

**Council Minutes**  
**Tuesday, October 6, 2020: Multi-Purpose Building Duchesnay: 7:00 pm**

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*Closed Session*

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**Regular Session 7:30 pm**

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Present: Chief	Scott McLeod
Deputy Chief	Muriel Sawyer
Councillors	Brian Couchie
	Jane Commanda
	June Commanda
	Michael Sawyer
	Rick Stevens
Director of Administration	Freda Martel
Recorder/Executive Assistant	Kimberly Salvaneschi
Regrets: Chief Executive Officer	Dwayne Nashkawa (personal)
Councillor	Corey Goulais

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**1. OPENING MIIGWECHIWIN**

The meeting commenced at 7:07 pm with opening prayer given by June Commanda.

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

There is a Zoom presentation by a community member scheduled for 7:30 pm (Item 6a). Council decided to proceed with the agenda until 7:30 and then resume where left off, after the member presentation.

Addition – Item 9(f) – Virtual Pow Wow

*Moved by Brian Couchie.*

*Seconded by Michael Sawyer to approve the Council Agenda of October 6, 2020, as amended.  
Carried.*

**3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICT**

Brian Couchie declared conflict for Item 6(a)  
Chief Scott McLeod declared conflict for item 9(f)

**4. COUNCIL TRAVEL**

None.

**5. ADOPTION OF COUNCIL MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup>, 2020**

*Moved by Jane Commanda.*

*Seconded by Brian Couchie to approve the Council Minutes of September 29, 2020, as presented.  
Carried.*

**6. DELEGATIONS / PRESENTATIONS**

**(a) Self-Governance Initiative Proposal**

Brian Couchie excused himself, and Anthony Beaucage was welcomed to the meeting via zoom.

Mr. Beaucage provided verbal presentation regarding a business proposal.

Council has requested that Mr. Beaucage provide a current Business Plan. Council will review the Business Plan, format questions and invite Mr. Beaucage back to a future meeting for further discussion.

**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM LAST MEETING**

- (a) Couchie Memorial Drive – Winter Road Options**  
This item was deferred, to next Council meeting.
- (b) Disposal of Fish Waste**  
This item was deferred, to next Council meeting.

**8. REPORTS**

- (a) Chief’s Report**  
Nothing new to report, since the last meeting of September 29, 2020.
- (b) Chief Executive Officer’s Report**  
Dwayne provided Council with a written update. Chief McLeod asked that if there are any questions regarding the content, to please contact Dwayne directly.

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

- (a) Council Resolutions / Agreements for Signed:**
  - a. Land Allotment – Lot 253 GV #LNS2493
  - b. Land Allotment – Lot 254 GV #LNS2494
  - c. Land Allotment – Lot 255 GV #LNS2495
  - d. Land Allotment – Lot 10 Meadowside #LNS2496
  - e. Land Allotment – Lot 11 Meadowside #LNS2497
  - f. Land Allotment – Lot 12 Meadowside #LNS2498
  - g. Land Allotment – Lot 13 Meadowside #LNS2499
  - h. Land Allotment – Lot 14 Meadowside #LNS2500
  - i. Land Allotment – Lot 61 Duchesnay #LNS2501
  - j. Land Allotment – Lot 62 Duchesnay #LNS2502
  - k. Land Allotment – Lot 3 Mosquito Creek #LNS2503
  - l. Land Allotment – Lot 4 Mosquito Creek #LNS2504
  - m. FNFA Authority Covid Release #1913 Amended
- (b) Assisted Living Project**  
Council was provided an update on the NFN Elders Affordable Housing and Continuum of Care Strategy, for review.
- (c) Policies for Approval**
  - a. External Committee/Board Appointments**  
The policy was reviewed by the Policy Committee and to address NFN Elders Representation on external committees, a new clause was added to read: *When Elder Representation is required on an external board of committee to represent Nipissing First Nation, an Elder will be appointed by Council.*  
A notice to be placed on Social media regarding the changes to this policy.
  - b. Conflict of Interest Code**  
Under the definition of Public Official and addition is made under this definition to include members of the Audit and Finance Committee.
  - c. Santa Fund Policy**  
There are no major changes in this policy other than clarification of wording and change "reserve" to read "First Nation".
  - d. Donation Policy**  
Change of wording under the Budget heading to recognize current practices. It is not the current practice of Council to have two separate the donation budgets.

- e. **Collection of Accounts in Arrears Policy**  
The only change in this policy is a spelling error.
- f. **Small Business Loan Policy**  
The committee recommends to delete a section under Application Process that speaks to the collection of a processing fee. This is not the current practice; no processing fees are collected.
- g. **Honorarium Policy**  
There are no major changes to this policy other than spelling errors and re-wording for clarification. As clarification on Appendix "C" of when travel rates are applied.
- h. **Governing Meetings Policy**  
Changes to the Governance Meeting Policy are mainly in re-wording paragraphs for clarification, as well as changing job titles to current job titles. New to this policy are the following paragraphs; the first authorizes Council to make changes as was done during the pandemic.

In emergency situations, Council may authorize changes to regular meeting, dates, times, meeting venue including meeting format and approval processes. The public will be notified of these changes.

And the second one being the notification to public which would read:

Special Council meetings dealing with urgent or emergency matters may take place without notification.

The other change is in this policy is the wording "debendaagizid of e-giigdowaad" which is being changed to "egiigdowaad" which would be the reference for Council.

On page 19 the adjournment time would be 10:00 pm.

- i. **Christmas Distribution Policy**  
The recommendation of the policy committee is to allow any child 16 years of age and under to be eligible for Christmas Distribution provided that their application has been completed and that the Membership Department has determined that the child will be registered.  
  
The other change in this policy is re-wording of two sections where it speaks to the distribution dates and fiscal year.
- j. **Cigarette Quota Policy**  
It was suggested that a new clause be added that permits inspections to take place.

*Moved by Brian Couchie.*

*Seconded by Rick Stevens to approve the Policies; External Committee/Board Appointments, Conflict of Interest Code, Santa Fund, Donations, Collection of Accounts in Arrears, Small Business Loan, Honorarium, Governing Meetings, Christmas Distribution, and Cigarette Quota Policy, with recommended amendments.*

*Carried.*

**(d) Research Projects**

A summary memo and three briefing notes outlining research projects was provided to Council by Cameron Welch, Director of Lands and Natural Resources.

The three projects are: **Reassembling Ontario's "Near North": Reparation through University-Museum-Indigenous Research Partnerships, Historical Geographies of Colonial Encroachment: Tracing and Dating Timbers from Lake Nipissing to the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa, 1850-1880 (also known as the Booth Project), and Great Lakes Alliance for the Study of Aboriginal Arts and Culture (GRASAC).**

All 3 projects in question call for the creation of a digital repository that can be used to house documents and other materials digitally repatriated from locations around the world or to house NFN's own documents or artifacts.

For all three projects, the researchers have established relationships with a number of important museums through their past work and that they wish to continue to explore options for repatriation of objects, artifacts and records.

Recommendations from the standing Committee include:

- Sole ownership of databases and their contents by NFN
- NFN will establish its own standards for access to databases
- The researchers should provide software licenses to NFN and NFN must have the option to install the software on their own server in order to ensure that long-term governance of the databases is wholly in line with NFN's IT governance policies rather than those of a university.
- Partnership should provide training on the use of database software.
- NFN should identify the best uses of software for the Nation.
- Council appoint one or two members to participate in repatriation discussions directly with researchers and the institutions holding artifacts, objects or remains.
- NFN through the Research Steering Committees established for each project, express concerns related to using or privileging the colonial record to define NFN territory and land use.

After discussions Council approved the three research projects with recommendations. Council appointed Jane Commanda to two committees, and Brian Couchie to one.

*Moved by Jane Commanda.*

*Seconded by Brian Couchie to approve research projects, Reassembling Ontario's "Near North": Reparation through University-Museum-Indigenous Research Partnerships, Historical Geographies of Colonial Encroachment: Tracing and Dating Timbers from Lake Nipissing to the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa, 1850-1880 (also known as the Booth Project), and Great Lakes Alliance for the Study of Aboriginal Arts and Culture (GRASAC) with recommendations.*

*Carried.*

**(e) Fire Truck Purchases**

A briefing note was provided by Melvin McLeod, Emergency Services Manager regarding the replacement of the Fire Pumper for Duchesnay and the replacement of the Fire Tanker for Jocko Point.

During discussions it is noted that all avenues of additional funding have been explored, and that these items are essential and both over 20 years old.

Finance recommends the purchase the two trucks through the Trust Income Fund.

The cost will be approximately \$450,000.00

*Moved by Muriel Sawyer.*

*Seconded by Brian Couchie to approve the purchase of two fire trucks though the Trust Income Fund, estimated at \$450,000.*

*Carried.*

**(f) Virtual Pow Wow**

Council was provided with a Virtual Pow Wow update and budget for approval. Council requests that the Adult, Youth and Child Dancers be limited to 45 in each category.

*Moved by Brian Couchie.*

*Seconded by June Commanda to approve the Virtual Pow Wow plan and budget with requested change.*

*Carried.*

**10. STANDING ITEMS**

**(a) Annuities Claim**

There is no update since the last meeting.

**(b) Cannabis**

There is no update since the last meeting.

**(c) Employee Updates**

There is no update since the last meeting.

**11. INFORMATION ITEMS**

- Nipissing 2013 Boundary Claim Trust Third Quarter Newsletter.
- Remembrance Day ceremonies will be video taped in advance and provided to local schools.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

*Moved by Brian Couchie.*

*Seconded by Michael Sawyer to adjourn the NFN Council meeting of October 6, 2020 at 8:04 pm.*

*Carried*

***\*\*The next scheduled NFN Council meeting is Tuesday October 20, 2020, 7:30 Regular Session at the Duchesnay Multi-Purpose Building\*\****