



Northern Association of Community Councils Inc.
NACC 50th AGM & Tradeshow
Canad Inns Destination Centre Polo Park

Tuesday, August 23, 2022.

Regional Meeting: Eastern

Eastern Chair – Helgi Einarsson

Eastern Vice Chair – Eric Olson

Delegates:

Bob Bull – Aghaming

Audrey Seymour – Seymourville

Wesley Seymour – Seymourville

Kam Lo – Princess Harbour

Susan Olson – Homebrook

Dave Olson – Homebrook

Willie Monkman – Loon Straits

Margaret Wastasecoot – Island Lake

Lori Monkman – Pine Dock

Kevin Mowatt - Matheson Island

Dale Einarsson – Dauphin River

Kris Einarsson – Dauphin River

Kenneth Webb - Harwill

Angela Hood – Berens River

Floyd Hood – Berens River

Observers:

Tasha Monkman – Matheson Island

Trina Gauthier – Berens River

Ulf Kristiansson – Dauphin Rr/Harwill

Karen Kristiansson – Berens Rr/Spence

Keith Seymour - Seymourville

Stewart Sabiston – Director North Central Region - IRNR

Alvin Murdock – Municipal Development Consultant - IRNR

Meeting Called to Order: 1:00 pm

Approval of Agenda:

Resolution #1.22

Moved by: Eric Olsen

Seconded by: Kevin Mowat

Whereas: The Agenda is presented.

Be it resolved: That the Agenda of the meeting is approved.

Carried

Reports

Chair: Helgi Einarsson

Good afternoon everyone,

It has been a while since we have been able to gather in person. Good to see all the conference delegates! Some old familiar faces and some new ones as well.

Over the past two years working through the pandemic has had its challenges. Community visits were not possible and our executive monthly meetings were done mainly as teleconferences. We had staff working from home for a while as a safety precaution for them. Linda would go into the office a couple of times a week for mail and to pay bills and all managed to work well through it. Now all staff are back in the office full time but we know we can work through again if there are any re-occurrences. We relocated our office to a different area in the same building so only the room number changed, not the physical address.

We got some supplies to communities such as sanitizing solutions, hand sanitizers and masks. Where there was a need, we got home testing kits out as well. I know some communities were hit hard by the pandemic, ours being one of them. Our hope is that everyone managed as best as possible under the circumstances. The town hall calls the IRNR held were a good way to keep on top of things as they changed quickly for some time. Linda participated on all the calls and we, as board members, took in as many as we could.

One of the programs that NACC runs is the Northern Healthy Food Initiative. This program has really blossomed in the past few years and communities are enjoying the benefits of it. There are several programs that fall under the NHFI such as the Gardening Program, Greenhouse Program, Garden Tower Program, Chicken Program, Bee Keeping and a wide range of workshops that are hosted in different communities. The NHFI coordinator works with Community Food Champions to get interest in all of these programs. The workshops are a great opportunity to visit other communities and see what they are focusing their interests on. This spring Homebrook/Peonan Point hosted a seed starting workshop that was well attended and they gave everyone a tour of their greenhouses as well. More recently Meadow Portage held a Garden Box Construction Workshop. Everyone got to build a raised bed garden box to take home! In September, Waterhen is hosting a Trapping workshop and in April 2023, Dauphin River is hosting a full day Tree Tapping workshop.

If communities have any ideas for workshops, please contact the NHFI coordinator to discuss and set up something! Trinette will be leaving at the end of the conference, but she has been working with Lisa Settee, the new coordinator so there is a smooth transition. We wish Trinette all the best in her new job. She did a fantastic job for us here and helped take the

program to new heights even through pandemic conditions. Her knowledge and expertise will be missed.

I was given a seat on the new Environment Advisory Committee that has been set up by the province to monitor the Lake Manitoba/Lake St. Martin Channel project.

This year's conference is elections for the President and Regional Chairpersons.

The board got an extension during the pandemic so that we could have in person elections at this conference. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support and patience and wish the best to everyone who decides to run for positions in the election.

Vice: Eric Olson

Eric attended all NACC meetings via Zoom.

Elected for Ashern Auction Mart.

The lake levels are high this year.

Aghaming

The community is not growing.

No one in the community got sick during Covid.

The community is staying on budget.

Seymourville

The community has safe drinking water.

Meetings with neighboring communities to engage in establishing a Seniors Group as the population of these communities are quickly becoming seniors.

Issues:

- Dust control is only done halfway through the community by MIT.
- docks are a safety concern
- Water treatment plant.

Princess Harbor

Small community

Infrastructure – Roads: Received a grant from IRNR for gravel purchases. Quarries in the area are closing making it hard to access gravel.

Docks are in need of repair.

Homebrook

The community is growing, young family moved in, as well as a retired couple.

Received grant to fix a curve on the road.

The number of miles the community need to maintain is a concern to the community. Why can't IRNR purchase and stockpile gravel for a cheaper price.

The community have experienced forest fires, drought, and flood conditions in the last 3 years.

Loon Straits

MLA and IRNR helped to build up roads that were flooded over with two feet of water. Some culverts had to be replaced.

The community have received a grant to convert an old icehouse into a community centre.

The community have received land at the end of Loon Strat for community use.

There was a major fire last week, a cabin burnt to the ground. The community has no equipment to fight fires. The community keeps asking for equipment.

All docks except the floating dock is under water.

Matheson Island

Population has grown with 35 people since census.

Lake Ferry needs to have its hull inspected every third year. No arrangement was made to have other means of transportation. The inspection time got extended until the fall/winter. Low water levels last year and high-water levels this year is causing problems for the ferry landings.

The community increased the ferry operators' wages with the increase of funds from MIT.

1.6 km of roads was washed out due to flooding. The community has used emergency funds to restore the road.

Pine Dock

The community has had success with gardening. Raised beds was built through a grant that was received. The elders have really appreciated the raised beds at they proved better access for them.

There are a lot of new cottagers in the area that generate new business. The Sewer truck is busy five days a week. The community is considering getting a second truck and operator.

The dump site is not designed correctly for the area and is leeching.

The lift station for sewer is having issues and sometimes flowing over. It is scheduled to be replaced.

The operators need to be recertified as they did not renew their certification in time.

Berens River

We struggle, daily, with keeping our water treatment plant in proper running order.

Our plant operators continue to struggle with it and work tirelessly to maintain it.

They continue to educate themselves to benefit the community.

The community has received funding from Second Harvest, with this we provided hampers (meat) twice this year.

Our biggest struggles we have had are communication between Council, IRNR and Berens River First Nation.

Dauphin River

Not much happening in the last 2 years. We had several “safe at home” workshops during the pandemic. Ran a garden program, received a couple of grants for hampers.

We had green team working both years. Got a grant for a garden tractor.

Last year we had our community cut off, from road access for 4 days, because of storms.

This year we are dealing, again, with high water. Now we have lots of debris in the river and bay again, which has a negative affect on commercial fishing.

We have had meetings with MTI regarding the channel. This is supposed to be at a stand still because they have not received the environmental licensing from the feds, (DFO). Still MTI is starting to build roads that are part of the Channel project. The community does not consider the meetings with MTI as consultation.

Harwill

Declining population.

Lots of snow last year. Lots of water this year. IRNR said they will do things but not following through.

The community have done hampers to its residents.

Beavers are a problem and MTI wants the community to deal with it.

We are keeping our heads above water.

Regional Resolution Development

Resolution #2.22

Moved by: Dale Einarsson

Seconded by: Audrey Seymour

Whereas: resolutions were presented at the regional meeting,

Be it resolved: that delegates of the Eastern Region support resolution 43.1 22 from Harwill (Cell service).

Be it further resolved: that delegates of the Eastern Region support resolution 43.2 22 from Harwill (Environmental).

Be it further resolved: that delegates of the Eastern Region support resolution 43.3 22 from Harwill (Emergencies).

Be it further resolved: that delegates of the Eastern Region support resolution 43.4 22 from Harwill (Manitoba Hydro).

Carried

Resolution #3.22

Moved by: Ken Webb

Seconded by: Angela

Whereas: the Eastern Region communities find response times and accessibility to department staff lacking and unsatisfactory on all levels of communication.

Be it resolved: that the department improve the communication with communities by giving responses and full disclosure information in an appropriate timely manner.

Carried

Nominations for the Resolution Committee Member

Resolution #4.22

Moved by: Kenneth Webb

Seconded by: Angela Hood

Whereas: The Eastern Region need a Resolution Committee Member.

Be it resolved: Ulf Kristiansson is Nominated to represent the Eastern Region in the Resolution Committee.

Carried

Elections for the Resolution Committee Member

Resolution #5.22

Moved by: Kenneth Webb

Seconded by: Angela Hood

Whereas: The Eastern Region need a Resolution Committee Member.

Be it resolved: Ulf Kristiansson is Elected to represent the Eastern Region in the Resolution Committee.

Carried

Nominations for the NACC Eastern Chair

Resolution #6.22

Moved by: Dale Einarsson

Seconded by: David Olson

Whereas: The Eastern Region Chair is vacant.

Be it resolved: Helgi Einarsson is Nominated for the Chair of the Eastern Region.

Carried

Resolution #7.22

Moved by: David Olson

Seconded by: Willie Monkman

Whereas: The Eastern Region Chair is vacant.

Be it resolved: Eric Olson is Nominated for the Chair of the Eastern Region.

Carried

Resolution #8.22

Moved by: Bob Bull

Seconded by: Wesley Simard

Whereas: Eric Olson presented his resignation as Vice Chair for the Eastern Region.

Be it resolved: the Eastern Region accepts Eric Olson's resignation from Vice Chair.

Carried

Resolution #9.22

Moved by: Ken Webb

Seconded by: Dale Einarsson

Whereas: Nominations for Chair of Eastern Region need to be closed.

Be it resolved: that nominations for Eastern Region Chair is closed.

Carried

CAO Karen Kristiansson from Berens River, also a Senior Election Officer for Berens River, explained to the group, that the two elections 1- Chair person, 2 – Vice-Chair person, should be done at the same time and not two separate elections.

Election procedures

Resolution #10.22

Moved by: Kim Webb

Seconded by: Dale Einarsson

Whereas: The Eastern Region Chair and Eastern Region Vice Chair is vacant.

Be it resolved: The Eastern Region will vote on Eastern Region Chair first then followed by Nominations and Election of Vice Chair.

Carried

Election for the NACC Eastern Chair

Eric Olson is elected as Eastern Region Chair by a vote of 9 to 7.

Nominations for the NACC Eastern Vice Chair

Resolution #11.22

Moved by: Ken Webb

Seconded by: David Olson

Whereas: The Eastern Region Chair is vacant.

Be it resolved: Helgi Einarsson is Nominated for the Vice Chair of the Eastern Region.

Carried

Resolution #12.22

Moved by: Ken Webb

Seconded by: Bob Bull

Whereas: Nominations for Vice Chair of Eastern Region need to be closed.

Be it resolved: that nominations for Eastern Region Vice Chair is closed.

Carried

Election for the NACC Eastern Vice Chair

Helgi Einarsson is elected as Eastern Region Chair by Acclamation.

IRNR – Regional Report

- Stewart Sabiston – Director North Central Region – IRNR
- Regional Meetings to be held over the winter next time. February or March
- Pandemic was big impact to all communities
- Communities to lock council office doors and make changes on how they do business, i.e.: paying bills, community members visits
- Alvin Murdock (MDC) replaces Darrell McKenzie who retired earlier this year.
- Crystal Dumas (MDC) has moved on to Prince Edward Island
- Discussions about Lagoon discharges – lowering the phosphorous to 1mg.

-Workplace Safety and Health – safety training for Public Works Employees for trenching is required prior to anyone being in a trench or a hole.

Sessions have taken place for the north and west, and east is coming up.

-Technical and Public Works – Jim Lytwyn and Jaime Bertrand will be visiting your communities to complete this falls Infrastructure Audits.

- Protective Services – Last year a majority of our communities dealt with fires and drought, and this year they are dealing with flooding. IRNR working with Disaster Financial Assistance to get back 75% funds spent on road repairs.

-Capital Program – 3.7Million spent on Capital, shared between 48 communities. New Capital process being developed and more information coming in September. Capital Projects must be in Community Management Plans.

-BSC and Federal Government partnering – ICIP Grant (Berens River First Nations) received 23 million for road upgrades

-Communities struggling with Water Treatment Plant water systems. We have Kim Phillips from the Office of Drinking Water to Assist us in this and training.

Kim Phillips: Goal is to get water operators to operators training, including back-ups.

Dale Einarsson (Dauphin River) – What about the communities that have wells? We have to shock our wells. When they (MIT) do there testing, we cannot drink our water. Doesn't MIT know they are doing this?

Stew Sabiston (Director) – Send letter to our Minister and their Minister to what can be done. They don't test for everything.

Dale Einarsson (Dauphin River) – Dauphin River First Nations built a Water Treatment Plant 3 km down the road and we are not hooked up to that.

Stew Sabiston (Director) – We can reach out to the Canada side and see if we can possibly hook up to the Water Treatment Plant.

Dale Einarsson (Dauphin River) – Operators run the plant from their phone from Winnipeg and take samples in every 3 months for testing.

Helgi Einarsson (Chair)–_Anymore questions for Stew Sabiston?

Bob Bull (Aghaming) – If Sewage Lagoons don't meet levels in the fall, can it be dumped?

Stew Sabiston (Director) – I am around for the next three days at the conference, pull my
aside

Adjournment:

Resolution #13.22

Moved by: Wesley Seymour

Whereas: The Eastern Region has concluded today's business.

Be it resolved: that Eastern Region adjourns their meeting at 3.30 pm.

Carried

Eastern Region Chair
Helgi Einarsson

Secretary
Karen Kristiansson