

MISSISSAUGAS OF THE CREDIT FIRST NATION
FINANCIAL PLANNING & FISCAL OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
PUBLIC MINUTES
Tuesday, August 6, 2024

Start: 9:03 pm

Finish: 4:50 pm

Ogimaa-Kwe (Chief) Councillor

Claire Sault

Councillor

Veronica King-Jamieson (via Zoom)

Councillor

Erma Ferrell

Councillor/Chair

Jesse Herkimer

Councillor

Leslie Maracle (via Zoom)

Councillor

Fawn Sault (via Zoom)

Councillor

Larry Sault

Recording Officer

Charlotte Smith

Interim Ex. Dir. of Operations

Warren Sault

Guest from Fin. Management Board

Jason Peltier

MCFN Members

Sonya Sault, Pat Mandy, Carolyn King

Moccasin Identifier

Lauren Samuel

A/Ex. Dir. of Intergovernmental Affairs

Richard Karsseboom

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – OPEN MEETING

Chair/Councillor Jesse Herkimer opened the meeting at 9:03 am.

MCFN Member Sonya Sault in at 8:55 am.

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

MOTION NO. 1

MOVED BY LARRY SAULT

SECONDED BY CLAIRE SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Financial Planning & Fiscal Oversight Council accepts the Agenda.

Carried

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

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 – REVIEW AND ACCEPT THE PUBLIC MINUTES OF FINANCIAL PLANNING & FISCAL OVERSIGHT COUNCIL MEETING DATED TUESDAY, JULY 2, 2024

MOTION NO. 2

MOVED BY LARRY SAULT

SECONDED BY ERMA FERRELL

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Financial Planning & Fiscal Oversight Council accepts the Public minutes of the Financial Planning and Fiscal Oversight Council Meeting dated Tuesday, July 2, 2024.

Carried

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3a) – FYI - SUMMARY OF MOTIONS/DIRECTIONS FROM FINANCIAL PLANNING & FISCAL OVERSIGHT COUNCIL MEETING DATED TUESDAY, JULY 2, 2024

This is an FYI for Ogimaa-Kwe and Council.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 – MATTERS ARISING FROM COUNCIL MINUTES

There were no Matters Arising from the Minutes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 – SENIORS & YOUTH – INVITATION TO BE ON THE AGENDA THE FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

- a) **YOUTH WILL HAVE 20 MINUTES TO SPEAK;**
- b) **SENIORS WILL HAVE 20 MINUTES TO SPEAK.**

MCFN Member Sonya Sault was the only person (Senior) who attended today's Council Meeting. She provided some handouts that will be added to this item and the Public Minutes.

See handouts attached.

Sonya wrote a letter to Ogimaa-Kwe and Council explaining the situation of the Language Materials and Curriculum that happened many years ago. When the Language Committee dissolved, everyone scattered to the winds. Sonya was left to remove all the materials. There was nowhere to put them so she stored them in her garage.

Eventually, Sonya took all the materials and a cheque (as she was the Receptionist and taking care of the money) to LSK. It was now LSK's responsibility.

Another MCFN Member (Valarie King) posted some inaccurate information on Facebook that was not favourable to Sonya or her husband. Neither Sonya nor her husband stole any of the language materials contrary to what Val put on Facebook.

Sonya would like a public apology from Val via Facebook since it was Val who put the misinformation on Facebook.

Sonya informed that at the Monthly Community Meeting on Saturday, July 27, 2024, the Knowledge Keeper who spoke went on a lot longer than was necessary. She questioned if that was somewhat disrespectful since the Knowledge Keeper had a time limit. She believes that

when people have time limits to speak that person should stick to the time limit in order for the meeting to stay on schedule.

Councillor LS informed that there was some discussion with COO (Chiefs of Ontario) regarding Knowledge Keepers – they should be succinct and stay within the time frames.

Ogimaa-Kwe noted that COO is forwarding a draft of the role of a Knowledge Keeper.

Councillor LM disagreed and stated that a Knowledge Keeper should not be limited on how long he/she can speak regarding culture and tradition.

With regard to Christians having an opportunity to open the Monthly Community Meetings, Ogimaa-Kwe believes that it was not Christians who harmed Indigenous people, but it was the institutions eg. Catholic church, Anglican church etc. that did the most harm. She also noted that there are two Seniors (Christians) who would like to do an opening of the Monthly Community Meetings.

Councillor FS advised that we should be inclusive of everyone – Traditional people as well as Christians and people of other beliefs.

Councillor EF noted that the Traditional Knowledge and Land Use Coordinator is not a Knowledge Keeper, but is an academic.

Councillor LS questioned who is responsible for handing out the Land Acknowledgement as Councillor EF informed that some of our Knowledge Keepers agree that the Dish With One Spoon document is valid for MCFN, and she disagrees with this. Ogimaa-Kwe added that we have a good Land Acknowledgement which she forwarded to Council.

Councillor EF has a handout for orientation which she will send to everyone.

As a sidenote, MCFN Member Veronica Tobicoe would like permission to use the old day care centre for the rest of the canning sessions. Councillor EF answered that Public Works would have to be involved. Councillor LM noted that it is only for two more weeks. She will ask the Social Services Director if the building is free and could it be used for canning.

It is noted that the handouts which MCFN Member Sonya Sault will be added to these Minutes.

Council moved to Agenda Item No. 8.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 – FYI – INFORMATION PACKAGE: NAMING OF THE NEW PARK ON PATRICK STREET, IN THE RELIC LINEAR PARK SYSTEM (CS)

DIRECTION NO. 1

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Financial Planning & Fiscal Oversight Council directs Ogimaa-Kwe to rewrite the letter that is being sent to:

- Ceta Ramkhalawansingh, President, Grange Community Association via email to cetar@yahoo.ca.

Ogimaa-Kwe will request the assistance of the PR Group to help with composing the letter.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 – CARING TOGETHER WEEK (SEPTEMBER 15 – 20, 2024) (ADMIN CLERK)

Admin Clerk is requesting Council approval to make some changes to the Caring Together Week.

MOTION NO. 3

MOVED BY LARRY SAULT

SECONDED BY FAWN SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Financial Planning & Fiscal Oversight Council approved a three-day Caring Together Week event See below:

Three nights – Tuesday, September 17th to Thursday, September 19, 2024 beginning at 5:30 pm until 8:00 pm each night. Three major departments – DOCA, Social and Health Services and Lifelong Learning Department will take the lead. The smaller departments will assist. We will be having a meal, entertainment and giving out swag bags.

Carried

2nd Reading Waived

It is noted that the Interim Executive Director of Operations will provide the budget for Caring Together Week.

Council moved to Agenda Item No. 12a).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12a) – BEREAVEMENT POLICY (WS)

Interim Executive Director of Operations will bring this item back, once it has been revised, to the next Intergovernmental Relations Council Meeting on Tuesday, August 13, 2024.

Council moved back to Agenda Item No. 7.

Jason Peltier in at 10:50 am.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 – PRESENTATION FROM JASON PELTIER (WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE) REGARDING FIRST NATIONS FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT BOARD (CS)

Jason Peltier was introduced to Ogimaa-Kwe and Council. He is here today to present more information on the Financial Management Board (FMB), and the steps that MCFN Council would need to take to join this Board.

Jason noted the following in his email:

I've attached a copy of the BCR for your records where we included the names of each member of Chief and Council. The BCR has been sent requesting annex to the FMA.

Now that the FMA BCR has been submitted for processing, I have attached the following documents which are needed as next steps in creating the Financial

Administration Law (FAL). I am willing to speak on all the documents ether virtually or in-person when you see fit.

*Steps and documentation in the process:
Phase 1 (Exploration Phase)*

- 1. A Band Council Resolution to request a formal review by FMB. This document represents Chief and Council's instruction to FMB for a review of their Financial Administration Law ("FAL")*
- 2. A Letter of Cooperation with FMB. This is a legal non-binding document that provides us with the primary contacts designated to represent your community in the development of your FAL, which includes your lawyer and your auditor.*
- 3. After we receive the two completed documents in steps 1/2 , we will send you a funding agreement. That agreement offers \$7,500 to offset legal fees incurred in the development of the FAL.*

Phase 2 (FAL Review)

I have included a highlighted version of our current FAL Template which shows the gradual implementation process. The entire Law must be enacted but "comes into force" gradually. Yellow sections will come into force the day the Nation receives "Compliance Approval" from the FMB Board. Green Sections by Jan 1 2026 to become eligible for the 10 yr Grant. The remaining sections would come into force 3 years after borrowing from FNFA* or to become FMS certified. *Please note the 10 yr. grant and FNFA borrowing are optional programs. It is at C/C discretion whether or not to participate in either option.*

I have also attached an Execution version with Local Revenues. We recommend looking at this version. Here is some clarification and what it means in this context: With Local Revenues (Taxing) allows a First Nation the ability to tax NON members for rights and privileges on their land just like other levels of government currently do. Taxing NON members for access rights, Tobacco Tax, Hunting and fishing Licenses, 3rd party Business that wants to operate on First Nations land including any type of Tourism / Accommodation/ Businesses. These are just a few items that other First Nations are leveraging when it comes to taxing. There is no commitment to use this right at present, Chief and Council can choose to implement tax at any time once the Taxing version is utilized.

Once the FAL is signed and submitted and our board approves we coordinate to provide Capacity Development services at no charge. Should Mississaugas of the Credit meet the Financial Ratios and become Financial Performance Certified; Mississaugas of the Credit would be eligible to become a borrowing member of FNFA. <https://fnfa.ca/en>

I am also including a Quick Guide to the FAL. Please see attached.

Jason would like to know what Council's goals are for financial governance.

Councillor LS informed that he is up to date with all this information. He also noted that we have one of the largest settlements in the country coming up, and further, we have HONI as a guaranteed income.

Senior Director of Finance questioned Jason as to where the dollars are coming from. Jason answered that the dollars are coming from the government and we (FMB) have to report to them. Senior Director of Finance then questioned once the FAL (Financial Administration Law), is there additional pots of money that MCFN can apply to? Will we get preferential treatment? Jason replied yes that MCFN would have access to capital.

Councillor LS noted that the 10 year grant is geared to programming the New Fiscal Relations Act.

Jason Peltier was thanked for his presentation and left at 12:05 pm.

Council moved back to Agenda Item No. 6.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 – PRESENTATION (ATTENDING VIA ZOOM) FROM KATHLEEN PADULO FROM CHIEFS OF ONTARIO REGARDING THE CARBON TAX FILE (CS) (BACK-UP WILL FOLLOW)

Kathleen Padullo emailed that she was unable to attend via zoom as she is sick. Another time will be set up for her to attend.

Council moved to Agenda Item No. 10a).

Pat Mandy, Carolyn King and Lauren Samuel in at 12:05 pm.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10) – LETTER FROM PAT MANDY REGARDING THE MOCCASIN IDENTIFIER

This letter is an FYI for Ogimaa-Kwe and Council.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10a) – MOCCASIN IDENTIFIER (MI) TRANSITION AND COPYRIGHT PROTECTION (LAUREN SAMUEL)

Pat Mandy spoke first and presented Council with background information regarding the Moccasin Identifier (See part of Lauren Samuel's email below).

At a special Council meeting on November 7, 2022, Caitlin Beresford submitted a legal opinion recommending "...that MI be incorporated as a non-profit corporation." The opinion stated that it would address a number of possible legal risks as it relates to the MCFN, as a government and signatory to the MOU.

- Further, non-profit incorporation would also support the continued sustainability and longevity of MI.

This legal opinion was further supported by Waterous Holden Amey Hitchen via Brian Finnegan on October 28th, 2022 with detailed recommendations on how to proceed with incorporation.

- Since its inception in 2011, Moccasin Identifier has been financially supported through grant funding from:
 - Two Rivers Community Economic Development Centre;
 - Greenbelt Foundation;
 - Federal Economic Development Agency of Southern Ontario;
 - Ontario Trillium Foundation;
 - the Indian Residential School Community Engagement Fund and
 - most recently MCFN Community Trust.

- Self-sustaining fundraising efforts, donations and sponsorship arrangements with corporate partners is ongoing and continuous. This will be the basis for the future sustainability of MI. Moccasin Identifier incorporated on August 22, 2023 and recently held its inaugural Board of Directors meeting on May 15, 2024.

- Moccasin Identifier is preparing to mitigate any risk related to copyright prior to its transition as a separate entity.

- Moccasin Identifier aims to maintain a positive and mutually beneficial relationship with MCFN throughout the transition and onward.

- The non-profit corporation is proposing a relationship agreement with MCFN to establish communication protocol, continued involvement with MCFN staff departments and the community, mutual recognition, and more.

- Draft agreement terms have been developed for MCFN Chief and Council's review and consideration.

Interim Executive Director of Operations noted that the Relationship Agreement has not been completed yet, and Brian Finnigan (Legal Counsel) referred us to another lawyer.

Regarding the "Official Mark" Lauren informed that only a public authority can approve an official mark; MCFN Council are the public authority and they will own the official mark.

Interim Executive Director of Operations informed that we are looking for agreements with Phil Cote. Councillor EF suggested that we not approve anything today in case Phil Cote is going to sue us.

Lauren and Interim Executive Director of Operations will work on a draft of the agreement and bring it back to the Council Table.

Interim Executive Director of Operations stated that he will address Phil's items with the lawyer as well as keeping Lauren up to date.

Pat Mandy, Carolyn King and Lauren Samuel had lunch with Ogimaa-Kwe and Council and left at 1:10 pm.

Nadine LaForme in at 1:10 pm.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11 – NADINE LAFORME TO PRESENT AN UPDATE ON PEACEKEEPERS PROGRAM

Peacekeeper Coordinator (Nadine LaForme) noted in her Briefing Note that the Peacekeepers Sub-Committee is seeking Council approval to obtain Peacekeepers training, equipment and uniforms from ISN-MASKWA. ISN-MASKWA will also assist with policy and procedures for MCFN Peacekeepers Program, and there is also an option for ISN-MASKWA to provide a Comprehensive Policy and Procedure document at an additional cost.

An application for funding for the Peacekeepers program was made to the Pathways to Safe Indigenous Communities Initiative (ISC) in 2023. ISC approved MCFN's funding application for the amount of \$2,476,221.00 over the course of 2023-2026. Attached to this Briefing Note is the Pathways to Safe Indigenous Communities Initiative revised Budget and Workplan. We did not meet full expenditure for 2023/24 fiscal and requested carryover. The carryover amount allows us to accommodate the cost of training and equipment.

Councillor LS stated that peacekeepers do not carry guns, nor can they deal with murder.

Property owners have a tendency to tell Council to mind their own business. Ogimaa-Kwe suggested sending the property owners letters.

MCFN Member Carolyn King suggested putting up no trespassing signs.

Nadine reminded Council that her contract ends in August. Councillor EF questioned who would do Nadine's job when she leaves.

Further to the above, Ogimaa-Kwe stated that we have to fix the Residency By-Law.

Councillor VKJ left the meeting at 1:30 pm.

MOTION NO. 4

MOVED BY LESLIE MARACLE

SECONDED BY FAWN SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Financial Planning & Fiscal Oversight Council approve contracting ISN-MASKWA for training, equipment and uniform for MCFN's Peacekeepers Program, and for MCFN to utilize the basic policy and procedures included with the training. It is noted that up to \$275,000.00 (Two Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars) will be provided for expenses. It is further recommended that Ogimaa-Kwe Claire Sault sign the Letter of Engagement.

Carried

2nd Reading Waived

DIRECTION NO. 2

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Financial Planning & Fiscal Oversight Council directs the A/Executive Director of Intergovernmental Affairs to bring to the next Council Meeting on Tuesday, August 13, 2024 (Intergovernmental Relations Council) Nadine's contract as Peacekeeper Coordinator.

Nadine LaForme out at 1:50 pm.

MOTION NO. 5

MOVED BY CLAIRE SAULT

SECONDED BY LESLIE MARACLE

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Financial Planning & Fiscal Oversight Council moved to an In-Camera session at 1:50 pm.

Carried