for various areas affecting the AFN. Copy of the notice will be provided to AFN fishers by DFO as per the licensing process.

The Assembly of First Nations provided a copy of resolution 22/2013 – Principles of Conduct in Facilitating Discussions on Treaty Implementation – was provided as an information item to Council.

The information pamphlet provided by Burchells Law Firm on the process of having a First Nation designated as a charitable organization was reviewed. It was decided that the AFN would not be interested in this process.

Meeting closed.

Next meeting is scheduled for Halifax on January 28, 2014.