NIPISSING FIRST NATION
A-Kii, Bemaadzijk, E-Niigaanwang
The Land, the People, the Future

# COUNCIL MINUTES

## Tuesday, November 5, 2019: Council Chambers, GV : 7:00 pm

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| Present: | Chief | Scott McLeod |
| | Deputy Chief | Muriel Sawyer |
| | Councillors | Brian Couchie |
| | | Corey Goulais |
| | | June Commanda |
| | Chief Executive Officer | Dwayne Nashkawa |
| | Executive Asst./Recorder | Kimberly Salvaneschi |
| Regrets: | Councillors | Jane Commanda (employment) |
| | | Michael Sawyer (employment) |
| | | Rick Stevens (personal) |

**1. ADJOURNMENT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

*Moved by Brian Couchie*
*Seconded by Muriel Sawyer to adjourn to the Committee of the Whole.*
*CARRIED*

** Meeting adjourned to the Committee of the Whole at 7:08 pm**

**2. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

(a) **Christmas Distribution Policy**
Council approved changes to the Christmas Distribution Policy at the Council meeting of October 1, 2019. Since that time, concerns regarding some of the wording and the potential impact, have been raised. Therefore; the Policy Committee recommends:

- Item Other (i), change "for children in care" to read "for children in care with non-Nipissing First Nation families."

*Moved by June Commanda*
*Seconded by Corey Goulais to approve the Christmas Distribution Policy as amended.*
*CARRIED*

Letters will be sent out to all families impacted by the change.

**3. ADJOURNMENT FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

*Moved by Corey Goulais*
*Seconded by Muriel Sawyer to adjourn from the Committee of the Whole*
*CARRIED*

** Meeting adjourned from the Committee of the Whole at 7:15 pm**

**4. The public meeting commenced at 7:30 pm.**

**5. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

*Moved by Brian Couchie*
*Seconded by Corey Goulais to approve the Council Agenda of November 5, 2019, as presented.*
*CARRIED*

**6. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICT**

None

**7. COUNCIL TRAVEL**

Council provided updates of their NFN business travel that will occur before the next meeting.

## 8. ADOPTION OF COUNCIL MINUTES OF OCTOBER 15, 2019

- Item #9a (iii) change "Niigaansinaanik" to "Niijaansinaanik"
- Item #9a (iii) delete "The Chiefs.....base or caseload."
- Item 11 (a) change "AES" to "Nbisiing Secondary School"

*Moved by Muriel Sawyer*
*Seconded by Corey Goulais to approve the Council Minutes of October 15, 2019, as amended.*
*CARRIED*

## 9. DELEGATIONS/ PRESENTATIONS

**(a) Removal of Trees – Request for Assistance**

Council was provided with a Briefing Note, outlining a request and concern of a member, regarding dying trees on their property. During discussions, Council agreed this is an issue for further consideration as it affects many properties on NFN. Some trees in communities are infected with Dutch Elm disease. It is recommended that an assessment be completed of the number of trees in NFN communities that should be removed, and the cost involved. This item is deferred until budget negotiations, and the assessment is complete.
Dwayne Nashkawa is to investigate if there is funding through the MNRF, for removal of dead and diseased trees.

## 10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM LAST MEETING (S)

**(a) Business Taxes**

This item was dealt with at the Council Retreat.

**(b) Tobacco, Pop Up Stores**

Item deferred. Dwayne Nashkawa and Kimberly Lalonde are continuing to investigate this topic.

## 11. REPORTS

**(a) Chiefs Report**

Chief Scott McLeod provided an outline of his business activities in October.

- October 1-3, Assembly of First Nations, National Fisheries Committee meetings in Listiguj, Quebec.
- October 10, Anishinabek Nation Lake Huron Regional Meeting, in Sudbury.
- October 15, Robinson Huron Treaty Annuities Claim Court Case, in Sudbury.
- October 21-23 Police Governing Authority for APS, Quarterly meeting in Sault Ste. Marie.
- October 28-30 National Aboriginal Strategic Advantages Conference, in Richmond BC. The conference focused on using Title and Rights to Leverage Economic Prosperity concerning transportation, pipeline and Cannabis. Chief McLeod was asked to present the NFN Cannabis Law.

**(b) Chief Executive Officer Report**

Dwayne Nashkawa informed Council of a request from a consulting firm to conduct a Labour Market Survey. The survey would consist of 32 randomly selected NFN members. During discussions, Council decided that NFN will not participate.

**(c) Council Reports**

This new agenda item was discussed during the Council Retreat and will remain as part of the Council Agenda Template.
Councillors had no reports; however, Deputy Chief Muriel Sawyer reminded all in attendance to be mindful of the 25th Anniversary of Nbisiing School.

**(d) Culture & Pow wow Committee Minutes of October 22, 2019**

Under Recommendations, change "Item #5" to "Item #6"
Council agrees that Culture Appropriation is an issue, but difficult to manage. Council agrees with the suggestion that a disclaimer is added to registration forms, informing participants that the program(s) is for personal gain, growth and knowledge, and these teachings must not to be misrepresented. It is recommended that the Culture Committee and department agree on the wording of the disclaimer and implement it.

*Moved by Corey Goulais*
*Seconded by Brian Couchie to approve the Culture & Pow wow Committee Minutes of October 22, 2019, as amended.*
*CARRIED*

**12. NEW BUSINESS:**

**(a) Council Resolutions/Agreements to be Signed:**

(i) Transfer of Fee Simple Lands - Arrangement
(ii) Arrowhead Gas Bar – Supplier Access to property #1892
(iii) Land Allotment Bonnie Dupuis-Pearce LNS 2453
(iv) Community, Culture and Recreation 2019 Intake #1893
Approval to apply for capital funding to assist with the Assisted Living Concept.

**(b) Business Licensing:**

(i) Carla's Kitchen

A Briefing Note provided by Economic Development Manager, Mike Harney, outlines the business, operating as "Carla's Kitchen." The business satisfies all NFN and Health Canada requirements. Carla's Kitchen has been operational for 3 years, and therefore the Business Licensing Committee decided to waive the 30-day community posting and recommends Council approve Carla's Kitchen's business license application.

*Moved by Corey Goulais*
*Seconded by Muriel Sawyer to approve the business license application of Carla's Kitchen.*
*CARRIED*

(ii) Golden Harvest Organics Inc (GHO)

A Briefing Note and all correspondence received during the public notification period were provided by Economic Development Manager, Mike Harney, which outlined the business license application submitted by Natalie Chevrier, a member of NFN. This application was submitted on August 15th, 2019.
Chief McLeod indicated that the process had been followed, the business complies with NFN business licensing requirements, and that attempts to address the community concerns have been made. Chief McLeod read aloud the recommendation submitted; "The applicant has met all business-licensing requirements, and it is recommended that Chief and Council support the business license application."
Chief McLeod requested that Council move to a vote on this matter.
Councillor Brian Couchie requested that the vote be recorded.

Corey Goulais – in Favour
Muriel Sawyer – in Favour
Brian Couchie – Opposed
June Commanda – Abstained
Scott McLeod – in Favour

*Based on the Majority Vote:*

*Moved by Corey Goulais*
*Seconded by Muriel Sawyer to approve the business licence application for Golden Harvest Organics. (GHO)*
*CARRIED*

During discussions, Council agrees that zoning remains an issue. Current zoning will be investigated to ensure that it meets the needs of both economic development and NFN communities going forward.

**(c) Duchesnay Yellek Road Connection Project Update**

This project involves the construction of an approximate 2.1 km long roadway, including pedestrian walkways. The roadway will connect the two Nipissing communities of Yellek and Duchesnay. The road will provide an alternate exit for emergency purposes for both communities. Yellek residents will have improved access to community facilities in Duchesnay (school, daycare etc.) In the future, this roadway will aid in facilitating communal water and wastewater service for both communities.
NFN has secured Federal (75%) and Provincial (18.33%) funding for this project. NFN is required to fund 6.67% of the project.
Requesting $295,000.00 be allocated for this project, from the Trust Income budget for the Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

*Moved by Brian Couchie*
*Seconded by Corey Goulais to approve the allocation of $295,000.00 for the Duchesnay Yellek Road Connection Project, from the Trust Income budget of the Fiscal Year 2019-2020.*
*CARRIED*

**(d) Tobacco Surcharge**

A Briefing Note provided by Tammy Saulis, Chief Financial Officer, was submitted to Council. There is a surplus of revenue from the Tobacco Surcharges. Council is asked to determine where these funds will be directed. In the past, donations to the North Bay Regional Health Centre and One Kids Place have been made. During discussions, Council decided to donate $25,000.00 (one lump sum) to Nipissing Serenity Hospice.

*Moved by Brian Couchie*
*Seconded by June Commanda to approve a donation of $25,000.00 to the Nipissing Serenity Hospice, using revenues from the Tobacco Surcharges.*
*CARRIED*

**(e) Scheduling Membership Transfer Meeting**

Councillors Brian Couchie, June Commanda and Corey Goulais requested that NFN administration provide them with possible dates for an evening meeting.

**(f) Appointment of Electoral Officer for Governance Vote**

Dwayne Nashkawa requested that Council appoint Laura Commanda as the NFN Electoral Officer for the Governance Vote.

*Moved by Corey Goulais*
*Seconded by Brian Couchie to appoint Laura Commanda as the NFN Electoral Officer for the Governance Vote.*
*Abstained – June Commanda abstained from voting.*
*CARRIED*

## 13. STANDING ITEMS

**(a) Annuities Claim**

Phase Two has begun and will continue during the Provincial Appeal process. Phase Two involves deciding where the responsibility rests, Federally, Provincially or both.

**(b) Cannabis**

Chief McLeod is in the process of scheduling a meeting with the Office of the Attorney General. It is expected that Cannabis Legislation talks with the government, will not resume until January, due to the recent elections.

## 14. INFORMATION ITEMS

None

## 15. ADJOURNMENT

*Moved by Muriel Sawyer*
*Seconded by Brian Couchie to adjourn the meeting of November 5, 2019, at 8:36 pm.*
*CARRIED*

**** The next regular NFN Council meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, November 19, 2019, in Garden Village ****