

ACADIA FIRST NATION  
CHIEF AND COUNCIL MEETING  
SHELBURNE OFFICE  
NOVEMBER 12, 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: DARLENE COULTON

Agenda approved by consensus.

November 12, 2014, minutes were reviewed. Motion made to accept the minutes made by Andrew Francis and seconded by Tom Pictou. All in favour – minutes approved by consensus.

A presentation on the current species at risk program was made by Sarah Jermey and Shalan Joudry. An update on past activities was provided as well as suggested planning activities for 2015 and 2016. After discussion the next steps for the species at risk program were agreed upon and another request for funding is to be prepared by Sarah and Shalan to support 2015 and 2016 activities. Proposal framework which was presented was approved in principle.

A presentation was made by Rails to Trails on a proposed trail for the Liverpool areas. It was clarified that all Mi'kmaq sensitive areas would be avoided as well as the AFN would be constantly involved in the planning process for trails in the area. KMKNO is to be informed of these activities and archeology and negotiation staff to provide support and assistance as may be required.

The interview application period for the cleaning position for the Wildcat community hall has closed. Wanda Westhaver to arrange for interviews as required.

The Clean Water Initiative was again revisited. After considering all additional information a BCR was approved for the involvement of the AFN at no cost to the AFN. Motion made by Darlene Coulton and seconded by Andrew Francis. All in favour – motion approved by consensus. Costs of this activity are to be borne by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada.

Carpenter layoff processed was discussed and approved.

A general discussion on the ongoing wage freeze was discussed. A report on salaries was to be provided for Chief and Council consideration prior to a decision on the appropriate action to be taken respecting the wage freeze. Amanda Lloyd and the Band Manager to develop the report asap.

An update was provided by the Band Manager regarding the gaming operations and a responsible gaming audit to be completed by the province.

There is an additional section 95 housing unit allocated to the AFN by CMHC. The Housing Program is to make recommendations on how best to proceed with this allocation, The recommendations are to be tabled at the next Chief and Council meeting.

A discussion was held about the First Nation Housing Market Fund. Given the opportunity for capacity development funding it was decided that the FNHMF would be invited to present to the Chief and Council their program prior to a final decision being made on this initiative.

The AFN has been provided space in the Astor Theatre building for the development of a cultural / museum facility. The options of the type of business were discussed and it was decided to proceed with a not-for-profit status which would increase potential funding opportunities. The initial stage is to decide on a name – a Mi;kmaq name is preferred. The current committee was mandated to decide an appropriate name.

The Wildcat community presented their proposed community hall rental regime. As a general principle there will be no rental fee for AFN community events.

As a result of an inspection on the Youth Center there was a recommendation that the electric heaters should be replaced / repaired. As such it was decided to have the electric heaters replaced by heat pumps.

A report was tabled for the AFN business operations. Cost cutting and strong management efforts have been instrumental in maintaining profit levels in a declining economy.

A BCR was approved for the establishment of an account for payout of prizes at the bingo which were in excess of \$3,000.00. The BCR was approved and Amanda Lloyd is to take the necessary steps to have the account established.

The Housing Program report was tabled and decisions made on the recommendations put forth by the program. Band Manager to report back to the Housing Program.

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

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting is scheduled for Coastal Inn, Bayers Lake - December 09, 2014.