

**MISSISSAUGAS OF THE CREDIT FIRST NATION
INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL
MEETING
PUBLIC MINUTES
Tuesday, January 23, 2024**

Start 9:05 am

Finish 5:00 pm

Gimaa-Kwe (Chief) Councillor

Councillor

Councillor

Councillor/Chair

Councillor

Councillor

Councillor

Councillor

Executive Director of Operations

Recorder

Ex. Dir. of Intergov. Affairs

Ex. Dir. of Finance/HR

Claire Sault

Erma Ferrell (via Zoom)

Larry Sault

Rodger LaForme

Veronica King-Jamieson (via Zoom)

Leslie Maracle (via Zoom)

Fawn Sault (Sick)

Jesse Herkimer

Kerri King (recorded today's meeting)

Charlotte Smith (snow day)

Katelyn LaForme

Alisha Anderson (Excused)

NOTE: Today was the day (Tuesday, January 23, 2024) that staff had a snow day. Kerri recorded the whole day. The next day when I came to work I had to listen to the whole recording to do the Minutes – Motions/Directions, discussions etc. There were many times when I could not hear what was being said. If there are mistakes, please be patient with me.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – OPEN MEETING

Chair/Councillor Rodger LaForme opened the meeting at 9:07 am.

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

MOTION NO. 1

MOVED BY LARRY SAULT

SECONDED BY ERMA FERRELL

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

- Agenda Item No. 12 – Will come back to the next Council Meeting on Tuesday, January 30, 2024;
- Agenda No. 13 – Deleted;
- Agenda Item No. 20a) – Community Meetings (EF);
- Agenda Item No. 15 - Will come back to the next Council Meeting on Tuesday, January 30, 2024 (VKJ);
- Agenda Item No. 16 - Will come back to the next Council Meeting on Tuesday, January 30, 2024 (VKJ);
- Agenda Item No. 29b) – In-Camera Item (FS);

Carried

When we get to Agenda Item No. 29a) Councillor Rodger LaForme will excuse himself because of a Conflict of Interest.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 – REVIEW & ACCEPT THE PUBLIC MINUTES OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL MEETING DATED TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2023

NOTE: This Minutes were not approved as there are some errors, and the In-Camera items need to be separated from the Public items. These Minutes will be added to next month's meeting for approval.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 – MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no Matters Arising from the Minutes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 – CHIEF'S 10 PRIORITIES FOR MCFN (OGIMAA-KWE CLAIRE SAULT)

This was an Update from Ogimaa-Kwe Claire Sault for Council.

Ogimaa-Kwe listed her 10 priorities as follows:

- New Credit Constitution – this will be discussed on February 24, 2024;
- Housing & Infrastructure;
- Investments and Business Deals – this is in the works;
- New Credit Plaza and Gas Bar – Building of a new Gas Station Complex – Quotes are coming back;

- Governance of MCFN – Significant and measureable objects will, hopefully, be established within 60 days;
- Transparency of our Government – We need to bring our structure and processes into current time;
- Upcoming Land Settlements – More discussion is needed with Membership;
- Residency and Membership – We need to bring our Residency By-Law back to the forefront;
- Dignity of our Seniors – We need to make a list of who (Chief & Council) will be visiting our Seniors at least once per month;
- Election Process for all Members – Rules need to be fixed to maximize Member participation.

Councillor LM reiterated that we need to be transparent with each other.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 – CHIEFS OF ONTARIO DEAL ON HYDRO ONE SHARES (COUNCILLOR JH & OGIMAA-KWE CLAIRE SAULT)

Councillor JH noted in his Briefing Note, which was prepared by MCBC and Councillor Herkimer, that this item comes up as a result of a conversation MCBC had with Cherie Brant, a lawyer (now at BLG) who acted for Chiefs of Ontario in the Hydro One Limited share sale Ontario First Nations. Cherie Brant told MCBC that MCFN was only one of three First Nations not to take part in the share offering that closed on December 29, 2017, but there may be an avenue to still get the shares. MCBC indicated that MCFN has an interest in exploring whether the shares could be obtained.

This pursuit is important because, at the time, the shares were trading ~\$22 and the special share offering for First Nations was \$18. While there was a five-year hold on the shares, there was nonetheless an initial appreciation of share value of \$4 at the get go. The shares are now trading at \$38, which is an 111% increase. See the graph. The shares also pay dividends. According to Cherie Brant, there was a provision in the framework agreement for First Nations that had elections within 60 days of December 29, 2017, to get the shares at a later date. MCFN had an election in 2017. While I do not know the date, the elections in recent years have been in December.

One hiccup here might be that the MCFN unwillingness to purchase the shares, which came with financing, is that the decision was related to MCFN being concerned about the shares going below \$18 and MCFN still having to pay the loan for the shares back rather than the election interfered with the decision.

MCBC has told me that Cynthia Jamieson and Margaret Sault had been in the consultation meetings and also that MCFN received a legal opinion from Pape Salter.

What is not known is whether MCFN would be eligible for the shares after so much time, whether the reason at the time for not proceeding matters, and what price would be honoured for the purchase of the shares at this time.

Cherie Brant recommends that she ghost write a letter for Chief Claire Sault that would be sent to Ontario First Nations Limited Partnership, which has the role of administering the agreement, to explore the possibilities.

Councillor LS informed that he supported going with this investment when he was in Council, however, the Council of the day shot it down.

Councillors FS and EF said it went to the Community and the Community said no.

Councillor JH will explore this item and bring more information back to the Council Table.

DIRECTION NO. 1

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Infrastructure & Environmental Stewardship Council directs Councillor Jesse Herkimer to explore this item further and find out more background information, and bring it back to the Council Table.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 – LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR RURAL TRANSIT SYSTEMS APPLICATION (A/SED DIRECTOR)

The A/SED Director is currently working on submitting the application for the Rural Transit Solutions Fund. Approval was received in December 2023 to proceed with submitting the application. This fund supports rural and Indigenous communities with transit solutions, allocating a minimum of 10% of its \$250 million dollar funding to benefit Indigenous populations. If the application is approved for MCFN, MCFN could receive up to \$3 million dollars (over 3 years) for conventional transit solutions or up to \$5 million dollars for zero-emissions transit solutions. This is a one-time opportunity as the fund will close by March 31, 2024. Eligible applicants include municipalities, provinces, Indigenous governing bodies, and not-for-profit organizations. There would be no up-front costs to MCFN to proceed with submitting an application for consideration.

As part of the application to the Rural Transit Solutions Fund, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation must also provide;

1. A letter of support
2. Audited financial statements

The Fund has specific criteria and evaluation guidelines based on community demand, inclusiveness, economic impact, environmental impact, viability, and local support. Capital projects should be completed within two years of signing a contribution agreement. Currently, there are government assistance programs that cover 100% of the costs to implement and run the service. This transit solution can get our Community members to employment/schooling locations easily, help young families access far away grocery locations and ensure young people travel throughout the community safely.

The A/SED Director is seeking approval for a Letter of Support to be signed by MCFN Chief, as well as approval for the release of MCFN most recent audited financial statements to accompany the application to the Rural Transit Solutions Fund.

Councillor LS advised that he and Councillor JH can sit down and discuss this, as Councillors LS and JH are always concerned about MCFN's rights. Further, Councillor LS questioned where the data is for this type of project. He is opposed to this as we should not be giving out our Financial Statements.

Executive Director of Operations will send out the information to Ogimaa-Kwe and Council.

Ogimaa-Kwe informed that this is funding to have sort of a taxi service.

MOTION NO. 2

MOVED BY FAWN SAULT

SECONDED BY VERONICA KING-JAMIESON

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Infrastructure & Environmental Stewardship Council approves the signing of the attached Letter of Support, to be signed by MCFN Chief with any suggested changes. Further; the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation Infrastructure and Environmental Stewardship Council approves the release of MCFN's most current audited financial statements. Both the signed Letter of Support and audited financial statements to accompany the application to the Rural Transit Solutions Fund.

It is noted that there will be no costs to the First Nation before or after.

Carried

2nd Reading Waived

Opposed: Councillor Larry Sault – Does not want to give out our information, especially our Financial Statements.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 – INDIGENOUS PANELS (EF)

Councillor EF noted that Griffin Moore reached out to her on a project he is working on called Indigenous Panels. Each of the panels will focus on a different Indigenous topic.

Councillor EF is requesting that Knowledge Keeper Mark Sault and/or Elder Valarie King work with Mr. Moore.

DIRECTION NO. 2

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Infrastructure & Environmental Stewardship Council directs Councillor Erma Ferrell to bring this item back to the Council Table with more information as to whether or not the Member(s) will receive an honorarium.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 – GEORGINA VILLENEUVE FROM PEACE HILLS TRUST ZOOMING IN TO PRESENT ON CAPITAL GAINS, ACCESSING REVENUE FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS, WELLNESS DISTRIBUTIONS ETC.

Executive Director of Operations noted in her Briefing Note that Council wishes to ensure there are enough dollars to provide the second distribution of 2023/2024 Community Wellness dollars. Council approved a second distribution of wellness dollars for the 2023/2024 fiscal in October of 2023.

Please note I (Executive Director of Operations) have requested the total remaining in the Toronto Purchase Revenue Account. I am hopeful that this amount will be available by Tuesday.

The Lands and Membership Director has advised that as of today's date, there are 219 outstanding applications for the 1st distribution (total of \$438,000 needed) and 491 outstanding applications required for the 2nd distribution (total of \$491,000 needed).

This is in addition to any remaining Estate Policies that may be issued (\$10,000 each), as well as the remaining dollars for the Community Wellness Assistant salary.

Peace Hills Trust will be in attendance at the meeting to discuss options for access to additional revenues/dollars.

Executive Director of Operations noted that as of March 31, 2023 there are sufficient funds in the Revenue Account (\$12 Million dollars).

Councillor LS would like a list of deceased Members. Both Executive Director of Operations and LM Director replied that some deaths have not been reported, and the process is not being followed.

Councillor EF reiterated that a Death Certificate is needed, and a notice should go in the Newsletter to this affect.

DIRECTION NO. 3

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Infrastructure & Environmental Stewardship Council directs the Executive Director of Operations to put a Notice in the Newsletter that MCFN Members register birth certificates and death certificates with the Land and Membership Department.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10 – NOMINEE FOR AN OFNLP2008 REPRESENTATIVE ON THE OLG BOARD OF DIRECTORS (COUNCIL COORDINATOR)

Executive Director of Intergovernmental Affairs is seeking possible nominations from Council to sit on the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Commission (OLG) Board of Directors.

Councillor LS reported that Steve Williams has been on the Commission for six years and would like to leave.

DIRECTION NO. 4

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Infrastructure & Environmental Stewardship Council directs the Executive Director of Intergovernmental Affairs to work with the Communications Engagement Lead to put the “Nominee for an OFNLP2008 Representative on the OLG Board of Directors” information along with the process on the MCFN Website and in the Newsletter.

Council moved to Agenda Item No. 12.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12 – BRANTFORD & AREA SPORTS HALL OF RECOGNITION – REQUEST FOR A REPRESENTATIVE FROM MCFN (VKJ & KK)

This item will come back to the next Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council Meeting on Tuesday, January 30, 2024.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13 – TRCA WORKSHOP – SHAREDPATH (EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS)

This item has been deleted until further notice.

Council moved to Agenda Item No. 15.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 15 – UPDATE FROM PILLAR 4 LIFELONG LEARNING & EDUCATION AWARENESS (VKJ) (BACK-UP WILL FOLLOW)

This item will come back to the next Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council Meeting on Tuesday, January 30, 2024.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 16 – MCFN/UTM – ARCHAEOLOGY YOUTH CAMP JULY 2024 (VKJ) (BACK-UP WILL FOLLOW)

This item will come back to the next Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council Meeting on Tuesday, January 30, 2024.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 17 – GRANT WRITER (OGIMAA-KWE CLAIRE SAULT)

Ogimaa-Kwe Claire Sault will bring this item back to the next Lifelong Learning & Awareness & Nation Well-Being Council Meeting on Tuesday, January 30, 2024 with more information.

Council moved to Agenda Item No. 19.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 19 – RESTORATIVE JUSTICE CIRCLE FOLLOW-UP (KK)

Executive Director of Operations noted in her Briefing Note that previous Council was in the process of a Restorative Justice Circle between the Elected Council and EMT. Need confirmation if this process will be completed or if it will be wrapped up without a final circle.

Based on the recommendation of the EDO, the past Council agreed to participate in a lateral violence awareness session, followed by a restorative justice circle. The goal of the training/circle was to improve the relationship between Council and EMT. Jim Doxtator, owner of Peacebuilder Mediation was engaged to facilitate this training and eventual circle, at the cost of up to \$8,500 (eight thousand, five hundred dollars).

Council and EMT participated in a half day lateral violence awareness session in October. The next step was to meet with all participants to garner information about the relationship, so preparation could be done for the circle. Some of the interviews have taken place, there are 2 outstanding interviews remaining with Council members. As a FYI, the interviews can be arranged between the consultant and the participant based on a mutually convenient time but do need to be done prior to the Restorative Justice circle.

Attempts have been made to schedule the sessions, but they have not come to fruition. The consultant has asked if Council wish to continue with this exercise. Further, it is recognized that there has been an election and that there are new members at the table. He has inquired if they would like to participate.

Councillor LS suggested that we put this in abeyance until we hear what the process is for the RFP and the Organizational Review. Councillor FS disagrees and believes that we should go ahead and have Jim Doxtator come back.

Councillor JH questioned why we should spend \$8,500.00 on this. Executive Director of Operations answered that this budget has already been approved. She believes this exercise is more of an awareness of each other.

MOTION NO. 3

MOVED BY FAWN SAULT

SECONDED BY LESLIE MARACLE

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Infrastructure & Environmental Stewardship Council agrees to continue with the Restorative Justice Circle, recognizing that outstanding interviews need to be arranged.

Opposed: Councillor Larry Sault – Put this in abeyance until such time that we complete the Organizational Review; Councillor Jesse Herkimer – Would like to start at the beginning of the Restorative Justice Circle, not in the middle; Ogimaa-Kwe Claire Sault; Councillor Veronica King-Jamieson.

Motion is Defeated

DIRECTION NO. 5

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Infrastructure & Environmental Stewardship Council directs the Executive Director of Operations to bring in Jim Doxtator, owner of Peacebuilder Mediation to explain to new Council more fully what the Restorative Justice Circle entails.

DIRECTION NO. 6

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Infrastructure & Environmental Stewardship Council directs the Executive Director of Operations to put this item – Restorative Justice Circle in abeyance until such time that Jim Doxtator comes and presents this item to the new Council.

Council moved back to Agenda Item No. 9 as Georgina Villeneuve from Peace Hills Trust joined the meeting via Zoom.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 – GEORGINA VILLENEUVE FROM PEACE HILLS TRUST ZOOMING IN TO PRESENT ON CAPITAL GAINS, ACCESSING REVENUE FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS, WELLNESS DISTRIBUTIONS ETC.

Georgina Villeneuve from PHT went through the Interim Report dated December 31, 2023.

Regarding Market Value which is \$109,779,774.00, is not growing because MCFN is taking all the money.

Regarding the Net Income, Georgina stated that the total is \$8,496,806.00. The Trust Capital as at December 31, 2023 is \$102,624,099.00.

Georgina advised that it is smarter to borrow from the Trust as the Trust will not erode. In other words, it is not a good thing to take all the capital.

Councillor LS questioned how much is transferred. Georgina replied that she will not know until the Audit comes back.

Councillor EF questioned how much would be sent to us, and Georgina replied \$5,809,941.00.

Councillor FS suggested paying \$1,500.00 for the Community Wellness Distribution and leave the rest in capital gains. Ogimaa-Kwe Claire Sault agrees.

MOTION NO. 4

MOVED BY CLAIRE SAULT

SECONDED BY JESSE HERKIMER

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Infrastructure & Environmental Stewardship Council agrees to stay status quo, and Peace Hills Trust will pay \$5,809,941.00 to Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, and will leave one half of the capital gains in the Trust.

Carried

2nd Reading Waived

Council moved to Agenda Item No. 20a).

AGENDA ITEM NO. 20a) – COMMUNITY MEETINGS (EF)

NOTE: It is noted that the Community Meeting on Saturday, January 27, 2024 will be cancelled due to there not being enough time to prepare, and the next meeting will be Saturday, February 24, 2024.

MOTION NO. 5

MOVED BY JESSE HERKIMER

SECONDED BY CLAIRE SAULT

That the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN) Infrastructure & Environmental Stewardship Council moved In-Camera.

Carried