



**COUNCIL AGENDA  
REGULAR SESSION**

**Nmebin Giizis (Suckerfish Moon), Niizh-giizhgat (it is Tuesday) 5, 2022.**

**Tuesday April 5, 2022: Zoom: 7:30 pm**

---

Present:	Gimaa (Chief)	Scott McLeod
	Aanke Gimaa (Deputy Chief)	Mike Sawyer
	Giigdonini/Giigdonini-kwe (Councillors)	Daniel M. Stevens Jane Commanda Joan McLeod-Shabogesic June Commanda Rick Stevens Tyeler Commanda
	Emyaa'wsed (CEO)	Brendan Huston
	Director of Lands and Natural Resources	Cameron Welch
	Strategic Advisory to Council	Dwayne Nashkawa
	Emyaa'wsenid Waadookaaged (EA)	Kimberly Salvaneschi (RECORDER)
	Online Guests	
	Alyssa McLeod	Anna McLeod
	Geraldine McLeod	Jesse Beaucage
	Natasha Lariviere	Shirley Restoule
		Darlene McLeod Judy Couchie Yvette Bellefeuille

---

**\*\*Call the regular session meeting to order\*\***

**1. OPENING MIIGWECHIWIN**

Councillor Mike Sawyer proved the Opening Miigwechiwin at 7:34pm

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA OF APRIL 5, 2022**

Defer Item 5. Adoption of Council Minutes of March 15, 2022 – being redone

Remove Item 7c - Matrimonial Real Property – addressed in closed session

Add Item 6.(a) Daniel Stevens.

Add Item 11.(b) Beach Memo

*Moved by Joan McLeod-Shabogesic.*

*Seconded by Tyeler Commanda to approve the Council Agenda of April 5, 2022, as amended.*

*Carried.*

**3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICT:**

Councillor Joan McLeod-Shabogesic declared conflict with item 9.(h)

**4. COUNCIL TRAVEL:**

None.

**5. ADOPTION OF COUNCIL MINUTES OF MARCH 15, 2022**

Deferred

**6. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS:**

Councillor Daniel Stevens informed council and the community that he is resigning from his position as councillor effective immediately. He has accepted the position of NFN Director of Education.

**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING(S):**

**(a) Councillor Meeting Report – Citizenship Law Report**

Councillor Rick Stevens provided an overview of this meeting.

- (b) **Councillor Meeting Report – West Nipissing General Hospital Report**  
Councillor Rick Stevens provided this report to Council that is issued by the

8. **REPORTS:**

(a) **Strategic Advisory Report to Council**

Dwyne Nashkawa provided council with an update.

**Cannabis Negotiations** - Continued communication with Ministry of Attorney General on cannabis file and NFN agreement negotiations. There is an Interim agreement in place. NFN continues to advocate for final agreement that recognizes NFN's jurisdiction. This is not anticipated until after the June 2022 election, Fall 2022 or early 2023.

**Nbisiing Power** – New logo is developed, and the CEO and sales staff positions should be filled by the end of April.

**Assisted Living** – Potential location in Duchesnay and Garden Village have been identified.

Waiting for report on site assessment and pre-design work initiated with 3rd Line Architects. Once this preliminary work is complete, we will plan community consultations – Likely in April and May 2022.

**Greenhouse** - Site location cleared in March 2022. Finalizing order with Growcer for the delivery of the greenhouse units. Plan to look at the hiring process by the end of April 2022.

**Bineshii Park** - Expecting confirmation of \$3M grant to support final development of the park from ISC in April 2022. Work on interim improvements to Osprey Miikun will be underway in 2-3 weeks (Road Widening and shoulder improvements).

**Roundhouse** - Working with CEO to retool this project and secure funds through new means and/or NFN own source revenues.

**Nipissing-Miller Limited Partnership** – The Yellek-Duchesnay Road project is temporarily shut down due to the Spring thaw. Full resumption of activities expected in mid to late May. There will be more employment opportunities. There is a short-term project over two years to resurface the highway and address deficiencies at the Little Sturgeon River bridge and Little Cache Creek Culvert. MTO Discussions - project is to maintain the existing bridge at Laronde Creek while the new bridge is constructed, and the road straightened out. It will not begin until 2024 at the earliest and will take 2-3 years to complete.

**Office Supports** – Daily check ins with CEO, supporting departments when required (Administration, Economic Development, Business Development, Governance) Chief and Council Supports – Regular check ins with the Chief, monthly reports to Council, supporting the Algonquin Claim, NFN Citizenship, Language and Culture, Election Code.

**Recommendations** - Communications with Minister Rickford and Attorney General to push for continued negotiations as a strategy not to lose ground on jurisdictional issues.

Propose meeting with Senior negotiators on Algonquin Claim file to express concerns with process for gathering data.

Ongoing Governance meetings with Council to identify how we get from “Present state” to “Future State” of self-government.

Maintain pressure on MTO to ensure Niobium Clean Up does not slide to next year.

(b) **Akii minwa Gii-zhaaknigewin Aanke Giigdownin (Lands & Bylaw Committee) Minutes of February 21, 2022**

Councillor Tyeler Commanda provided an overview of the committee meeting. There are no recommendations.

*Moved by Mike Sawyer.*

*Seconded by Joan McLeod-Shabogesic to approve the Akii minwa Gii-zhaaknigewin Aanke Giigdownin (Lands & Bylaw Committee) Minutes of February 21, 2022, as presented.*

*Carried.*

**(c) E-zhichikewin Aanke Giigdownin (Economic Development Committee) Minutes of February 28, 2022**

Councillor Joan McLeod provided an overview of the minutes. There are no recommendations.

*Moved by Rick Stevens.*

*Seconded by Tyeler Commanda to approve the E-zhichikewin Aanke Giigdownin (Economic Development Committee) Minutes of February 28, 2022, as presented.*

*Carried.*

**(d) Social and Wellness Committee Meeting Minutes March 2, 2022**

Councillor Rick Stevens provided an overview of the minutes. Rick noted that work is being done on an outdoor fitness center in both Duchesnay and Garden Village. More information to follow. There are no recommendations.

*Moved by June Commanda.*

*Seconded by Jane Commanda to approve the Social and Wellness Committee Meeting Minutes March 2, 2022, as presented.*

*Carried.*

**(e) Social and Wellness Committee Meeting Minutes March 9, 2022**

*Moved by June Commanda.*

*Seconded by Jane Commanda to approve the Social and Wellness Committee Meeting Minutes March 9, 2022, as presented.*

*Carried.*

**(f) Culture & Language Committee Meeting Minutes March 3, 2022**

Councillor Jane Commanda provided an overview of the minutes. Jane noted a couple of spelling errors. The corrections will be sent to administration. There are no recommendations.

*Moved by Tyeler Commanda.*

*Seconded by Mike Sawyer to approve the Culture & Language Committee Meeting Minutes March 3, 2022, as amended.*

*Carried.*

**(g) SCM – Governance Minutes March 22, 2022**

Chief McLeod provided an overview of the minutes. These are ongoing high level governance meetings to discuss how NFN governs itself and making improvements. Note: We do have a restorative justice regarding our Fishers Law. We are also currently involved in a restorative justice circle with Six Nations regarding a hunting violation.

*Moved by Rick Stevens.*

*Seconded by Tyeler Commanda to approve the SCM – Governance Minutes March 22, 2022, as presented.*

*Carried.*

**9. NEW BUSINESS:**

**(a) BCR's / Agreements to be signed:**

**i. Community Loan from Trust**

**BCR# 1959**

Brendan spoke to a briefing note provided by the Lands Department. Nipissing First Nation (NFN) Chief and Council has approved the purchase of improvements made to the 7.75 acer lot at 810 Highway 17, North Bay ON. These improvements are also known as "Sundown Ridge." The property contains a multifamily development containing five apartment units in a single two-story building that is 5,240 square feet. There are also three chalet-style buildings that are over 850 square feet each. NFN owns the 7.75 acres of land that the development sits. This loan will be used for the upgrade.

It is important to note that the approval of this loan is beneficial to NFN and its members. Loans are assets that make money for the trust through the interest payments. They do not devalue.

*Moved by Joan McLeod-Shabogesic.*

*Seconded by Jane Commanda to approve the signing of BCR #1959 Community Loan from Trust, as presented.*

*Carried.*

**ii. Community Development Loan Agreement**

*Moved by Joan McLeod-Shabogesic.*

*Seconded by Jane Commanda to approve the signing of Community Development Loan Agreement, as presented.*

*Carried.*

**iii. Promissory Note**

*Moved by Joan McLeod-Shabogesic.*

*Seconded by Jane Commanda to approve the signing of the Promissory Note, as presented.*

*Carried.*

**iv. Irrevocable Collateral Assignment Agreement**

*Moved by Joan McLeod-Shabogesic.*

*Seconded by Jane Commanda to approve the signing of iv. Irrevocable Collateral Assignment Agreement, as presented.*

*Carried.*

**(b) Indian Residential School Day Scholars Class Action**

Brendan spoke to a briefing note provided by Fred Bellefeuille, Legal Counsel that requires a decision by May 31, 2022, whether to opt in or not. The first part of the recent "Day Scholar" class action for individual band members who attended but did not live at these federally owned and operated these schools was reached settlement in June 2021. The court approved this settlement on September 24, 2021. Each day scholar is entitled to \$10,000 and a fund of 50 million was created to support healing, culture and language revitalization.

The second part of the recent day scholar class action involves bands and their collective loss to the community as a result of having members attend Indian Residential schools. This was missing from the other related class actions. This second part has yet to be settled and will go to trial in the fall of 2022 if not settled. Council decided to opt in and requested a review of the retainer required.

*Moved by Joan McLeod-Shabogesic.*

*Seconded by June Commanda to approve the recommendation to "opt in" to the Indian Residential School Day Scholars Class Action Gottfriedson v. Attorney General of Canada ("Day scholars") as presented.*

*Carried.*

**(c) Drinking Water Class Action Update**

Council was provided with more supporting documentation on the Drinking Water Class Action.

Brendan informed Council that a legal review of the release portion is underway.

**i. Power Point Presentation**

**ii. Settlement Agreement for Review**

**iii. Settlement Agreement Summary**

The Lands and Membership department is available to members for more information and supports.

**(d) Appointment to Advisory Committee**

Recommendation to appoint Alison Bellaire as a member of the Nishnaabemwin Committee.

*Moved by Tyeler Commanda.*

*Seconded by Mike Sawyer to appoint Alison Bellaire as a member of the Nishnaabemwin Committee, as presented.*

*Carried.*

**(e) NFN Cigarette Allocation**

Brendan reviewed a briefing note provide by Renee Commanda, Senior Finance Officer regarding the 2022-2023 Cigarette Allocation.

The total allocation is 39,131 Cartons of Cigarettes for NFN. We have 9 Stores qualifying an equal share of quota for the year, 1 store in their 3rd year who qualifies for 1000 cartons, and 1 store who is in their 2nd year also qualifies for 1,000 cartons.

*Moved by Jane Commanda.*

*Seconded by Rick Stevens to approve the proposed Cigarette Allocation as presented.*

*Carried.*

**(f) Covid-19 Budget Approval**

This is the last budget requiring approval. There will be a carry over of 1.4 million from the previous year. This will be used for band owned business supports and operational/building upgrades.

*Moved by Tyeler Commanda.*

*Seconded by Jane Commanda to approve the Covid-19 Budget presented.*

*Carried.*

**(g) Nbsiing Power Business Licence**

A briefing note from the business licensing committee recommends the approval the business.

*Moved by Mike Sawyer.*

*Seconded by Rick Stevens to approve the Covid-19 Budget presented.*

*Carried.*

**(h) Business Application**

A briefing note provide by Ken Hazell, Economic Development Officer regarding a business application was reviewed. Based on the environmental assessment and the erosion concerns, the recommendation is to not approve this business license request at this time.

*Moved by Jane Commanda.*

*Seconded by Tyeler Commanda to accept the business license recommendation as presented.*

*Carried.*

**(i) Retail Alcohol Survey Results**

Brendan provided an overview of a briefing note provided by Ken Hazell, Economic Development Officer.

There were a number of engagements with membership regarding this topic. A survey was also introduced to the community with approximately 170 responses. Based on the forums and feedback received from the community survey it is felt that these proposals are premature and insufficient to overturn the existing prohibition on retail alcohol sales and manufacture. The recommendation is to not lift the prohibition at this time.

*Moved by Tyeler Commanda.  
Seconded by Joan McLeod-Shabogesic to accept the business license  
recommendation as presented.  
Carried.*

**(j) Policy Review**

Brendan reviewed the proposed changes to three policies.

**i. Service Standards Policy**

This policy was developed in 2011 for the purpose of establishing service standards for both visitors and employees of NFN. Initially two policies were developed, the Service Standards Policy and the other Managing Angry and Aggressive Clients. In our committee's drafting of this policy, we combined and updated these two policies to create one Service Standards Policy. The appendix to this policy is the Guidelines that can be referred to in managing clients.

**ii. Funeral Assistance and Interment Policy**

This policy was developed in June 2014 and sets out policy for the Funeral Assistance Fund and guidelines for members when coordinating arrangements. This Policy was administered jointly with the Social Services Department and Lands Department. Effective immediately this will be administered by the Lands Department. Other than changes in wording, significant areas of change are, the addition of having "rough boxes being recommended." The \$100. cost for this, could be taken from the \$5,000. provided by NFN.

**iv. Hall Rental Policy**

The Hall Rental Policy has been in effect since January 2012. This policy has been re-written to include definitions and responsibilities for all parties. It also includes the booking process and rental costs. The appendixes to this policy is the Rental Rates (note that hall capacity limits will be included as they are received) and the Hall Rental Agreement Policy. The Donation Policy is also referred to as an Appendix, this policy only serves as an Appendix as this was already approved by Council.

*Moved by June Commanda.  
Seconded by Jane Commanda to approve the Service Standards Policy, Funeral  
Assistance and Interment Policy and the Hall Rental Policy as presented.  
Carried*

**10. STANDING UPDATE ITEMS:**

**(a) Annuities Claim Update**

Chief provided an update send from the RTH. The Provincial Government is now willing to negotiate. More information will follow.

**(b) Nbsiing Governance Implementation**

Council was informed of this items name change on the agenda. Going forward updates from the SCM on Governance will be place here on the agenda.

**11. INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**(a) Thank you card from a member**

**(b) Beach Memo**

**12. ADJOURNMENT:**

*Moved by Rick Stevens  
Seconded by Jane Commanda to adjourn the council meeting of April 5, 2022, at 9:15 pm.  
Carried*