

Council Meeting  
Tuesday, July 21, 2015: Council Chambers Garden Village: 7:00 pm

---

Present:	Chief	Marianna Couchie
	Deputy-Chief	June Commanda
	Councillors	Brian Couchie
		Rick Stevens
		Darrell McLeod
		Doug Chevrier
		Dwayne Nashkawa
	Chief Executive Officer	Dwayne Nashkawa
	Director of Administration	Freda Martel
	Chief Financial Officer	Tammy Saulis
	Finance Manager	Samantha West
Guest	Don Garrioch, KPMG	
	Cathy Bellefeuille	
	Arnold May (holidays)	
Regrets:	Councillors	David Commanda

---

1. Meeting commenced at 7:05 pm.

2. NFN AUDIT PRESENTATION:

Don Garrioch of KPMG reviewed the draft Consolidated Financial Statements ending March 31, 2015 with Council. He informed Council that the financial statements include all entities and activity of Nipissing First Nation. In the financial statement the Independent Auditors Report speaks to Management's Responsibility, Auditors' Responsibility, the Audit Opinion and Other Matters. The Audit Opinion was that this year's audited statements are fairly presented and it was a clean audit. Once Council approves the Financial Statements it is signed off by the Chief and Chief Executive Officer.

The Exhibit "A" Statement is a Consolidated Statement of NFN's Financial Position showing a review of NFN's financial assets, financial liabilities and non-financial liabilities. He informed Council that NFN has a good track record for collections. Exhibit "B" is the Consolidated Statement of Operations outlining the Revenue, Expenses, Annual Surpluses including The Nipissing 2013 Boundary Claim Trust to show an Accumulated Surplus at the end of year. The revenue is money that comes in from all sources ie: Health Canada, Ontario First Nations Limited Partnership, provincial funding, Union of Ontario Indians, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, and Other which includes items such as funding from Hydro One for brushing, etc.

Councillor Rick Stevens inquired as to why the revenue shows money from the Union of Ontario Indians as the money is not from that organization but for Employment & Training. It was explained that the money flows through the Union of Ontario Indians therefore has to be shown that the revenue comes from that organization. Chief Couchie inquired as to whether the money from the Ministry of Education was for the reverse tuition. She was informed that the revenue in this statement from the Ministry of Education was for the daycare centres, and the reserve tuition amount is a component of other revenue. Council was informed that Vacation Expenses is also included in this statement and this is money owing to staff for unused vacation credits and would have to be paid out if they left. Dwayne informed Council that we are actively managing attendance.

Mr. Garrioch reviewed the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements. In Note 11 he informed Council that the daycare centre mortgage was paid off with the Royal Bank and re-financed with the First Nation Finance Authority for a lower interest rate, a cost savings to NFN. It was noted that in Schedule 5, Social Services it shows a deficit. The reason for this is partly due to the timing of a provincial recovery from prior years where it impacted this fiscal year. A review of Schedules 1 – 8 were reviewed with Council. Mr. Garrioch informed Council that the audit opinion is based on confirmations of revenue, a review that controls are in place for expenditures, analytical testing and a testing of 25 items for accuracy.

MOVED BY Brian Couchie

SECONDED BY Darrell McLeod to approve Nipissing First Nation's Audited Statement for the year ended March 31, 2015 as presented.

CARRIED.

3. ADJOURNMENT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:

MOVED BY Brian Couchie

SECONDED BY Doug Chevrier to adjourn to the committee of the whole.

CARRIED.

\*\* Meeting adjourned to the committee of the whole at 8:10 pm \*\*

4. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:

(a) BAND MEMBER REQUEST FOR MEDICAL TRAVEL

A request was submitted on behalf of an NFN member seeking financial assistance in the amount of \$1,300., to attend programming for rehabilitation.

MOVED BY Rick Stevens

SECONDED BY Doug Chevrier to approve \$1,300., from the Medical Health Fund to pay costs for a member to attend rehabilitation programming.

CARRIED.

5. ADJOURNMENT FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:

MOVED BY Darrell McLeod

SECONDED BY June Commanda to adjourn from the committee of the whole.

CARRIED.

\*\* Meeting adjourned from the committee of the whole at 8:16 pm. \*\*

6. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

⇒ Delete Item #8(d) Culture & Pow wow Committee Minutes of May 11, 2015 as these were already approved at previous meeting.

⇒ Addition of Item #10(b) Letter from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry concerning Bait Policy. Councillor Rick Stevens informed Council that he sits as a representative on the Aboriginal Ontario Fisheries Resource Centre and he had asked that this information be provided to the First Nation Chiefs. He informed Council that this deals with a new policy on how bait is moved around in Ontario.

⇒ Councillor Brian Couchie suggested that the information forwarded by Chief Couchie on the pipelines be placed on the agenda. Dwayne Nashkawa, Chief Executive Officer informed Council that he will speak to this in his report later in the meeting.

MOVED BY Brian Couchie

SECONDED BY Darrell McLeod to accept the Council Agenda of July 21, 2015 as amended.

CARRIED.

7. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICT:

None.

8. COUNCIL TRAVEL:

Council provided an update of their Council business travel that will occur prior to July 31, 2015. Deputy-Chief June Commanda agreed to attend and carry the proxy for the Anishinabek Police Governing Meeting on behalf of Chief Couchie.

9. ADOPTION OF COUNCIL MINUTES:

MOVED BY Darrell McLeod

SECONDED BY Doug Chevrier to approve the Council Minutes of June 16, 2015 as presented.

CARRIED.

10. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS:

(a) SUPPORT TRAVEL EXPENSES

A request was submitted by a band member to attend the National Youth Forum for Indigenous Friendship Centre in Brandon, Manitoba. This individual will be referred to the York Region District School Board where she is a teacher.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM LAST MEETING:

(a) HARD ROCK MEDICAL SERIES

Freda Martel, Director of Administration provided a written update on the proposed filming of Hard Rock Medical on and around Nipissing First Nation. Council was informed that there will be no costs for having the filming take place on NFN, and another meeting is scheduled towards the end of July to tour NFN with the Director and Writer of this series. A letter of support was provided on behalf of the series for their funding application to the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation.

(b) VEHICLE LEASE VS. PURCHASE COMPARISON

Tammy Saulis, Chief Financial Officer provided a comparative analysis on the lease or purchase of a vehicle for the Chief's position. This analysis showed that there is a cost savings to NFN to lease the vehicle rather than purchase.

12. REPORTS:

(a) CHIEF'S REPORT

- i. **Vacation** – Chief Couchie informed Council that she did not attend the Annual General Assembly with the Assembly of First Nation's as she was on vacation.
- ii. **Activity** – Chief Couchie informed Council that she is attending the office and plans to meet with Scott McLeod, Muriel Sawyer and Corey Goulais concerning the 2013 Boundary Claim Trust Board, and will also update Scott McLeod on various issues. She informed Council that she is very appreciative of the work this Council has accomplished and presented Councillors Doug Chevrier and Darrell McLeod a parting gift.
- iii. **Inaugural Meeting** – Chief Couchie informed Council that she will be attending the Inaugural meeting for the newly elected Council on August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

(b) CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

- i. **Robinson Huron Annuities Claim** – Dwayne informed Council that he received the financing package from the Bank of Montreal (BMO) for the annuities claim litigation which Michael Restoule has been part of, representing Nipissing First Nation. The litigation will cost approximately \$7.25 million; included are the legal costs from April 2010 and expected legal costs for the next five years to litigate this claim. The First Nations had agreed to a non-revolving demand loan and the amount to be re-paid by the First Nations using gaming money received from the Ontario First Nations Limited Partnership or other arrangements agreed upon by the First Nation and BMO. Nipissing First Nations obligation is \$485,750. The amount payable by First Nations is based on population and NFN is in the middle range. Dwayne recommended that the repayment of funds not be made with gaming revenues but rather another stream of revenue be pledged such as the Future Generations Funding. The money will be paid to the BMO "In Trust" and will be set aside and earning interest. Any interest earned while the money is sitting with BMO will be given back to NFN. Council was in agreement to this approach and signed Council Resolution #1750 to have the Chief Executive Officer to set up a re-payment arrangement with BMO. Council Resolution #1749 was also signed for the re-appointment of Mike Restoule as the Trustee for Nipissing First Nation for a further seven year term to maintain consistency.
- ii. **Energy East** – Dwayne informed Council that two work plans are being prepared which will be brought to a future Council meeting as part of the information gathering for the National Energy Board (NEB). He reminded Council that NFN had previously applied for intervenor status. Traditional Knowledge and archeological information along the pipeline route will be gathered and once completed is then given to the NEB. He informed Council that the cost of this work is paid by Trans-Canada Pipeline. NFN has not signed or agreed to anything with regards to the pipeline project. It was felt that a public presentation is required to talk about this pipeline. A concern was also expressed regarding trains travelling through NFN which may be carrying oil. In regards to the East Energy Project, Dwayne will continue to monitor and provide reports to Council.
- iii. **Solar Project** – Dwayne informed Council that the approximately \$16,000., was made with the solar roof top projects in June. He anticipates that an increase in this amount for July. He and Michael Harney will be meeting with SPN Solar to talk about the 3 & 3.5 FIT projects. Both the Innergex projects NFN had explored previously are not being pursued as per Council's direction.
- iv. **Vacation** – Dwayne informed Council that he will be on vacation for two weeks starting on Friday, July 24<sup>th</sup> to August 10<sup>th</sup>.
- v. Dwayne thanked the outgoing Council for their hard work and direction over the past term and expressed his best wishes to the Councillors who will not be returning next term.

(c) Finance & Audit Committee Minutes of May 26, 2015

MOVED BY Doug Chevrier

SECONDED BY Darrell McLeod to approve the Finance & Audit Committee Minutes of May 26, 2015 as presented.

CARRIED.

(d) Culture & Pow Wow Committee Minutes of July 15, 2015

MOVED BY Brian Couchie  
SECONDED BY Rick Stevens to approve the Culture & Pow wow Committee Minutes of July 15, 2015 as presented.  
CARRIED.

(e) SPECIAL COUNCIL MINTUES OF JUNE 22, 2015

Item #3 Change "Assistance Minister of Natural Resources" to read "Assistant Deputy-Minister of Natural Resources"

MOVED BY Brian Couchie  
SECONDED BY Rick Stevens to approve the Special Council Minutes of June 22, 2014 as amended.  
CARRIED.

13. NEW BUSINESS:

(a) COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS SIGNED:

(i) Land Allotment Lot 65 Yellek – Sheila Jolicoeur-Poulin

(b) NFN POLICIES

In regards to the Post Secondary Education Policy, Councillor Rick Stevens enquired as to whether consideration is given to increasing the Book Allowance rate which hasn't been changed for some time now.

MOVED BY Brian Couchie  
SECONDED BY June Commanda to approve the Post Secondary Education Assistance Policy, Elementary Secondary School Policy, Emergency Repair Loan Policy and Nipissing Ojibway and Couchie Memorial Daycare Centre Policy as amended.  
CARRIED.

14. ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED BY Darrell McLeod  
SECONDED BY Doug Chevrier to adjourn this meeting.  
CARRIED.

\*\* Meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm \*\*

\*\* The next Council meeting is the Inaugural meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 7:00 pm in Garden Village. \*\*