

**MISSISSAUGAS OF THE CREDIT FIRST NATION
INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL
MEETING
PUBLIC MINUTES
Tuesday, May 21, 2024**

Start 9:20 am

Finish 4:35 pm

Ogimaa-Kwe (Chief) Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor/Chair
Councillor
Interim Ex. Dir. of Operations
Recorder
PW Director
LM Director
Guest
MCFN Members

Culture & Events Manager
Culture & Events Assistant

Claire Sault
Erma Ferrell
Larry Sault (Away on other Council Business)
Veronica King-Jamieson (Sick)
Leslie Maracle
Fawn Sault
Jesse Herkimer
Warren Sault
Charlotte Smith
Arland LaForme
Delainie King
Jeffrey Smith from Niagara Reinforcement Line
Sonya Sault, Ashley Sault, Valarie King-Green,
Mya King-Green, Leo LaForme
Caitlin LaForme
Jai King-Green

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – OPEN MEETING

Chair/Councillor Fawn Sault opened the meeting at 9:20 am.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 – REVIEW & ACCEPT AGENDA & DECLARE ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST

MOTION NO. 1

MOVED BY LESLIE MARACLE

SECONDED BY JESSE HERKIMER

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Infrastructure & Environmental Stewardship Council accepts the Agenda with the following additions:

- Agenda Item No. 30a) – In-Camera Item;
- Agenda Item No. 30b) – In-Camera Item;
- Agenda Item No. 30c) – In-Camera Item;
- Agenda Item No. 30d) – Complaint from some staff and MCFN Members.

Carried

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

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 – REVIEW & ACCEPT THE PUBLIC MINUTES OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL MEETING DATED TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2024

MOTION NO. 2

MOVED BY CLAIRE SAULT

SECONDED BY JESSE HERKIMER

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Infrastructure & Environmental Stewardship Council accepts the Public Minutes of Infrastructure and Environmental Stewardship Council Meeting dated Tuesday, April 18, 2024.

Carried

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3a) – FYI – SUMMARY OF MOTIONS & DIRECTIONS FROM INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL MEETING DATED TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2024

This is an FYI for Ogimaa-Kwe and Council.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 – MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no Matters Arising from the Minutes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 – CHIEFS OF ONTARIO – ONTARIO REGIONAL CHIEF’S ELECTION (OGIMAA-KWE)

Ogimaa-Kwe brought this item to the Council Table and noted that we will need to decide which candidates we are supporting in the upcoming election.

The Chiefs of Ontario (COO) Annual Chiefs Assembly (ACA) and the Ontario Regional Chief’s (ORC) Election is scheduled for June 11 to 13, 2024 at Six nations of the Grand River First Nation. The theme this year is: Coming Together: Advocating for First Nations Sovereignty.

The ACA 2024 will be hosted by Six Nations of the Grand River First Nation, and it will be an in-person meeting only. There will be a livestream available.

Ogimaa-Kwe will be attending as well as Councillor Erma Ferrell.

Ogimaa-Kwe and Council have decided to move the Intergovernmental Relations Council Meeting to Monday, June 10, 2024 instead of Tuesday, June 11th, in order for everyone (Councillors) to attend the COO Conference.

MOTION NO. 3

MOVED BY JESSE HERKIMER

SECONDED BY ERMA FERRELL

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Infrastructure & Environmental Stewardship Council agrees to move Tuesday, June 11, 2024 – Intergovernmental Relations Council Meeting to Monday, June 10, 2024. Council Coordinator will check the availability of the Community Centre Board Room.

Carried

2nd Reading Waived

PW Director in at 9:25 am.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 – NEW ADMINISTRATION BUILDING – PROPOSAL TO UPDATE DRAWINGS & COSTS (PW DIRECTOR)

PW Director noted in his Briefing Note that a Motion of Council is required to acknowledge the New Administration Building Presentation from the Public Works Department (PWD) and authorize PWD to work with Arcadis to update the drawings and construction costs for the New Administration Building. Finally, to have a “shovel ready” design complete should any funding become available from ISC and/or other funding agencies.

In an organizational report conducted at MCFN it was determined additional office space was required in order to address the space requirements for day-to-day operations for efficiency and effectiveness.

PWD facilitated engagement sessions, which included a survey questionnaire over two (2) days on October 25 – 26, 2023 with IBI Group and MCFN Departments to garner input for consideration into the new Administration Building.

Newly elected Ogimaa-Kwe and Council see the need to move this project forward for MCFN Organization and more efficient work environment and space requirements for day to day business.

MOTION NO. 4

MOVED BY CLAIRE SAULT

SECONDED BY ERMA FERRELL

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Infrastructure & Environmental Stewardship Council acknowledges the New Administration Building Presentation from PWD and authorizes Public Works Department to proceed with updating the contract documents and construction costs with the original design consultant for the New Administration Building. Further, award a contract in the amount of SEVENTY THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS (\$70,300.00) signed by Chief Claire Sault and/or Warren Sault Interim Executive Director of Operations in the Chief’s absence to sign the contract once prepared with Arcadis (formerly IBI Group) at 410 Albert Street, Suite 101 Waterloo, Ontario N2L 3V3. Finally, to have a “shovel ready” design complete should any funding become available from ISC and/or any other funding agencies and for Council members’ use to lobby dollars for this project.

Carried

2nd Reading Waived

PW Director out at 9:45 am.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 – COUNCIL YARD SALE (EF)

Councillor EF noted that there are buildings behind the DOCA office have furniture from LSK and left over items from Wingers Cabinets etc.

Possible future plans for the above buildings can be renovated to include more office space for the Nation.

Councillor EF is seeking assistance from members of Council to volunteer their time for hosting a yard sale to clear out the items stored in these buildings, and further, will be asking staff to volunteer as well.

A start-up fund will be required to conduct the yard sale, as well as creating posters and advertising via the webpage.

MOTION NO. 5

MOVED BY JESSE HERKIMER

SECONDED BY CLAIRE SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Infrastructure & Environmental Stewardship Council grants permission to make arrangements for a yard sale to sell any item/items stored in the buildings at 4065 Hwy 6 South, Hagersville, ON.

AND FURTHER: An amount of \$150.00 (one hundred fifty dollars) will be provided to Councillor Erma Ferrell, for expenditures to conduct the yard sale; items to include posters, advertising, snacks, etc. Dollars will come from the Administration Budget.

Carried

2nd Reading Waived

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 – COVID FUNDING EXPENDITURES (WS)

Interim Executive Director of Operations noted in his Briefing Note that he requires Ogimaa-Kwe and Council to approve the final budget for the expenditure of COVID funding received from ISC in 2021.

In 2021, MCFN received \$648,000.00 in funding to mitigate the impacts of the Covid pandemic on the organization. ISC has requested expenditure of the allocated funds for the period ending March 31, 2024.

Administration has finalized the budget for the expenses in the amount of \$648,000.00 to be applied against the received funding.

MOTION NO. 6

MOVED BY JESSE HERKIMER

SECONDED BY LESLIE MARACLE

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Infrastructure & Environmental Stewardship Council approves the budget to finalize the expenditure of the funding received from Indigenous Services Canada in the amount of \$648,000.00 (Six Hundred Forty-Eight Thousand Dollars) and authorize the completion of contracts, agreements, payments, and transfer of expenditures as provided in the budget as follows:

1. MCFN Overtime Expense	Allocation of expenses in the amount of \$319,717 for overtime expense incurred for fiscal year 2023/24.
2. MCFN - Phone System Upgrade	Agreement and payment of Network Telecom in the amount of \$65,000 for Phone System upgrade for Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) service.
3. Administration Building - Front Entrance Renovation	Agreement and payment of Paulsan Construction in the amount of \$151,250 for renovation of the Administration Building Front Entranceway.
4. Administration Building - Kitchen Renovation	Agreement and payment of Wingers Cabinets in the amount of \$18,650 to provide cabinet for renovation of the kitchen. Agreement and Payment of YOG Construction in the amount of \$11,206 to complete kitchen renovations.
5. Administration Building - Flooring Install Carpet Removal	Agreement and payment of Brooks Flooring in the amount of \$13,112 to complete carpet removal, flooring Install at the administration building.

Carried
2nd Reading Waived

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8a) – PUBLIC RELATIONS UPDATE (WS)

Interim Executive Director of Operations noted in his Briefing Note that he requires Council approval to engage a Public Relations firm under contract, in partnership with the Mississaugas of the Credit Business Corporation (MCBC).

The Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation Council approved the Request for Proposals to engage a Public Relations firm to raise public, government, and corporate awareness of MCFN's rights within Treaty Lands and Traditional Territory, in February 2024. The development and implementation of the public relations strategy was to be administered and cost shared jointly with MCBC.

The RFP process was administered by MCBC on behalf of the two organizations. Eight firms responded including Cimoroni; Campbell Strategies and Media Profile; Castlemain – Argyle; Crestview Strategy; National; Counsel Public Affairs Strategy Corp.; Sussex Strategy Group Inc.; and the Fixers.

Counsel Public Affairs Strategy Corp’s proposal included John Beaucage, Principal, a member of the Wasauksing First Nation. The Fixers project team included Saga Williams a member of Curve Lake First Nation and Trisha Cowie, a member of Hiawatha First Nation.

A Joint Review Committee consisting of William Briscoe, Director MCBC; Neil Freeman Director MCBC, Lauren Samuel King, Director MCBC, Georgia LaForme, Communications and Engagement Lead, MCFN, and Warren Sault, Interim Executive Director of Operations reviewed the applications. The applications were shortlisted to four firms to be interviewed on April 19, 2024: Castlemain – Argyle; National; Counsel Public Affairs Strategy Corp.; and the Fixers.

Based upon the outcome of the interviews, the Joint Review Committee unanimously selected National as the firm best suited to meet the needs of MCFN and MCBC. The Joint Review Committee has since negotiated a Statement of Work with National to align with the originally proposed budget of \$200,000.00.

MOTION NO. 7

MOVED BY JESSE HERKIMER

SECONDED BY ERMA FERRELL

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Infrastructure & Environmental Stewardship Council approves entering into agreement with National public relations for the development and implementation of the public relations strategy to raise public, government, and corporate awareness of MCFN’s interests and rights within treaty lands and traditional territory, at a total cost of \$200,000.00 (Two Hundred Thousand Dollars). Administration of contract and costs to be shared equally with MCBC. Dollars will come from the Administration Budget.

Carried

2nd Reading Waived

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 – OTHER/NEW BUSINESS

There was no Other/New Business.

MOTION NO. 8

MOVED BY JESSE HERKIMER

SECONDED BY LESLIE MARACLE

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Infrastructure & Environmental Stewardship Council moved to an In-Camera session at 10:30 am.

Carried

MOTION NO. 26

MOVED BY JESSE HERKIMER

SECONDED BY LESLIE MARACLE

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Infrastructure & Environmental Stewardship Council moved out of the In-Camera session at 3:40 pm.

Carried

AGENDA ITEM NO. 30d) – COMPLAINTS FROM STAFF MEMBERS AND MCFN MEMBERS

Chair Councillor Fawn Sault had added the MEC (Major Events Committee) to the end of the Agenda at the start of the meeting.

At the commencement of the MEC (Major Events Committee) Committee Agenda Item, the Chair admitted MEC Committee VKG, MKG, AS, and LL. They were joined by Manager, and the Culture & Events Assistant.

Councillor Fawn began the Agenda Item by noting that she had not been informed that two Briefing Notes in regard to MEC were to be on the Agenda for the Special Council Meeting of Monday, May 13, 2024. The Briefing Notes were from the Culture & Events Manager regarding the booking of hotel rooms in Toronto during the CNE. Councillor Fawn questioned why she was not informed as to how this was dealt with, as she felt very strongly that she should have been informed as she is the Chair of the MEC Committee. The end result of the meeting on Monday, May 13th was that Councillor Erma Ferrell was directed to speak with the A/Executive Director of Intergovernmental Affairs and convey to him to take a more in-depth look at these Agenda Items. The request for the approval of contracts contained within the Briefing Notes was not approved.

Culture & Events Manager questioned why the approval of contracts was not granted, as they reflected the practice for hotel booking from previous years. She stated that the A/Executive Director of Intergovernmental Affairs had not addressed concerns with her.

Councillor Erma Ferrell, recognized by the Chair, attempted to answer questions from the Culture & Events Manager. However, discussions on the Briefing Notes were repeatedly interrupted by meeting participants which were not following Council procedures for rules of order.

Councillor Erma noted briefly that in January Council made a decision to try as much as possible to stay away from administrative issues. Directions were given to the A/Executive Director of Intergovernmental Affairs to deal with issues noted within the Briefing Notes.

MCFN Member VKG stated that it appears this new Council is attacking MCFN's cultural identity. Ogimaa-Kwe answered that the issues identified did not deal with culture.

Ogimaa-Kwe noted earlier that she had a previous scheduled appointment and had to leave the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 pm due to loss of quorum.

The Chair requested Councillor Jesse Herkimer to provide Council with an email in regard to the last item remaining on the Agenda.