

ACADIA FIRST NATION
CHIEF AND COUNCIL MEETING
BRIDGEWATER BEST WESTERN
SEPTEMBER 09, 2014
PUBLIC MINUTES

PRESENT:

CHIEF DEBORAH ROBINSON

COUNCILLOR DEBRA WENTZELL

COUNCILLOR ANDREW FRANCIS

COUNCILLOR TOM PICTOU

COUNCILLOR CHARMAINE STEVENS

COUNCILLOR MIKE PAUL

COUNCILLOR JEFF PURDY

COUNCILLOR DARLENE COULTON

OPENING PRAYER: DEBRA WENTZELL

Agenda approved by consensus.

July 22, 2014, minutes were reviewed. Amendments were required to be made and minutes were deferred for approval pending the changes.

A presentation on business operations was provided by Amanda Lloyd and Julian O'Connell.

An in camera session was called to discuss a confidential matter. Band manager stepped out of the meeting.

An update was provided on the Food, Social and Ceremonial fishery activity. Distribution is continuing until all communities are provided FSC fish. Councillors Tom Pictou, Darlene Coulton and Charmaine Stevens will serve as a committee to provide recommendations to the Chief and Council for all FSC fishery activities. Councillors Jeff Purdy and Andrew Francis were absent from the FSC fishery discussions.

An update on the Acadia First Nation POWWOW was presented by the Band Manager. The POWWOW is set for the 13th and 14th of September. Planning is complete and all activities are well in hand. A copy of the schedule of events was provided for information. The RCMP would be attending in Red Surge as part of the ceremony and grand entry.

An update was provided on the Species At Risk project being jointly undertaken by AFN (Sarah Jermey) and Bear River (Shalan Joudry). The AFN has the only reserve in Atlantic Canada with an endangered species located on it. Activities are being undertaken to determine appropriate community engagement and protection strategy.

A recent announcement was made that provided the AFN a room within the Sherman Hines museum to be used as a cultural display / museum showroom. Plans continue to be implemented to see this activity undertaken in 2015.

The RCMP have extended an invitation for the AFN to attend the RCMP Regimental Ball as special guests of the RCMP.

A review is being undertaken of the fuel operations of the AFN. The band manager and Councillors Tom Pictou and Jeff Purdy will lead the initial process as part of their ongoing Gaming Commission responsibilities and business improvement efforts.

Band member requests were reviewed and decided upon in the areas of medical, housing, employment and other general areas.

The band manager was requested to develop a proposal for math enhancement / tutoring for presentation to Chief and Council and Mi'kmaq Kinamatnewey.

Chief and Council approved the delivery of a human resource training session with AFN managers. The training is to be completed by Burchells Law Firm with an emphasis on First Nation employment law and associated practices.

A review of potential land for sale in Shelburne was reviewed. Councillor Darlene Coulton will follow up with the Shelburne Council to meet with the AFN Chief and Council to discuss the potential options for land purchases in Shelburne.

Nova Scotia Aboriginal Affairs Department wished to meet with the AFN Chief and Council. The meeting will be arranged to coincide with the next Halifax Chief and Council meeting.

The Mi'kmaq Native Friendship Center was seeking a donation from the AFN for their 2014 Christmas Cheer Program. A donation to match last year's donation was approved.

Another request for donation was submitted by the Queens General Hospital. Given the past contributions by the AFN this request was not supported.

KMKNO was approved to continue working on obtaining salmon access for Mi'kmaq communities.

Requests for quotes for vehicle purchase for the housing program were reviewed. Ford pricing was the best so it was decided to purchase the truck from Tuskett Ford. All AFN vehicles are required to be equipped with the AFN logo and be parked within the AFN parking lot during non-working periods.

A discussion was held regarding water sampling for AFN communities. Current testing has identified no issues with the drinking water. Health Canada is to be contacted to determine the source(s) of testing (ie kitchen tap water and/or bathroom etc.). Systems are to be installed where water issues are prevalent. Homes with children are to be first priority.

A presentation was provided to the Chief and Council on AFN elder demographics.

The 2013 AGM minutes were circulated for information. The 2013 AGM minutes were approved for posting on the AFN website.

After a review of the cigarette quota for the AFN it was discovered that the AFN had been not provided the appropriate quota as per the provincial formula. The Inventory Program efforts to address this issue resulted in the AFN receiving increases in both cartons and tins of tobacco.

Ministerial Loan band council resolution approved by consensus. Motion made by Councillor Mike Paul and seconded by Tom Pictou.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting is scheduled for Yarmouth on October 14, 2014.