

MISSISSAUGAS OF THE CREDIT FIRST NATION
FINANCIAL PLANNING & FISCAL OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
PUBLIC MINUTES
Tuesday, July 8, 2025

Start: 9:30 am

Finish: 3:15 pm

Ogimaa-Kwe (Chief) Councillor
Councillor
Councillor/Chair
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Recording Officer
Sr. Dir. of Intergov. Affairs
Senior Director of Operations
Social Services Director
Lifelong Learning Director
Summer Students

Claire Sault
Erma Ferrell
Jesse Herkimer
Leslie Maracle (Joined the meeting via Teams)
Fawn Sault
Larry Sault
Ashley Sault (Vacation)
Charlotte Smith
Mark LaForme
Veronica King-Jamieson
Yvonne Bomberry
Patti Barber
Richie Sault, Jake LaForme & Quinn LaForme

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – OPEN MEETING

Chair/Councillor Jesse Herkimer opened the meeting at 9:30 am.

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

MOTION NO. 1

MOVED BY FAWN SAULT

SECONDED BY LARRY SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Financial Planning & Fiscal Oversight Council accepts the Agenda with the following addition:

- Agenda Item No. 22c) – In-Camera Item.

Carried

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

Senior Director of Intergovernmental Affairs in at 9:30 am.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 – REVIEW AND ACCEPT THE PUBLIC MINUTES OF FINANCIAL PLANNING & FISCAL OVERSIGHT COUNCIL MEETING DATED TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025

MOTION NO. 2

MOVED BY LARRY SAULT

SECONDED BY FAWN SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Financial Planning & Fiscal Oversight Council accepts the Public Minutes of Financial Planning & Fiscal Oversight Council Meeting dated Tuesday, June 3, 2025.

Carried

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3a) – REVIEW & ACCEPT PUBLIC MINUTES OF LIFELONG LEARNING & AWARENESS & NATION WELL-BEING COUNCIL MEETING DATED TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2025

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 accepts the Public Minutes of Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council Meeting dated Tuesday, May 27, 2025.

Carried

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3b) – SUMMARY OF MOTIONS & DIRECTIONS FROM LIFELONG LEARNING & AWARENESS & NATION WELL-BEING COUNCIL MEETING DATED TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2025

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

Three summer students – Richie Sault, Jake LaForme and Quinn LaForme were invited to introduce themselves to Ogimaa-Kwe and Council. They are here for the summer working in various departments and will be returning to school in September. Council warmly welcomed them.

Senior Director of Operations in at 9:15 am.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 – 7 GENERATIONS PLAN (VKJ)

Ogimaa-Kwe brought this item to the Council Table as the Senior Staff, Directors and staff will all need to be informed of this before it goes out to the Community.

Senior Director of Operations has already shared the Plan with her staff (Housing, Lifelong Learning, Health Services, Social Services and the Public Works Department. Senior Director

of Operations noted in her email that it would be beneficial for all staff to hear what is happening with each department and be informed so we have the knowledge to share this information with Members.

Councillor LS stated that the Pillars would be left out of this presentation. However, Councillor FS disagrees.

Ogimaa-Kwe advised that we need a date and move forward.

DIRECTION NO. 1

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Financial Planning & Fiscal Oversight Council directs the Admin Clerk (Marlene Morton) to arrange a professional development day with Senior Staff, Directors, all staff and Chief and Council for review and discussion of the 7 Generations Plan.

Senior Director of Operations out at 9:55 am.

Council moved to Agenda Item No. 11.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11 – RESPONSE TO HALDIMAND PRESS ARTICLE (JH)

Councillor JH noted in his Briefing Note that a recent article was published in *The Haldimand Press* (June 26, 2025) regarding MCFN's Addition to Reserve (ATR) request for 300 acres near Hagersville is defamatory, one-sided, and contains racially insensitive undertones. The article omits MCFN's voice and frames the ATR process as a threat to municipal interests, which undermines our Nation's rights and governance.

On May 26, 2025, MCFN submitted an ATR request to the federal government for a parcel of land totaling approximately 300 acres on the east side of Highway 6, near Hagersville. Haldimand County received official notice from Indigenous Services Canada and subsequently brought the matter forward at their June 17, 2025 Council Meeting. Concerns shared by County staff included the potential loss of tax revenue, municipal jurisdiction, and employment land supply.

The Haldimand Press published an article on June 26, 2025 summarizing Haldimand's internal discussions. However, the article failed to include any perspective or comment from MCFN. The framing reinforces harmful narratives by positioning the ATR request as disruptive rather than honouring it as a rightful, legal, and necessary step in the reclamation of our lands.

Councillor EF suggested that our response should be a part of our history.

Councillor LS stated that the whole issue is Haldimand County has no veto power. He also questioned if the Haldimand Press is on board with LaFarge.

Senior Director of Intergovernmental Affairs suggested that Councillor JH should meet with Mayor Shelley Ann Bentley and get something in writing.

Councillor LS stated that First Nations are advocating the ATR process and should not have to pay any taxes. He stated that we should just let "sleeping dogs lie" and do nothing, especially in view of our land claim settlements and the litigation with Six Nations. Ogimaa-Kwe agrees.

Councillor JH wants to meet with the Haldimand Press. Councillor LS suggested that Councillor JH meet with the owner of the paper instead of the journalist.

Council moved back to Agenda Item No. 7.

Director of Lifelong Learning in at 10:30 am.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 – INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES AND CULTURES PROGRAM, FIRST NATIONS CONFEDERACY OF CULTURAL EDUCATION CENTRES INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES AND CULTURE PROGRAM (PB)

Director of Lifelong Learning is requesting Council to accept funds from Heritage Canada First Nations Confederacy of Cultural Education Centres in the amount of \$100,000.00 for the 2025-2026 fiscal year (this will be for one year).

The funds will need to be expended by March 31, 2026, and by accepting the funds and signing the agreement MCFN agrees to adhere to all requirements outlined in the agreement.

Director of Lifelong Learning stated that another department can create the language program. Education does not have to do this. Also, Department of Lifelong Learning is accepting the dollars only.

MOTION NO. 4

MOVED BY LARRY SAULT

SECONDED BY FAWN SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Financial Planning & Fiscal Oversight Council approves, accepts and signs off on the 2025-2026 single year funding of \$100,000.00 (One hundred thousand dollars and zero cents) from First Nations Confederacy of Cultural Education (FNCCEC), to create a comprehensive five-year language plan development. And further, AIAI will be consulted on this plan.

Carried

2nd Reading Waived

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 – SEEKING APPROVAL TO ACCEPT FUNDS FROM THE BREAKFAST CLUB OF CANADA (PB)

Director of Lifelong Learning noted in her Briefing Note that her department is requesting approval to accept the funds from the Breakfast Club of Canada of \$9,075.00 (Nine thousand and seventy-five dollars and zero cents) for fiscal 2025-2026 to support providing breakfast to our elementary students. The agreement between Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the Breakfast Club of Canada has already been signed.

MOTION NO. 5

MOVED BY LARRY SAULT

SECONDED BY ERMA FERRELL

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Financial Planning & Fiscal Oversight Council approves acceptance of the funds from the Breakfast Club of Canada in the amount of \$9,075.00 (Nine Thousand and Seventy-five Dollars and Zero Cents) for fiscal 2025-2026. These dollars will help support our elementary school breakfast program for the benefit of the students to have a greater positive impact on their lives and on their learning.

Carried

2nd Reading Waived

Social Services Director in at 10:45 am.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 – CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR)

Social Services Director (Yvonne Bomberry) noted in her Briefing Note that she is requesting approval of a case management system for MCFN Social Services.

The Social Services staff currently use paper files for clients. The previous Director of Social & Health Services purchased a Health Case Management System in 2021 and directed the Social Services staff to use it. Staff were unable to use it because of so many issues.

Social Services Director was instructed to research case management systems and submit quotes in 2022. We received quotes and demonstrations from two (2) different companies. Rheo Solutions provided the quote that we chose. These quotes were included with the CWJI spending plans for 2023 and 2024.

Rheo Solutions has provided an updated quote (attached as appendix B). The current quote has a one-time charge of \$70,147.49 for the technology, installation, and training. The annual cost after that is \$25,702.76. The cost of the Case Management System will be covered by the Social Services prevention budget.

Councillor LS questioned why there was only one quote.

Director of Social Services answered that they have two quotes, but felt that this quote was the best one to invest in. Councillor LS would like to see the other quote.

This item was placed on hold until the Social Services Director comes back to the meeting with a second quote.

Social Services Director and Lifelong Learning Director out at 10:52 am.

MOTION NO. 6

MOVED BY FAWN SAULT

SECONDED BY ERMA FERRELL

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Financial Planning & Fiscal Oversight Council moved to an In-Camera session at 10:54 am.

Carried

MOTION NO. 8

MOVED BY LARRY SAULT

SECONDED BY FAWN SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Financial Planning & Fiscal Oversight Council moved out of the In-Camera session at 12:15 pm.

Carried

SED Director in at 12:15 pm.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 13 – PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHING THE PROPERTY
MAINTENANCE TEAM JOINTLY MANAGED BY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
HOUSING (SED DIRECTOR)**

SED Director is requesting approval of the creation of a Property Maintenance Team jointly managed by Economic Development Department and Housing Department.

There has never been a Property Maintenance Team to effectively maintain housing rentals and commercial properties. This is a critical need that needs to be addressed to ensure prompt proper proactive maintenance. The absence of such a team poses a continued financial challenge.

SED Director is proposing the creation of a maintenance team as listed below:

- Property Maintenance Manager \$68,250.00 yearly (\$35.00 per hour)
- Property Maintenance Staff \$64,350.00 yearly (\$33.00 per hour)
- Property Staff Cleaner \$58,500.00 yearly (\$30.00 per hour)
- Property Maintenance Admin. Assistant \$54,600.00 yearly (\$28.00 per hour)

Councillor LS stated that this does not make sense as the Manager has to have a different role. He also stated that we need more details on the Job Descriptions.

Ogimaa-Kwe informed SED Director to just keep using the contract people at this time.

DIRECTION NO. 3

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Financial Planning & Fiscal Oversight Council directs the Senior Director of Operations and SED Director to continue refining the Job Descriptions which the SED Director brought to the Council Table today.

It is also noted that the SED Department and Housing Department will continue to work with contractors at this time.

SEPARATE ITEM – REPORT OF DRUG HOUSES ON MCFN TERRITORY (VKJ)

Senior Director of Operations informed that another drug house popped up on the First Nation. Everyone knows who it is. In addition, trailers that are operating drug houses are popping up in people's laneways.

Councillor EF questioned if this person has a probation officer.

Senior Director of Operations reiterated that the Peacekeepers and the OPP are already involved.

Senior Director of Operations out at 1:30 pm.

Council moved to Agenda Item No. 15a).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 15a) – DUTY OF CONSULTATION BUILDING UPDATES (EF)

Councillor EF noted in her Briefing Note that, once again, she is questioning what is happening with the DOCA building behind the DOCA office and wonders why it has not been inspected by OFNTC.

Senior Director of Intergovernmental Affairs should be consulted to provide input on what is needed for his staff at DOCA. For example, should the building be renovated or tore down and new offices built.

Further, a Direction should be given to the SED Director to follow up on what should be recommended for the buildings behind the DOCA offices.

MOTION NO. 9

MOVED BY LARRY SAULT

SECONDED BY ERMA FERRELL

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Financial Planning & Fiscal Oversight Council directs Dale Sault/Sustainable Economic Development Director to review the recommendations from Ontario First Nations Technical Services and the Environmental Assessment that was completed in 2023.

Carried

2nd Reading Waived

SED Director out at 1:40 pm.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12 – ANNUAL REPORTS APPROVAL (ADMIN CLERK)

MOTION NO. 10

MOVED BY LARRY SAULT

SECONDED BY ERMA FERRELL

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Financial Planning & Fiscal Oversight Council accepts the Annual Reports of 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 as information.

Carried

2nd Reading Waived

AGENDA ITEM NO. 15b) – UPDATE ON OFNLP (EF)

Councillor EF noted the following in her Briefing Note:

The 18th Annual OFNLP was held on Thursday June 26, 2025, at the Toronto Airport Marriott Hotel. I attended as a Proxy for the MCFN.

The MCFN annual OFNLP Audit is due annually on July 31st. It is my understanding our Chief Financial Officer has completed the OFNLP Audit for 2024.

There are First Nations who are late with their Audits and gaming dollars will be held until the Audits are submitted. As per the Gaming Agreement the First Nations are listed as "Non-Compliant". After a specific number of years, the First Nations who have not submitted their annual Audits will lose their funds and the funds will be divided up with the Member Nations who are compliant.

It was brought to the attention of the First Nation Members that quorum was only met by a few Members present (including Proxies) and if some Chiefs cannot attend the annual meeting they should be sending a Proxy.

The Gaming dollars can be spent on: (1) Community Development (includes housing), (2) Health, (3) Education (4) Culture Development and (5) Interim Investments.

The current Gaming Agreement will expire in eight years and negotiations can begin in six years.

The OFNLP has 5 Directors who are voted in to manage the Agreement and assist the First Nations with any questions and their Audits. The First Nations are encouraged to reach out the Director for assistance.

Councillor LS stated that this will require some action. We are non-compliant and we are in jeopardy regarding these dollars. We need to make sure the audit is done and sent to OFNLP.

DIRECTION NO. 4

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Financial Planning & Fiscal Oversight Council directs the Chief Financial Officer to confirm up to date audits with OFNLP for compliance reasons (this is the internal audit, not MCFN's audit).

MOTION NO. 11

MOVED BY LARRY 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 2:20 pm.

Carried