

**MISSISSAUGAS OF THE CREDIT FIRST NATION
LIFELONG LEARNING & AWARENESS & NATION WELL-BEING
COUNCIL MEETING
PUBLIC MINUTES
Tuesday, October 24, 2023**

Start 9:10 am

Finish 4:35 pm

Chief

R. Stacey Laforme (Excused)

Councillor

Erma Ferrell

Councillor

Ashley Sault

Councillor/Chair

Veronica King-Jamieson (Excused – at Chiefs of Ontario Meeting)

Councillor

Andrea King

Councillor

Fawn Sault (via Zoom)

Councillor

Kelly LaForme (Sick)

Councillor

Claire Sault

Ex. Dir. of Operations

Kerri King

Ex. Dir of Intergov. Affairs

Katelyn LaForme (via Zoom)

Ex. Dir. of Finance/HR

Alisha Anderson

Recorder

Charlotte Smith

Lifelong Learning Department

Patti Barber, Cindy Agius

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – OPEN MEETING

Chair/Councillor Andrea King opened the meeting at 9:10 am. LSK Drum Group was not available today.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 – REVIEW AND ACCEPT AGENDA & DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

MOTION NO. 1

MOVED BY ERMA FERRELL

SECONDED BY CLAIRE SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council accepts the Agenda with the following additions and deletions:

- Agenda Item No. 11 – Deleted;
- Agenda Item No. 12a) – Trunk or Treat (AS);
- Agenda Item No. 13 – In-Camera Item – Deferred to next Council Meeting;
- Agenda Item No. 26d) – In-Camera Item;
- Agenda Item No. 26e) – In-Camera Item;
- Agenda Item No. 26f) – In-Camera Item;
- Agenda Item No. 26g) – In-Camera Item.

Carried

There were no Conflicts of Interest on any of the Agenda Items.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 – REVIEW & ACCEPT THE PUBLIC MINUTES OF LIFELONG LEARNING & AWARENESS & NATION WELL-BEING COUNCIL MEETING DATED TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2023

MOTION NO. 2

MOVED BY CLAIRE SAULT

SECONDED BY ASHLEY SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council accepts the Public Minutes of Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council Meeting dated Tuesday, September 26, 2023.

Carried

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3a) – FYI – SUMMARY OF MOTIONS & DIRECTIONS FROM TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2023

This is an FYI for Gimaa and Council.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 – MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no Matters Arising from the Minutes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 – COMMUNIKIT APP PRESS RELEASE (THIS ITEM IS COMING BACK FOR FURTHER EXPLANATION AND APPROVAL) (KK)

Executive Director of Operations noted in her Briefing Note that she is requesting approval of the attached Press Release regarding the Communikit App.

In an effort to improve communications within the First Nation, MCFN entered into a contract to produce the Communikit App.

The app is ready to go, we just need approval on the Press Release. Communikit drafted the attached, and Georgia amended. Pending Council is ok with the attached, the Executive Director of Operations will finalize the launch contract and the app will go live. The Press Release will be used to promote the app to our Members.

There are some revisions/edits to be made in the app before it is approved.

DIRECTION NO. 1

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council directs the Executive Director of Operations that edits will be made to the Press Release, and will be reviewed by Councillor Ashley Sault prior to media release.

LSK Principal, Director of Lifelong Learning and Policy Analyst/Writer in at 9:40 am.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 – LLOYD S. KING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT (2022-2023) (DIRECTOR OF LIFELONG LEARNING)

Director of Lifelong Learning noted in her Briefing Note that she is presenting the Lloyd S. King Elementary School 2022-2023 Annual Report to Council for information purposes. This draft is the result of collaboration between the LSK Principal and the LSK staff. This document will be shared on the MCFN website for the Community and others to view.

We are sharing this Annual Report as information for Chief and Council (as Appendix A). This Annual Report will be shared with the Community online. It will also be shared with Indigenous Services Canada for negotiations purposes on a Regional Education Agreement for MCFN. If approved, this Report will be effective today, October 24, 2023.

James Medway, LSK Principal informed that this document is a work in progress. It is really important and it is a collaboration of efforts.

There are some errors and additions that have to be made to the Annual Report such as adding an extra line in all the columns titled “Total Number of Students”. It was noted that gender identification will not be added to this Report. Director of Lifelong Learning stated that “boys and girls” can be removed.

Councillor EF noted that we are a band operated school and we have more freedom.

MOTION NO. 3

MOVED BY CLAIRE SAULT

SECONDED BY ASHLEY SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council accepts the Lloyd S. King Elementary School 2022-2023 Annual Report as information. This Annual Report will be effective today, October 24, 2023 and the revisions are complete. And further, this will be shared online as well as with Indigenous Services Canada.

Carried

2nd Reading Waived

MOTION NO. 4

MOVED BY ERMA FERRELL

SECONDED BY FAWN SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council agrees not to identify gender in the Annual Report for 2022-2023 and other reports.

Carried

2nd Reading Waived

DIRECTION NO. 2

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council directs Gimaa Stacey Laforme to meet with ISC (Indigenous Services Canada) to discuss the need for identifying gender.

LSK Principal, Director of Lifelong Learning and Policy Analyst/Writer out at 10:00 am.

MOTION NO. 5

MOVED BY ERMA FERRELL

SECONDED BY ASHLEY SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council moved to an In-Camera session at 10:00 am.

Carried

MOTION NO. 6

MOVED BY CLAIRE SAULT

SECONDED BY ASHLEY SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council moved out of the In-Camera session at 10:35 am.

Carried

Director of Lifelong Learning back in at 10:35 am.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 – CHIEFS OF ONTARIO – BRIEFING NOTE – EDUCATION FUNDING CONSULTATION (DIRECTOR OF LIFELONG LEARNING)

Director of Lifelong Learning noted in her Briefing Note that she responded to the Briefing Note from the Chiefs of Ontario. See information below:

We are in agreement with some of the recommendations contained within the Briefing Note:

1. There is a lack of consultation (MCFN was not provided with the 2024-2025 Education Funding Consultation Guide until its attendance at the First Nations Lifelong Learning Table on October 12, 2023). The Ontario Ministry of Education is seeking feedback to education issues by October 27, 2023.

We agree, however; the Director of Lifelong Learning expressed at the FNLLT meeting on October 12, 2023 that if First Nations do not provide feedback, the issue of the reduction in funding for the Indigenous Education Grant may be deemed as acceptable to First Nations. Not providing feedback would result in not having the opportunity to the Ministry frame and guide the 2024-2025 Grants for Student Needs funding as it relates to Indigenous peoples.

2. The Chiefs and Technical Committee on Languages and Learning representatives will bring the overall issue of consultation and engagement to the First Nations Lifelong Learning Table Planning Circle (which has Ministry of Education officials as participants);
We agree.
3. The COO Education Sector will work with the Ontario Technical Table on the Interim Funding Approach (OTTIFA) and the FNLLT Collaboration Circle to undertake a fulsome review of the GNS as it relates to funding provision to support First Nations learners and present the findings to the Education Labour and Finance Division.
We agree.

October 20, 2023

At a Grand Erie District School Board, Indigenous Education meeting on October 20, school board administrators provided that under the existing Grants for Student Needs 2023-2024, the funding provided under Indigenous Grants was decreased. The number of Indigenous students determine the funding received by this school board. As MCFN is a small First Nation, it is believed that this disadvantages our Nation. The Director of Lifelong Learning also raised that this reduction in funding appears to be in conflict with the spirit of reconciliation.

October 23, 2023

A review of the funding for Grand Erie for 2023-2024 was conducted and it was found that funding under Indigenous Education Grants went from \$2,540,756 (in 2022-2023) to \$1,734,757 (in 2023-2024). This reflects a 31.78 percent reduction in funding for Indigenous students with Grand Erie District School Board. We understand that the Pupil Education Grant tops up funding where there are lower numbers of Indigenous students. At this time, it appears to be unclear as to how exactly this will impact MCFN students within the Grand Erie District School Board. A further discussion with GEDSB administration is needed.

Director of Lifelong Learning reiterated that the recommendations above were agreed to. She also stated that the Chiefs of Ontario are not providing input.

It was noted that Councillor VKJ goes to the Chiefs of Ontario Meetings quite a lot of the time, and perhaps she can bring a report to the Council Table.

Councillor EF stated that we have no choice but to say something. She wants history noted that we were not included and did not have a seat. Very recently GEDSB (Grand Erie District School Board) finally allowed us to have a seat on the Board.

MOTION NO. 7

MOVED BY ASHLEY SAULT

SECONDED BY FAWN SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council agrees to the following:

Given what was learned on October 20th and 23^d, the Director of Lifelong Learning would suggest that we provide information to the Ministry by the deadline of October 27, 2023 (see the responses in Appendix A) while indicating the current process of seeking feedback for the 2024-25 Education Funding is not considered proper consultation for MCFN. We are providing our comments but would like it to reflect that proper consultation was not given during this process. At this time and going forward, MCFN would like to be made aware of reductions in Indigenous grant funding and how the Ministry of Education will fulfill its obligations to First Nations as it relates to meeting students' needs in language and student success.

Carried
2nd Reading Waived

DIRECTION NO. 3

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council directs the Director of Lifelong Learning to work with Councillor Veronica King-Jamieson to review and correct Appendix A – Ministry of Education seeking feedback – Grants for Student Needs before it is sent back to the Ministry of Education by the deadline of Friday, October 27, 2023.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 – LLOYD S. KING & EARLY YEARS HUB PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS (DIRECTOR OF LIFELONG LEARNING)

Director of Lifelong Learning noted in her Briefing Note that she is seeking approval for the expenditure of Parking Lot Improvements for Lloyd S King (LSK) and the Early Years Hub.

As per part of the current Lloyd S King and Early Years Hub Expansion, the parking lot requires improvements in multiple phases. One quote for the work was received and accepted by the committee. Phase 1 details are attached per the quote from Gord's Contracting and Excavation as Appendix A. The total for the quote for Phase 1 is \$141,505.00 (One Hundred Forty One Thousand Five Hundred and Five Dollars and Zero Cents).

Parking lot improvements are critical to repair construction impacts, level the surface and increase parking spaces to accommodate the additional staff moving to the building as well as families attending the new sites.

This expenditure is to be allocated to deferred revenue, department 500300, account 58100. Gord's Contracting and Excavation is the preferred vendor of choice for this type of work and recommended by the Director of Public Works.

Director of Lifelong Learning will amend the preferred list and add Gord's Contracting and Excavation to the list.

MOTION NO. 8

MOVED BY ASHLEY SAULT

SECONDED BY FAWN SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council approves the expenditure for parking lot improvements for Lloyd S. King Elementary School and the Early Years Hub in the quoted amount of \$141,505.00 (One Hundred Forty One Thousand Five Hundred and Five Dollars and Zero Cents) from Gord's Contracting and Excavating.

Carried

2nd Reading Waived

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10 – BOARD OF LIFELONG LEARNING TERMS OF REFERENCE – REVISED (DIRECTOR OF LIFELONG LEARNING)

Director of Lifelong Learning noted in her Briefing Note that she is seeking approval of the Board of Lifelong Learning’s Terms of Reference (TOR). This is the second time it has come back to the Council Table.

Director of Lifelong Learning is seeking Council’s approval of the most recent version of the Board of Lifelong Learning Terms of Reference. We have highlighted in yellow the most recent changes for ease of reference. We are seeking that the TOR be effective immediately.

In the Terms of Reference it was suggested that Pages 3 and 4 will be removed.

The Terms of Reference will go to the Board of Lifelong Learning to be reviewed before it comes back to the Council Table.

Director of Lifelong Learning out at 11:35 am.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11 – STAKE HOLDER MEETING MINUTES: MEETING #41 (NIACON) (VKJ)

This item has been deleted until further notice.

SEPARATE ITEM – FIRE INSPECTION REPORT FOR THE NEW CHILDCARE CENTRE (KK)

MOTION NO. 9

MOVED BY CLAIRE SAULT

SECONDED BY ASHLEY SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council agrees that they are satisfied with the Fire Inspection Report for the new Childcare Centre, located at 659 New Credit Road, Building Number #3 and accepts the Compliance Certificate as written by the Haldimand Fire Inspector Richard Geerdink.

Carried

2nd Reading Waived

MOTION NO. 10

MOVED BY Ashley sault

SECONDED BY CLAIRE SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council moved to an In-Camera session at 11:40 am.

Carried

MOTION NO. 11

MOVED BY CLAIRE SAULT

SECONDED BY ASHLEY SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council moved out of the In-Camera session at 12:20 pm.

Council moved back to Agenda Item No. 12a).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12a) – LSK/ECC AED PURCHASES (KK)

Executive Director of Operations is providing an update regarding a health and safety purchase for Lifelong Learning for 8 Automated External Defibrillation units.

The attached quote was approved for purchase by the Executive Director of Operations, recognizing it was for health and safety purposes. Initially, it was believed that LSK/ECC would need 8 units based on sizing, but following the order being placed, it was realized that units could be transferred from previous locations. As such, our Workplace Health and Safety Committee will place additional units where necessary, recognizing that departmental health and safety budgets will be used to cover the costs.

More people need to be trained on how to use these units.

It is noted that the Executive Director of Finance/HR will forward a Verification of Funding Available.

MOTION NO. 12

MOVED BY ERMA FERRELL

SECONDED BY CLAIRE SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council acknowledges the purchase of eight (8) Automated External Defibrillation Units, in the amount of \$16,448.80 (sixteen thousand, four hundred and forty-eight dollars, eighty cents) to be used for departmental health and safety. Dollars will come from the relevant health and safety budgets of departments.

Carried

2nd Reading Waived

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12b) – WINTER CONTROL PURCHASES (KK)

Executive Director of Operations is providing an update regarding a health and safety purchase for Public Works for winter control supplies.

Council has provided the ability for EMT to approve time sensitive purchases deemed to be health and safety related.

The attached quote was approved for purchase by the Executive Director of Operations, recognizing it was for health and safety purposes. Ensuring the department has the necessary equipment available to effectively provide quality winter control is important, recognizing that slip and falls due to snowy or icy conditions put the First Nation in a position of liability. The equipment will be used to remove snow/ice and leaves from the entrances, walkways and playgrounds of primarily, the Childcare Centre, the Early Years and LSK.

Councillor AK stated, again, that the budgets/audit is not done, and we continue to approve dollars blindly.

Executive Director of Finance/HR stated that funds can be used from the Enterprise Fund.

MOTION NO. 13

MOVED BY ASHLEY SAULT

SECONDED BY FAWN SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council acknowledges the purchase of a Broom and Turbine Blower to support winter control within the Public Works department, in the amount of \$16,960.00. Dollars to come from the Enterprise Fund.

Carried

2nd Reading Waived

Council moved to Agenda Item No. 15.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 15 – IN-CAMERA ITEM – 2021-2022 AUDIT COMING BACK FOR APPROVAL AFTER REVISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE (AA)

Executive Director of Finance/HR noted in her Briefing Note that the Fiscal Oversight Committee met on October 23, 2023, to discuss the 2021-22 Audit that was presented at last week's Council Meeting. During the meeting last week, it was requested that MNP make some required changes to the draft statements. Those changes have been made and was presented to the Fiscal Oversight Committee, where they were satisfied with the changes that were made and agreed to have this brought back to the Council Meeting today.

The revised draft financials up to September 30, 2023, have been included in this package. It is noted with the financials that revenues for this fiscal year have not been recorded this year which attributes to the deficits that are shown and as the Finance Department is hopeful that we will have them entered for the next reports. The Committee reviewed the Departments as well as the Trusts and Pillars for the organization. The Minutes from the meeting were not complete at the time of the presentation and will share those in the next report for transparency purposes.

During the meeting it was discussed to bring the 2023FY Audit engagement letter to the table for approval to start the following year's audit as quickly as possible. The Engagement letter is attached for your review.

The Finance Team has reported that they are still very immersed in the audit work and will continue to do so until we have everything completed.

Further, the Finance Department reported that we have an outstanding Petty Cash reconciliation that needs to be completed with Pillar 4 Rep from the June 21st powwow and we would like to get this taken care of and reconciled as soon as possible.

MOTION NO. 14

MOVED BY CLAIRE SAULT

SECONDED BY ASHLEY SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council accepts the monthly financial reports and information as per the recommendation of the Fiscal Oversight Committee.

The Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Lifelong Learning and Awareness and Nation Well-Being Council approves the 2021-22 Audit as presented by MNP.

The Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Lifelong Learning and Awareness and Nation Well-Being Council approves the Executive Director of Finance & Human Resources to sign the engagement letter with MNP to start the FY2023 Audit.

Carried

2nd Reading Waived

NOTE: On Page 15 of the Audit, the word “Members” will be deleted.

Council moved back to Agenda Item No. 12c).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12c) – TRUNK OR TREAT (AS)

Councillors FS and AS have planned a Trunk and Treat Event. Councillor FS stated that a three hour rental of the Community Centre would be a nice gift for a door prize. It would be coming from her Pillar 3 budget.

LUNCH BREAK 12:25 TO 1:15 PM.

MOTION NO. 15

MOVED BY ERMA FERRELL

SECONDED BY CLAIRE SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council moved to an In-Camera session at 1:18 pm.

Carried