

AGM- Acadia First Nation
Halifax, Nova Scotia
October 15, 2016

1. Band members approved Chief to Chair meeting
2. Opening Prayer
3. Welcome from Chief to all band members and introduction to Council.
4. Chief update on work completed over past year (notes attached)
5. Deputy Chief Update
 - a. Youth Moose Hunt Update
 - b. Emergency Planning
 - c. Forestry 90000 board feet plus 150 cord of wood
 - d. Gaming agreement signed
 - e. Wilson agreement planning and negotiations
 - f. Finance moving ahead
6. Question: Wayne Mckenzie. There is Crown Land behind reserve and beach hill road. Approximately 1500 acres. Department of Natural Resources have stated that they are in negotiations with Band and the road is just replaced. There will be major damage for the road. In addition DNR is applying to have it sprayed.
 - a. Chief Robinson: Explanation of the consultation process through KMKNO. Consultation requests go to all Bands. If there is something that is of interest, the Band contacts KMKNO and asked that they start to investigate and that it is identified that the Band in question wants additional information on the specific issue at hand.
 - b. Councillor Jeff Purdy and Councillor Andrew Francis advised that they will contact KMKNO and find out more information. This is the first we have heard of this.
 - i. Wayne McKenzie said that there was an area that has been identified as a plot of land. Councillor Francis advised that the process is to apply to DNR and get it surveyed. Each Band Member has to make application to DNR and once approved you are allowed to harvest up to 10 cords. This information was obtained from Jacob Penny from the Department of Natural Resources. Crown Lands Technician
7. Councillor Andrew Francis update:
 - a. Moose Hunt was a major success. Three excellent harvesters for the Band. Excellent kids. Calling, dressing, harvesting.
 - b. First Nations are now wanting to work with AFN to establish a similar program
 - c. There have been some concerns over Halipu and Metis involvement. There are some concerns over abuse with no rights. There will be a possible Mi'kmaq harvester card. To be determined
 - d. Gold River. Funding has secured for Gold River Recreation Center as well as a two houses for the area. Planning is ongoing.
8. Wayne McKenzie question on housing. Housing for seniors in Gold River?
 - a. Band Manager Lloyd Mac Dougall spoke about the approval process with INAC and CMHC and how the money is flowing very slowly which inhibits essential planning. Presently there are applications for senior's complexes but none approved.

Catahoula.
leopard

9. Update from Councillor Mike Paul
 - a. Update on Reserve Status on Hammonds Plains
 - b. Update on Ottawa trip class
 - c. Beading class
 - d. Lobster and Scallop distribution
 - e. Deb Gloade status updates
 - f. 206 families on mailing list
 - g. 26 seniors, 58 registered youth, 39 unregistered youth
10. Update from Councillor Tom Pictou
 - a. Gaming agreement update on signing
 - b. Successful Harvest Feast
11. Update from Councillor Darlene
 - a. Language conference in Cape Breton. Idea to look at funding solutions to expand the language involvement among the Band members.
 - b. Shelburne office is open full time 8-5 every day
 - c. Floats in parades and placed in exhibition
 - d. Parcel of Land on 103 was purchased in a Tax sale and the ownership will be determined after the required 6 month waiting period which is up in December 2016.
 - e. Youth Center is running in Yarmouth. 2 full time and 6 part-time.
 - f. Discussion over an iPhone app to help with Mi'kmaq language
12. Linda Macintyre: Define an Elder
13. Chief Deborah Robinson
 - a. Senior is 65 years of age.
 - b. Elder regardless of age they are considered an elder based on the respect from other community. It is earned in the community and others from the community determine if you are an Elder.
 - c. There may be some need to educate people on Mi'kmaq culture. There is an interest.
14. Councillor Charmaine Stevens:
 - a. Fishery update. Increasing capacity. Lobster and Crab and main revenue generators
 - b. New Vessel purchased this month. There has been a lot of work to expand the lobster to acquire new boats, access, boats
 - c. 8 fishing vessels, 30 employees
 - d. Planning on purchasing 2 new licences for LFA 33
 - e. Total is 47 licences. Future is looking good.
 - f. Education: Budget is just over 400k for post secondary education
 - g. Priority for Post Educational Funding is focused on the first year kids. There is a policy and it is followed.
 - h. Ponhook Trust. The purchase of Tax Land in Shelburne was through the Ponhook Trust. Acadia First Nation must wait for the "Right of Redemption" to pass which is for 6 months after the accepted offer. When the time limit is up and the Ponhook Trust is going to purchase. There is a total of \$513 k in the Ponhook Trust which is managed by Scotia McLeod in Halifax
15. Councillor Avis Johnson
 - a. Finance Committee. Policy and Budgets continually reviewed.

- b. Health: Acadia First Nation is presently involved in Regional Engagement Process. How to better access the benefits for our people. This process has started.

16. Councillor Rachel Falls

- a. Workshop on Drumming and Dancing
- b. Peter Pictou with drumming
- c. Art Show in Yarmouth with Aboriginal artists
- d. Sandra Racey will be making baskets in Liverpool
- e. Sherry Whynott is also doing work with traditional crafts is going to do
- f. Recreation Fund

17. Amanda Lloyd – Finance

- a. Ratio review by INAC all above the minimums
- b. Net Debt has gone down by 3 mill
- c. Own Source revenue is 30 mill
- d. Hope that this will allow for growth in the future.

Questions:

-Anne Marie Kaiser - GOLD RIVER – Why is her son living in an old trailer and his white ex-wife is living in a reserve house still.

Chief Deborah Robinson: The Annual General Meeting is not a place where the personal issues of Band Members or non-Band members can be discussed in an open forum. There is a process to address this which starts with a request to attend a Chief and Council meeting where these issues can be discussed in detail.

Off Reserve assistance. Is there anything planned in addition to what is offered at present.

Chief Deborah Robinson:

It is our goal to start helping off reserve people. Always believe that an elder and senior should be helped. This issue is a topic of conversation at all Chief and Council meetings. There are needs provided to off reserve personnel who are Disabled and or seniors. There is not enough income to address the needs of all off reserve personnel because all of the money expended comes only from the profits generated by Acadia First Nation.

Councillor Charmaine Stevens: As we start to generate more money there will be more options. Need to develop policy to provide off reserve assistance. We do help off reserve Trips, medical is offered. It is an issue that we can look at in the future. In the past we have spent in addition to \$600000 in off reserve requests.

Bruce Clark: Daniels is a Supreme Court Decision that was decided recently. It has some pressure on the Federal Government to provide additional assistance for off reserve band members. In the next 1-2 years there may be a shift to what the Federal Government may have to provide.

Councillor Mike Paul: The issue is that the same people ask for everything all the time. There may be people off reserve that will not ask for anything even though they may be justified in asking for services.

One idea would be when additional money is located that it be added to the profit sharing. Give it to everyone.

Band Manager: Spoke to the uniqueness of the Acadia First nations Band in the sense that AFN has numerous infrastructures that is not in any Federal Budget but must be paid for by AFN. An example is that there are two Health Centers, Three Administration Centers yet the Federal Government will only put (1) one of each of these line items in the budget and the remaining expenses must be generated by AFN. This depletes the profits of AFN considerably just trying to provide the essentials to Band Members.

Chief Deborah Robinson: There is a total of 300k per year for Elders and disability. Only band in Canada that does that

Councillor Jeff Purdy: The Profit sharing and Elders cost and in the area of 1.4 million per year not including recreational costs.

Signage Signs: They are done and Lloyd will look after erecting

Motion to close the meeting after all questions was answered.

Meeting closed at 15:20 hrs.