

**FORT WILLIAM FIRST NATION**  
**CHIEF and COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**September 18, 2019 – 5:30 p.m.**

---

**CHAIR:** Chief Peter Collins

**COUNCILLORS:** Philip Pelletier, Desiree Morriseau-Shields, Tannis Kastern, Sherry Pelletier, Sheldon Bannon, Kyle MacLaurin, Jennelle Charlie, Michele Solomon, Leo Bannon Jr.

**REGRETS:** Tony Collins, Yvette Greenwald (out of town)

**GUESTS:** Tanya Talaga, Moffat Makuto, Colleen Peters

**STAFF:** CEO-Ken Ogima, Recorder-Bernice Pelletier, Director of Health & Community Services- Karen Bannon, Director of Finance-Jeff Busniuk, Director of Director of Economic Development-Michael Pelletier Sr.

**GOVERNANCE - Call to Order/Opening Prayer** – Chief Collins called meeting to Order at 5:40 p.m. Philip Pelletier opened with prayer.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA - MOTION #1** – *Moved by Philip Pelletier and seconded by Desiree Morriseau-Shields to accept the agenda of September 18, 2019 with the addition of Tanya Talaga and Education. All in favour. Motion Carried.*

**AGENDA ITEM** – Tanya Talaga (Journalist and Author) - Tanya Talaga back ground history with Fort William First Nation is through her grandmother Margaret Bowen and other relatives from Raith. Tanya is willing to work with FWFN youth.

Tanya is an award-winning journalist and author, and the First Ojibway woman to deliver the CBC Massey Lectures, Tanya Talaga is an acclaimed storyteller. Her book *Seven Fallen Feathers*, a national bestseller that introduced us to seven Indigenous high school students who mysteriously died in Thunder Bay, won the 2018 RBC Taylor Prize. In her powerful keynotes, Talaga shares Indigenous stories from across Canada and the world, humanizing the legacy of residential schools and colonization and sharing her hope for a more inclusive and equitable future.

Talaga is of Polish and Indigenous descent. Her great-grandmother was a residential school survivor and her great-grandfather was an Ojibwe trapper and labourer. Talaga is also the bestselling author of two books *All Our Relations: Finding The Path Forward* and *Seven Fallen Feathers*. In addition to the RBC Taylor Prize, *Seven Fallen Feathers* also won the Shaughnessy Cohen Prize for Political Writing, and the First Nation Communities Read: Young Adult/Adult Award. It was also a finalist for the Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Nonfiction Prize and the BC National Award for Nonfiction, and was named CBC's Nonfiction Book of the Year and a *Globe and Mail* Top 100 Book.

**AGENDA Council Training on Portfolios Date – September 27, 2019 at 10 a.m.**

**AGENDA ITEM – Council Training and Travel Budget** - The Director of Finance presented the Chief and Council budget for 2020 which is \$20,000.

Presentation included that Nokiiwin will pay for some training; U.O.I. covers travel for different conferences/workshops or meetings; suggestion to set up a Travel Fund and a budget in place for next year; Can mileage be added to Councillors attendance on behalf of Chief; Suggestion to identify what meetings or boards are coming up for each month and use the Portfolio to decide which ones to attend and report information. The Director of Finance and the CEO will meet in regards to the \$1500 budget for Council. Suggestion that Council contribute some of their honorarium for travel.

**AGENDA ITEM - Healing Lodge Presentation** - Chief Collins and Moffat Makuto have been sitting on the committee for 3 ½ years and how the lodge will play out in First Nation. Renee Pervais(FWFN) and Colleen Peters (work for John Howard) are on the Committee. Submission was made to Minister for funding to develop a proposal for the first healing lodge in Ontario. Correctional Services Canada shares concern regarding the overrepresentation of Indigenous people in the criminal justice system or the sentencing of Indigenous offenders and is committed to ensuring that Indigenous People who have come into conflict with the law are offered real opportunities to turn their lives around.

Colleen been working in corrections for about 15 years looking at the Justice System, or legal system. Bring people back home for rehabilitation. Colleen talked about the big differences between men and women. Women get sent further away for example to Edmonton. Women have to attend half way houses in Winnipeg other than John Howard. Geographical challenges to bring family and community in. Need for the community to be part of healing lodge, bring people home in our land and people and access to community members local and family and friends.

Partnering federal and provincial corrections together, specifically in northwestern Ontario to bring women back to community and bridge the gap. Services include the component of education, marketable in workforce, increase over all well being of individuals. The Lodge could start with women and then youth is the next step.

Look at FWFN to potential host the site. This community leads in providing the service of the Healing Lodge. The Lodge would work with sentencing component, medical issues and service for the people. Next step would be to look at partners on board, location and proceed with project manager dedicated to uniting the partners and funding proposal. Service has to include accessible to emergency response, set parameters need to be involved basically in Ontario in remote Thunder Bay, Suggestion for Location to consider between here and border; Camp Nanibijou, White Fox Inn, Big Thunder.

**The ask tonight is support from FWFN on this project, land designation and project manager. Any land request and proposal over an acre has to go to referendum from the community. Suggest speaking to other healing lodges. The Minister will have no further discussion on less approval from council. Colleen ready to do a revamp of the proposal and research for healing lodge.**

**MOTION #2 – Moved by Kyle MacLaurin and seconded by Sherry Pelletier that Fort William First Nation Chief and Council support the healing lodge proposal with the understanding that land allocation will need to go through referendum per land designation laws. All in favour. Motion Carried.**

**AGENDA ITEM – RBC Loan Documents** - Aaron Kakapetum from the RBC presented FWFN loan agreements to bring the loans to current by extending the housing loan, lagoon loan and \$500,000 loan. On the roof loan under FWFN, the revolving end date has to be changed. This loan was set up as a multi draw loan with a term take out but since we did not draw any funds from this loan and the revolving period ended and there were no funds to convert to the term loan, this loan has to be set up as straight term loan not multi draw loan as the work is completed.

**MOTION #3 – Moved by Philip Pelletier and seconded by Leo Bannon Jr. to sign and submit the RBC Loan documents extending the housing loan, lagoon loan and \$500,000 loan to bring the loans to current. All in favour. Motion Carried.**

**MOTION #4 – Moved by Jennelle Charlie and seconded by Kyle MacLaurin to remove any Councillors names that are no longer active; Murray Pelletier, Valerie Chapman and Catherine McKenzie and Leo Bannon Sr. All carried.**

**AGENDA ITEM - BCR19-38 RBC Signing Authorities**

**MOTION #5 – Moved by Tannis Kastern and seconded by Philip Pelletier to submit BCR19-38 identifying the cheque signing authorities from Council and to further remove Michael Pelletier Jr. and add Yari Asunmaa from Kamlander First Nations LP. All in favour. Motion Carried.**

**AGENDA ITEM - Anemki Loan Documents** - Chief Peter Collins and Ian Bannon signed on the Anemki Loan documents.

**AGENDA ITEM – BCR19-37 For Industrial Park NOHFC/FedNor application**

**MOTION #6 – Moved by Philip Pelletier and seconded by Desiree Morriseau-Shields** to submit BCR19-37 where FWFN support the revised applications, with the addition of the \$25,000 for the market assessment, including FWFN’s increase in commitment from \$30,000 to \$32,500 with the revised cost as presented in Briefing Note totalling \$325,000. **All in favour. Motion Carried.**

Revised funding – NOHFC	\$117,500	FEDNor	\$117,500
FCM	\$35,000	FWFN	\$30,000

**AGENDA ITEM – Path to the Paddle** - Path of the Paddle has developed a business plan and is reaching out to communities, First Nations and Provincial Parks along the trail to support water trail access and promotion in the region to waterways from Thunder Bay to Manitoba.

Path of the Paddle’s has sent an application to the Canadian Experiences Fund which includes infrastructure, marketing and staffing. They are asking if FWFN is interested in being a partner by offering in kind services through FWFN road crews to clear a lot, bring in gravel or install the sign. The project, if successful, must be completed before March 32, 2021. They are requesting a letter of support from FWFN. The land in question is across the tracks.

Consensus of Council to bring this project to the community before any decisions are made. Council would consider project, but it will be our project, plaque, etc. FWFN can apply for funding and own it.

**AGENDA ITEM – Letter of Intent – FogDog Energy Solutions** - FWFN and the Municipality of Neening met recently with Fogdog Energy Solutions to discuss the development of a “No Landfill Disposal Facility”. The details of this technology are proprietary and require a non-disclosure agreement and a Letter of Intent to move this discussion forward. Fogdog has technology that would take all waste and crunch it all down into a fluff at end of day.

Michelle Galoni, Waste Management (FWFN) will work on this project. Neebing had analyst that analyzed the letter of intent and Neebing has passed it and is waiting for FWFN letter of support. Michelle to bring back to Council for final approval as to what FWFN has to do with this corporation. The document to do initial joint venture with the township of Neebing, who is looking at parcel of land between FWFN and township of Neebing. Find out if technology really works. Save on carbon for air. FWFN protect land and air.

***MOTION #7 – Moved by Sheldon Bannon and seconded by Leo Bannon Jr. to support the Letter of Intent to pursue a “No Landfill Waste Management Solution” and further this letter doesn’t bind FWFN into anything. All in favour. Motion Carried.***

**AGENDA ITEM – Portfolio Training Date – September 27<sup>th</sup> at Community Hall.**

**Update – Wasagin West Tie Line** - The Director of Economic Development will prepare a briefing note for Council updating on the project. There are meetings with Wasagin Line going west today to negotiate with Hydro One. FWFN laid down ground work and what FWFN wants for the community. FWFN wants \$500,000 per community and \$165,000 per year for next five year to employ an individual from out community to work on the project to cover wages, travel and other expenses.

### **APS (Anishnabek Police Services) Board Member**

Currently Councillor Philip Pelletier sits on the board. Philip will finish the next three meetings and if someone else from Council wants to sit on the Board, he is willing to step down in April.

Leo Jr. Bannon let Council know that garbage and shingles are dumped at rock pit.

***MOTION TO ADJOURN - Moved by Leo Bannon Jr. and seconded by Philip Pelletier to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm. All in favour. Motion Carried.***