



Northern Association of Community Councils Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CanadInns Destination Polo Park Centre
Thursday, December 9, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Present: BOARD

Reg Meade, President
Helgi Einarsson, Eastern Chairperson
Wanda Mowatt, Eastern Secretary/Treasurer
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
Linda Payeur, Executive Director
Trinette Konge, NHFI Program Coordinator
Sara Kirby, Administrative Assistant

STAFF

1.0 Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:12 a.m.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

Reviewed and discussed.

It was moved by W. Mowatt, seconded by H. Fleming that
the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

3.0 Delegations

3.1. Premier – **Heather Stefanson**, Premier of Manitoba – Thursday, December 9th at 10:02 a.m. – 10:12 a.m.

3.2. IRNR Minister – **Alan Lagimodiere**, Minister of the Indigenous Reconciliation and Northern Relations and assistant Alice – Friday, August 27th at 11:18 a.m. – 1:25 p.m.

3.3. First Aid Training Centre – **Paula Debenham** – December 10th at 1 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

4.0 Approval of Minutes

4.1. August 26th & 27th, 2021

Changes to Lorne's report:

- Change 'Waterhen won't take garbage and recycling from Skownan' to 'Waterhen will not separate the garbage from recycling from Skownan.'
- Add zebra in front of mussels for the letter that was sent out about Lake Manitoba as there are different types of mussels in the lake.
- Correct Wanda's position as she is the Eastern Secretary/Treasurer, not the Northern Secretary/Treasurer.

It was moved by G. Flett seconded by W. Mowatt that,
the minutes from August 26 & 27, 2021 be accepted.

CARRIED

4.2. November 9th, 2021

Reviewed and discussed.

It was moved by H. Einarsson seconded by J. Chu that,
the minutes from May 14, 2021 be accepted.

CARRIED

5.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

Census Canada

Motion for NACC office to write a letter to Census Canada regarding how to census was conducted in the communities.

Moved by W. Mowatt and second by F. Parenteau **CARRIED**

Land Lease Rebate

Motion for NACC office to take our letters and the community letters regarding the 2019 Land Lease Rebate affective 2021 to the Manitoba Ombudsman.

Moved by E. Olson and second by H. Fleming **CARRIED**

Per Diems

Motion to accept the Per Diem changes (noted changes below).

Moved by G. Flett and second by H. Fleming **CARRIED**

Motion to raise private accommodations from **\$40.00 with receipts** to **\$60.00 without receipts**.

Moved by W. Mowatt and second by G. Flett **CARRIED**

Board of Directors Per Diems							
	Private Comm.	Mileage Rate	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Incidentals	Per Diems
Old							
BOD	\$40.00	\$0.48/km	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 90.00
President	\$40.00	\$0.48/km	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 100.00
Current							
BOD	\$60.00	\$0.48/km	\$ 15.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 90.00
President	\$60.00	\$0.48/km	\$ 15.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 100.00

3.1 Premier – Heather Stefanson, Premier of Manitoba

- Introduction of the NACC board of directors and staff with the board congratulating the Premier on her appointment.
- Premier Stefanson gave a greeting and acknowledgement of NACC and what NACC does.
- Reg shared sentiments towards the premier’s office and both agreed that it would be beneficial to work together from this point forward.

6.0 Correspondence

6.1 Cormorant – Lagimodiere - NHFI

- Council is frustrated with the lack of communication from the NHFI representative – Bayline Regional Round table.
- They are not receiving access to programs (e.g., Manitoba Government Home Nutrition and Learning Program) as they are much-needed supports for the community.
- Reg offered to reach out to council to assist them in getting these issues with Bayline addressed.

6.2 Thicket Portage – IRNR Med-evac

- The runways for the airports are too short for med-evac planes to land and take off.
- The government had a plan to extend the runways but when Pallister was elected, the project to dropped.
- The government bought planes that were too big to fit the current runways.

6.3 IRNR Capital Investments and Plan

- This is another copy-paste of their previous releases. NACC would like to them to announce new projects.

- Zebra mussel mitigation is in the IRNR budget when it should be under Conservation and Climate budget.

6.4 IRNR – Northern Manitoba Community Consultation Board

- Review of the second stage qualification questions for the consultation board that we received from IRNR.

6.5 Meadow Portage – COVID Inquiry

- As a public office, they are under the same obligation as any other utility or public service, masks must be worn and a patron cannot be there for an extended period of time.
- The government of Manitoba has not responded to the inquiries the office has sent out for clarity on this matter.

6.6 Meadow Portage – NHFI

- Linda talked to Harold on the phone regarding our NHFI program and immediately following that conversation she met with Trinette to discuss what was talked about in the conversation.
- The call that happened to the resident about moving, was a complete mistake and instantly contacted the resident to apologize and explain that we are required by our funder to track all equipment and continually track them for an amount of time based on what funding was used and who is funding it.
- From here on out we will be clarifying this matter in the application process so that this do not happen again.
- Will be asking IRNR to adopt the Federal and Provincial language on infrastructures so that there is a defined term when the resident becomes an outright owner of said equipment.

3.2 IRNR Minister – Alan Lagimodiere, Minister of the Indigenous Reconciliation and Northern Relations and assistant Alice

- Introductions to the board of directors.
- The Minister would like NACC to reach out to him more.
- Reg Meade greeted and thanked the minister for meeting with NACC.
- Minister Lagimodiere would like to have an open-door policy of his office with NACC.
- Topics NACC would like to work with IRNR on are:
 - o The lack of response from the Minister of Health
 - o Transportation
 - o Meeting with representation from Western Diversification about the rail line to Churchill that took place in The Pas (December, 2021)
 - Saskatchewan government commissioned a study a few years ago about the importance of that rail line and Hwy 283 which connects Saskatchewan to The Pas.
 - Mining opportunities
 - o Forestry
 - o Fisheries
 - Commercial buy back of fishing licenses
- Strength on independence for local contractors but MERX's is not allowing locals to bid on community contracts.
 - o Manitoba contractors outside of the communities are also making the same complaint that MERX is making it hard to bid for jobs.
- Treaty Land Entitlement.
 - o Moose Lake, Grand Rapids, Norway House, Cross Lake are labeled as traditional land.
 - o Logging got kicked out of the area near Williams Lake due to the treaty land entitlement.
- Working with the Department of Justice would be very beneficial for both IRNR and NACC as there are issues that need to be addressed.
- Ag department has made a 3000% increase on leased land and is making it difficult for land owners to have someone to hand down to their next generation if the department keeps up these extremely high rates.

- Commercial fisheries buy back plan for licenses needs to be paused as just in Dauphin River alone; they lost 11 licenses in 2014 and 19 in 2019.

Meeting adjourned. for lunch 12:02 p.m.

Meeting resumed 1:34 p.m.

7.0 Financial

The General Ledger, Cheque Detail, Bank and Visa Reconciliations, Income Statement, Trail Balance and Budget vs Actuals to date were circulated and discussed.

7.1 Review of both Budget and Mid-year Budget to date

7.2 Review of Income Statement and Trail Balance

7.3 Approval of General Ledger

Motion to accept General Ledger

Moved by E. Olson and seconded by F. Parenteau CARRIED

7.4 Approval of Cheque Ledger

Motion to accept Cheque Ledger

Moved by G. Flett and seconded by E. Olson CARRIED

7.5 Approval of Bank Reconciliation

Motion to accept Bank Reconciliation

Moved by E. Olson and seconded by W. Mowatt CARRIED

7.6 Approval of Visa Reconciliation

Motion to accept Visa Reconciliation

Moved by G. Flett and seconded by F. Parenteau CARRIED

8.0 Staff Reports

8.1 NHFI Program Coordinator Trinette Konge

- Presented an update on NHFI programing.

- Attached

8.2 Attached Executive Director Linda Payeur

- Attached

9.0 Board Reports

Western Secretary/Treasurer

Harold Fleming

- Our water line being worked on.
- Ice started being made inside the rink and will hopefully be useable soon.
- Skownan is coming on board about joining the garbage dump.

Eastern Chairperson

Helgi Einarsson

- Freshwater Fishing Market Corporation (FFMC)
 - o Two meetings so far (one at the Viscount) about the change from the corporation to a co-op.
 - We met with the executive committee and invited a bunch of fishermen.
 - o Next meeting was at the Club Regent Casino setup by Fisher River.
 - They had Conservation there to discuss the buy back of commercial fishing licenses.
 - o Meeting again next week at Polo Park.
 - They are trying to start a Lake Winnipeg Advisory Board.
 - There were fishermen from: Gimli, Fisher River, Hallow Water, Berens River, Poplar River, Grand Rapids and Norway House.

Northern Chairperson

Glen Flett

- Encouraging to hear the opening remarks from the premier regarding opportunities for the North and working together for the prosperity of the northern communities.
 - o Health care was also mentioned.
 - o The premier seems like an open person who is willingness to work with us compared to her predecessor.
- Norway House continues to hold council meetings when they were opening up before they were hit by another wave.

- Norway House was hit with COVID-19; 500 cases in a few months.
- People in houses under watch.
- After two days, the cases went right down.
- Norway House's check stop is still set up if you are entering the community and is the same for Cross Lake.
- The water is very low in Norway House, almost 3' lower than it was last year.
- Easterville school has been shut down as two teachers got COVID.
 - Young people not following the COVID restrictions.
- Ferry is still running in Norway House.
- Have tried to contact Easterville a number of times but was unsuccessful as well as Cormorant.
- Ice road crossing being flooded at Sea Falls.

Eastern Vice Chairperson

Eric Olson

- Our area had wildfires all summer, the fire fighters were working on them until the snow fell.
 - Those who were charged with starting the fire have been relieved of their responsibility or so they think.
- The lake levels are still low.
- The new curve on the road that we started construction on this summer is now completed and is being used.
- Ice fishing has started but not a whole lot of fish.
- There is still no COVID cases in our area to date.

Northern Secretary/Treasurer

Freda Parenteau

- Cormorant received their roads this year.
 - There was work done on the community hall and it is now operational.
 - COVID-19 is in the school and parents refuse to send kids to school.
 - Having a bi-election due to the passing of a council member and the same has happened in Moose Lake.
- Moose Lake upgraded their roads as well.
 - They have a new CAO
 - No COVID in the community and no check stop.
 - The crime rate is escalating in the community right now. It has become very bad.
 - Police are having trouble handling the crime.

Western Vice Chairperson

Lorne Huhtala

- Ice Fishing has started for about three weeks in the community. It is fair right now but it is dropping off.
- Skownan has started hauling their garbage to the Waterhen dump. Rorketon's dump is full and is causing garbage to be left throughout the community.
- Not much fur in the area due to the wildfires that happened all summer long.
- Got a call from the guy that was doing the cement who was pouring the foundation for the tower at Camperville.
- Water line from Meadow Portage to Waterhen had work and Waterhen wasn't consulted.

Eastern Secretary/Treasurer

Wanda Mowatt

- Ferry operations is our biggest issue. The operating cost are always over budget and we need new workers. The funds to cover the amount over budget comes out of our community funds (has happened for at least the last five years).
 - Hoping NACC could write a letter of support to raise our budget on the ferry.
- Ice fishing has started here, some ice and nice freeze up.
- We flooded our winter road once already but it won't be open for a while yet.
- The main road, 234 was really crappy in the fall and they really didn't get it fixed up before winter.
- Virtual winter road training went wonderful with the new equipment in the council office for the community.
- We lost a council member as the member has moved away so we are back down to four members. We still have a fire crew of about two people.

- IRNR is giving us \$50,000 for a trailer because we are going have to start taking our household garbage to the Pine Dock dump (which is about 16km away). We have put in for a new half ton truck with the reserves we had eight months ago and Jim hasn't responded back yet to let us know.
- New water system for the hall because we are on a boil water advisory so they are giving us \$50,000 for that but not sure how long it will take to be completed.
- The extremely low water is bugging up a few people's water line and a few of them have froze already.
- Semi's are destroying the roads because of the Peat moss drivers.
 - o Cost exceeds budget.

Northern Vice Chairperson

June Chu

- Health
 - o There is the new variant (Omicron) has arrived in Manitoba but not confirmed.
- Housing
 - o We had a few families move to Thompson so we have fewer occupied houses.
- Frontier School Division has been looking at whether they keep the schools open or close them to protect the students.
- Public Works
 - o The Wabowden lagoon; the person from IRNR for the lagoon is attending the meetings and told us that the contract was taken as it was not offered to anyone local.
 - o They are funding \$150,000 for the lagoon and \$119,000 is going to out of town contractors.
 - o There was training in Brandon for the Public Works person and when they are done, they will ask for a raise but that hasn't happened yet.
 - o MERX program is making it harder for locals to get contracts without being out bid by out of towners.
- Bayline is still doing their food hampers but probably at the end of March it will be finished.
- Our community arena is shutting down because the fire alarm system is not working properly so it cannot be open to the community.
- We lost one of our council members but we are not going to have an election until next October.
- Heard there are electric car charging stations in Thompson so there is at least one electric car there already.

President

Reg Meade

- Went to Flin Flon to meet with the opposition NDP MLA Tom Lindsey and also went to Thompson on Monday to meet with PrairieCan.
 - o PrairieCan is going to be setting up an office through the Western Economic Diversification Canada in Thompson.
- Wabowden community
 - o Outside contractors are devastating the community as local contractors can't bid due to MERX.
 - o They don't pick up garbage anyone so it sits on the side of the road and the grader has to work around it.
- Hoping sometime next week that BCN can get rid of Clear Sky as they are not working fast enough.
- Met with both Thicket Portage and Pikwitonei
 - o Thicket is having trouble with a truck.
 - o IRNR not giving them access to needed equipment.
- Ice fishing has not started yet in Wabowden.

Motion to accept Reg Meade's Per Diems for meetings with PrairieCan.

Moved by W. Mowatt and second by L. Huhtala

CARRIED

Motion to accept Board Reports.

Moved by H. Fleming and second by E. Olson

CARRIED

10.0 Adjournment - Motion for meeting adjournment
Moved by G. Flett

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CanadInns Destination Polo Park Centre
Friday, December 10, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

1.0 Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m.

11.0 Unfinished Business and General Orders

11.1 IRNR Regional Meetings

- **Feb 8-10 North Central Region – NACC Feb 9**
 - o Agenda to be brief
 - o Reg delivers greetings

Motion to allow staff to compile the binders and update board on every two weeks.

Moved by G. Flett and second by H. Fleming

CARRIED

11.2 Review DRAFT NACC Bylaws

- The drafted bylaws were discussed and review. It was the board's decision to take more time to look over the draft and will report back to the office staff at the regional meetings.

11.3 Speech from the Throne – Province of Manitoba

Motion to skip ahead to Agenda item # 13.0 New Business

Moved by H. Fleming and second by W. Mowatt

CARRIED

11.0 New Business

12.0 Next Meeting

The next board meeting is to be held on April 21st and 22nd, 2022

13.0 Adjournment - Motion for meeting adjournment

Moved by G. Flett

The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 a.m.

3.3 First Aid Training Centre – CPR Certificate Trainer Paula Debenham – 1 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

- Taught the group on how to access the situation, how to approach safely and the proper step to follow when performing CPR on an adult, child or baby.