

**MISSISSAUGAS OF THE NEW CREDIT FIRST NATION
INFRASTRUCTURE & DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

PUBLIC MINUTES

September 4, 2018

Start 9:35 am

Finish 4:15 pm

Chief Councillor

R. Stacey Laforme

Councillor

Erma Ferrell

Councillor

Cathie Jamieson

Councillor/Chair

Larry Sault

Councillor

Evan Sault

Councillor

Rodger LaForme

Councillor

Veronica King-Jamieson

Councillor

Stephanie LaForme

Executive Director

Cynthia Jamieson

Recorder

Charlotte Smith

DOCA Director

Mark LaForme

A/DSED

Spring Sault

PW Director

Arland LaForme

LMR Director

Margaret Sault

Education Director

Amanda Sault

Housing Program Director

Lorraine LaForme

Housing Clerk

Alicia Sault

Legal Counsel

Alex Monem

MCBC

Wade Griffin

Proposal Writer

Lewis Staats

Guests

Maryantonn Flumian, Scott Serson, Marion

Lefebvre

Band Members

Sonya Sault, Carolyn King

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – OPEN MEETING

Chair/Councillor Larry Sault opened the meeting at 9:35 am. Chair explained that Chief and Council went to LSK Elementary School to welcome the students back for the upcoming school year prior to the commencement of this meeting.

Chief R. Stacey Laforme said a prayer.

Everyone was introduced.

Chair/Councillor Larry Sault explained that this meeting will be somewhat different from the way the Council Meetings are normally planned.

Today is for planning and setting priorities.

As Leaders of the Community, Chair stated that the Monday Council Meetings are usually filled with Administrative Briefing Notes and Recommendations. Chief and Council will be moving away from that, but not entirely.

Scott Serson explained that if MNCFN is moving to self-government, Senior Staff need to know where Chief and Council are going.

The intent and motive according to the Chair is the need to push for constitutional reform.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 – REVIEW AND ACCEPT AGENDA

MOTION NO. 1

MOVED BY EVAN SAULT

SECONDED BY R. STACEY LAFORME

That the MNCFN Infrastructure & Development Council accepts the Agenda.

Carried

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 – GOVERNANCE PRIORITIES

Chair invited Maryantonett Flumian to speak. She is a seasoned Senior Executive in the government of Canada and the former President of the Institute on Governance.

Scott Serson is a former Deputy Minister of Indian Affairs and Advisor to AFN and many First Nations. He is also a former Chairman of the Institute of Governance.

Marion Lefebvre has worked over 30 years in Aboriginal and public governance. She has worked with numerous Aboriginal organizations.

Ms. Flumian highlighted the two day workshop at Niagara-on-the-Lake on July 30 – 31, 2018. The purpose of the workshop was/is to find a way forward regarding governance; how governance gets defined; how to translate MNCFN's priority. The MNCFN Community has to be engaged in all three.

With regard to the TARC Meeting, the end result is that Senior Staff and Chief and Council have to be involved. Timelines are to be discussed once per month for six months, and also have a draft of a Constitution. Holdfast Management Inc. (Maryantonett Flumian, Scott Serson & Marion Lefebvre) will facilitate the upcoming meetings for the next six months.

Alex Monem and Kim Fullerton (Legal Counsel) will be involved with the above meetings.

The first draft of a Framework Agreement is very generic so far.

Chair noted that the federal framework is from a government perspective. The government is going ahead without First Nations involvement. Ms. Flumian added that the federal framework is very contentious.

Alex Monem (Legal Counsel) put together a document on Historical and Modern Day Treaties. The legislation does not include First Nations. Chair questioned how do we as First Nations view sovereignty. Chief advised that we do not need government legislation as we have our own. We can rewrite history. Ms. Flumian added that inherent rights are yours and you should make up your own framework.

Chair reiterated that the 2021 budget from INAC regarding the Exploratory Table will end in 2021. He also questioned what do we tackle first with regard to the lawmaking process.

With regard to the Nishga Agreement, it was 23 years in the making. Ms. Flumian informed that the Nisga was looking for finality, but finality is not for New Credit. New Credit is not trading off historical treaties for modern treaties. The federal government policy has not changed.

Handout titled “Advancing MNCFN Governance/Inherent Rights Priorities Planning Session:

Executive Director stated that there is a difference between recognition and enabling. There is a need for consistency throughout.

Chief stated that the priorities of Chief and Council do not match with Administration. Ms. Flumian added that the Strategic Plan is very important to staff and Chief and Council.

Councillor VKJ informed that the word “citizens” is used, and it should be changed to “Band Members”.

Alex Monem (Legal Counsel) in at 10:45 am.

Ms. Flumian questioned Chief and Council where they would like to be in one year, and what do you want to achieve? Chief answered that we would like to have the Election Code completed as well as a Constitution; have the Strategic Plan up and running.

Executive Director questioned what is Chief and Council’s position going forward with the Mississauga Nations. Chief answered that the Mississauga Nations will have their own structure.

LMR Director agrees with the Chief that these things can be accomplished, but it will take time and everyone will need to change their mindset. She added that the Election Code is ready, but one section needs to be revamped. She further stated that there are no consequences for Chief and Council when they are wrong about something. Chief stated that we will need to do more workshops to retrain ourselves and staff. Chair reiterated that we need an Ombudsman. He also added that we need the blend of will and skill to do what needs to be done.

Ms. Flumian stated that within the Constitution there will be election laws, water claims etc. There is no finality of laws; there is no perfect law in the world.

Chair stated that there will be forces that will challenge our jurisdiction.

Ms. Flumian questioned Chief and Council to explain clearly your law making decisions, and start with the most practical thing you want to achieve; think your way through risk assessments.

See Page 4 – Councillor EF stated that Chief and Council should meet with the Mississauga Chiefs to discuss the Rouge and Williams Treaties. Chair noted that there is the Mississauga Nation Gathering on October 4 – 6, 2018.

A/DSED questioned if the waterfront land is a priority and Chief and Council agreed yes.

Councillor VKJ pointed out that at the CNE, people were asking “who are you?” when they came to the booth that was set up for MNCFN. She further questioned where does education fit in in terms of educating everyone on the history of New Credit.

After the lunch break was over, it was agreed that everyone would break into small groups and discuss what the priorities would be.

Councillor VKJ reiterated the need to educate everyone. Chief reiterated that Councillor EF is the Pillar Lead for education and outreach, and she is working on this.

Councillor ES suggested that someone prepare a one pager, and put it in the Toronto Sun, Star and the Hamilton Spectator. Ms. Flumian added that this would have to be developed first, and use a lot of detail.

Councillor VKJ informed that she would give the package that was prepared for the Pan Am Games to Ms. Flumian.

Chief stated that what is needed is an Education Authority or School Board. Councillor ES noted that he is meeting with Karl King at LSK on Friday, September 7, 2018 and Councillor will provide Chief and Council with a final draft of an LSK Education Authority Restructuring Document. Councillor advised that it should be called something different, and this will be discussed on Friday. Chief added that this is about education governance.

Chief stated that a Casino would come under the Economic Development Corporation.

Chief talked about Peacekeepers and creating our own justice system. Councillor VKJ suggested applying to the Indigenous Guardianship Program. Chief stated that we need to make our own rules.

Regarding Child and Family Services Chief questioned what the impact would be. Councillor ES added that Chief and Council need to have another meeting with Brant Family & Children's Services.

Regarding the LSK Expansion, PW Director informed that the design stage would take at least a year.

Councillor ES reiterated that Chief and Council are having an Information Session to the Community regarding medical vs recreational cannabis.

Further, Councillor ES would do the wellness side, and Councillor LS would do the wealth creation side. Where would the line be drawn? There are constitutional models already eg. Cree of Quebec, BC, Yukon etc. Councillor suggested that perhaps we could look at these models as an example and make up our own.

Chief questioned how we would deal with the Indian Bureaucracy that exists in Canada such as Chiefs of Ontario, AIAI, AFN etc. who take so much of our money. How far will we go to deal with this? Councillor LS informed that Chief and Council need to be at the table when discussing dollars eg. Chiefs of Ontario, AIAI, AFN etc.

Councillor EF questioned if we are using "Treaty Lands or Traditional Lands". DOCA Director replied that the Treaty Territory Map needs to be reviewed.

Councillor LS questioned how the Directors will move forward with the Strategic Plan and the Pillars. LMR Director answered that the Directors could become a resource.

Chief stated that one area he is concerned with is how will Chief and Council take their place in Ontario. Further discussion is needed.

NEXT STEPS FOR GOING FORWARD

With regard to the Constitution, Ms. Flumian stated that at least do a draft. Alex Monem (Legal Counsel) agreed, as well as the Chief, that a document is very important for people to see. At the September 28th TARC Meeting, would it be more helpful to have a discussion document or a draft Constitution? Ms. Flumian answered go for a draft with annotations. The earlier draft is not detailed.

Wade Griffin suggesting using a digital blackboard to upload and keep uploading.

Chair questioned when we would need to include Senior Staff. Ms. Flumian answered that the Senior Staff should be involved in the review of the draft. If the draft is seen on paper, then the editing can get started.

Ms. Flumian would like to see the Pan Am material, and the rights based Agenda.

There has to be a law making review of the current Election Code. The Election Code will be sent to Chief, Council and Senior Staff as well as Ms. Flumian, Scott Serson, Marion Lefebvre and Alex Monem.

DIRECTION NO. 1

That the MNCFN Infrastructure & Development Council directs the LMR Director to email a copy of the MNCFN Election Code to the following:

- Chief and Council, Executive Director;
- Senior Staff – Finance Director, SHS Director, Housing program Director, PW Director, MCD Director, A/DSED, ECC Supervisor, Education Director, DOCA Director, LD Coordinator, HR Manager, Proposal Writer, Special Events & Cultural Coordinator.
- Maryantonett Flumian, Scott Serson, Marion Lefebvre
- Legal Counsel – Alex Monem.

Ms. Flumian informed that there needs to be discussions on what Chief and Council should do regarding stewardship i.e. Chief and Council will do their own legislation; Peacekeeper and Security function would include policing your own affairs.

Alex Monem stated that there obviously would have to be a law drafted eg. archaeology. Stewardship would include law making regarding the Rouge Tract and environmental issues, DOE Table, Community Policing, Environmental Security Services etc. Law making includes archaeological guidelines regarding assessment.

Ms. Flumian informed that the MCD Department would play a huge role regarding marketing.

The Strategic Plan will need to be reviewed to identify earlier opportunities.

The Exploratory Table can be used to expedite land claim negotiations and urban footprints. Alex added that New Credit is already creating their footprint in downtown Toronto. This Exploratory Table process can also be used to resolve outstanding land claims.

A/DSED noted that something should be invested in Nation Building.

Alex pointed out that options can be explored regarding Nation Building:

- Develop collective strategy at the Exploratory Table;
- Framework Agreement;
- How to make the Urban Reserve work;
- Integrated Plan to be drafted.

Alex added that the Framework Agreement is very important from a process perspective, but this Agreement is only a draft right now. The key priorities are timelines, results and real change, capacity funding made available. This would lock down our discussion, and the timeline would be to get it done by the end of the year. He also suggested changing the wording in the document to “Nation to Nation” instead of government to government. Ms. Flumian stated that this Framework Agreement should be completed and signed sooner than the end of the year.

DIRECTION NO. 2

That the MNCFN Infrastructure & Development Council directs the Executive Director to convey to all the Senior Staff to be in attendance at the next TARC Meeting which will be held on Friday, September 28, 2018 in the Board Room at the Community Centre beginning at 10:00 am.

Guests were thanked for attending and providing their input.

Council moved to Agenda Item No. 4b).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4b) – HOSTING MEETING OF OECD (A/DSED)

A/DSED informed that there is a two-day session on Monday and Tuesday next. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) would like to use New Credit as a model for Economic Development. In attendance will be one Representative from the Mississauga Nations, Mark Sevestre, Two Rivers, and CCAB.

Council moved to Agenda Item No. 4c).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4c) – AFN MEETING IN OTTAWA ON SEPTEMBER 11 – 12, 2018

There is an AFN Meeting scheduled for September 11 – 12, 2018 in Ottawa. DOCA Director will be attending.

Council moved to Agenda Item No. 4a).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4a) – VISIT FROM MINISTER CAROLYN BENNETT (RSL)

Minister of Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Carolyn Bennett will be attending at the New Credit Community Centre on Thursday, September 6, 2018. Chief and Council along with Minister Bennett will be signing the Consultation Protocol. This Protocol came from the ITC Project. Approximately 20 people will be in attendance.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 – ADJOURNMENT

MOTION NO. 3

MOVED BY STEPHANIE LAFORME

SECONDED BY RODGER LAFORME

That the MNCFN Infrastructure & Development Council adjourned this meeting at 4:15 pm.

Carried