



Northern Association of Community Councils Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Conference Call

Friday, December 11th, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Present:

BOARD

Reg Meade, President
Freda Parenteau, Northern Secretary/Treasurer
Harold Fleming, Western Secretary/Treasurer
Eric Olson, Eastern Vice-Chairperson
Glen Flett, Northern Chairperson
June Chu, Northern Vice-Chairperson
Lorne Huhtala, Western Vice-Chairperson

STAFF

Linda Payeur, Executive Director
Sara Kirby, Administrative Assistant

Regrets:

Helgi Einarsson, Eastern Chairperson
Wanda Mowatt, Eastern Secretary/Treasurer

1.0 Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 10:17 a.m.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

Moved by F. Parenteau, seconded by G. Flett that
the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

3.0 Delegations

3.1 NACC Member CAO/Council Support – **Paul Doolan**, Executive Director, Department of
Indigenous and Northern Relations – 1:00 pm

4.0 Approval of Minutes from August 14th, 2020

Moved by E. Olson seconded by H. Fleming that,
the minutes from August 14, 2020 be accepted.

CARRIED

5.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

The Employee Benefits package was discussed at length and a motion was put forward.

**ACTION: Motion to accept benefits package pending they are to be reviewed annually and
renewed dependant upon the availability of funding.**

Moved by F. Parenteau and seconded by H. Fleming

6.0 Correspondence

6.1 INR Review-Meadow Portage to Minister Clarke

- Reviewed and discussed

**ACTION: Linda to draft a letter from NACC in support of Meadow Portage's letter to Minister
Clarke.**

6.2 INR Capital Projects Update

- Reviewed and discussed

ACTION: Linda to draft a letter to INR to request the Capital Funding Board be reinstated.

6.3 CRA Charity Status Review

- Reviewed and discussed

ACTION: Motion to approve the amended/expanded NACC stated corporate objective proposed for the Charity Status application.

Moved by L. Huhtala and seconded by E. Olson

7.0 Staff Reports

7.1 Attached Executive Director Linda Payeur

- Attached

7.2 NHFI Program Coordinator Trinetta Konge

- Updated the Board on the Annual Review and talked about what the program is looking forward to accomplishing in the year ahead.

8.0 Board Reports

Northern Secretary/Treasurer

Freda Parenteau

- Was approached by the Council of Moose Lake to assist them with the community council elections.
- Copies of the MNR INR Review documents shared with Moose Lake Community Council. Met with Moose Lake Council to review and discuss the MNP documents that are scheduled to be discussed by both MNP and INR with the community.
- Met with the Mayor in Cormorant regarding the same MNP documents. The Mayor was unaware about the upcoming meeting proposed by INR/MNP.
- A community member in Cormorant has numerous concerns about their water lines. Public Works went to assess and damaged the heat tray as they dug up the line. I am trying to generate a letter with the member to see if he can get some action on that with INR.
- Working from home.

Northern Chairperson

Glen Flett

- Updated on the Town Hall Calls from the CAO of Norway House. We had 29 COVID-19 cases that were flown to Winnipeg. By Wednesday, there was 19 active cases and 20 something that came back negative.
- The community was on a lockdown.
- The community was put into sections to reduce the number of shoppers at one time but it had proved to be ineffective. Had a meeting to re-work restrictions to help with the community flow.
- The band is calling the shots for their reserve but the community is participating in their COVID-19 risk reduction initiatives.
- I spoke to Darlene Beck of Cross Lake. There are 15 COVID-19 cases that were Medevacked to Winnipeg on November 6th, for self-isolation. Cross Lake is doing better and has no known cases as of yesterday. Most of the members sent to Winnipeg are now back in the Community.
- Kept in touch with the NACC office regularly to check in and see if there were any updates.
- Checked in with Freda about how the communities were doing.
- Easterville was in lockdown as of the other day but are now letting people go through.
- Called into Brochet but haven't heard back.
- Participated in the Norway House Community Council and with Community Futures North Central on conference call and zoom meetings. Also talked with the Thompson Regional Airport Authority.
- TRAA closed the office for a couple weeks but they will be opening back up next week.

Eastern Vice Chairperson

Eric Olson

- Homebrook/Peonan-Point has not seen any COVID-19 cases, CAO has gotten tested but has come back negative.
- Dauphin River Community has had a few cases.

- Some of the Community Members are pretty concerned about the new Crown Lands Regulations and the bills that were received yesterday. We have now been billed twice in less than 12 months.
- Some of the producers in this area are looking to retain a lawyer in order to pursue a class action lawsuit against the Provincial Government over the changes that have taken place regarding the leasing auction of crown land.

Western Vice Chairperson

Lorne Huhtala

- Mallard roads were graded and graveled late this fall but omitted to include a kilometer of the community road. Tried phoning INR to have it done but haven't gotten a response.
- Winter fishing on its way here for the 10th of November.
- Mallard residents received a turkey and a food gift certificate for \$150 provided through successful grant funding from United Way.
- Waterhen's generator was not working back in August. It has been fixed but they still have to go to the plant to turn the pumps on every time the generator loses power.
- Waterhen just got their roads graded before they freeze. The roads had not been graded all summer.
- Rock Ridge had a duplex burn down in the spring and the clean-up continues to date.

Western Secretary/Treasurer

Harold Fleming

- Something wrong with the water line between Waterhen and Meadow Portage. When the water is pumped at the plant in Meadow Portage, this is no water pressure for anyone connected on that line. It's been like that for about a year now. INR had come out to take a look but they have not hired anybody to address or fix the problem. Have talked to Stewart Sabiston about this issue.
- Talking to a lot of the communities about the MNP proposal. There are a lot of people who have no idea about this MNP Review. We need to step up and really get through to the INR Minister and MNP.
- We must ensure that NACC has representation at each community session to assist where needed for the members understand what is being discussed, proposed and the potential ramifications. The meetings should be held in-person as we cannot get our points across as effectively over the phone. The Government should wait until after COVID-19 is under control to facilitate in-person sit down meetings.

President

Reg Meade

- Attending many conference calls with Shared Health and One North.
- Only one positive case of COVID-19 in Wabowden, The individual self-isolated and we haven't had a positive case since.
- Couldn't reach anyone at the INR Thompson office because they are working from home and nobody is in the office.
- Talked about the MNP review with some of the community members who are hoping NACC can stop the continued review and proposed changes like they have done in the past.
- We cannot allow MNP to try to divide and concur the communities just to hear the answers they want without the communities knowing about it.
- We are finally able to hold our Community Elections, advance polls opened up last night and over 50% of the voting population showed up to vote early.
- Community feels that the Council is not doing enough to protect them from COVID-19 as in blocking the roads, which I pointed out that Cross Lake locked down the community and they had it bad.
- It's hard to deal with people over the phone or conference calling or anything other than sitting across the table from them, it is just about next to impossible.
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Northern Secretary/Treasurer

June Chu

- Post office has been very busy, been working 7 days straight. 5 days for local mail and 2 days in Grand Rapids.
- They are trying to get the parcels out as fast as they can, so residents should be patient for their parcels.
- Opened the centre to allow for vaccinations of the residents.

- The Hospital is full and can not take any more patients.
- Shamatawa is busy trying to deal with the COVID-19 outbreak.
- The information package for this board meeting only arrived today, that is how backed up the mail is.

Board members wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

9.0 NACC Member CAO/Council Support

9.1 Paul Doolan, Executive Director, Indigenous and Northern Relations

- Spoke on the basic requirements needed for operators, is willing to sit down with NACC to look into how we can help with implementing the training. Re-evaluating the requirements to fit to communities.
- Addressing how to keep CAO from leaving due to no extra room in the budget to keep them in the community. How to buddy up with a community to share a CAO.
- Opened the floor for the Board to ask questions.

10.0 2020 AGM Survey Results

It was clear from the communities that participated in the survey, that they want the AGM to be postponed until it is safe to meet in-person. They prefer the elections not take place this year also due to not being able to meet in-person.

11.0 New Business

Paul Doolan about Crown Lands.

ACTION: Motion to gift the Board and staff \$100 each for Christmas gift.

Moved by G. Flett and seconded by L. Huhtala.

12.0 Next Meeting

Next Executive Board meeting is to be held on Friday, January 22nd, 2021.

Next Board meeting is to be held when it is safe to meet in-person.

13.0 Adjournment

Motion for meeting adjournment

Moved by G. Flett