



Northern Association of Community Councils, Inc. 50th Annual General Meeting & Tradeshow

Tuesday August 23, 2022 – CanadInns Polo Park Winnipeg, MB

Regional Meeting: Western - Ambassador Room J

Roll call

1. **Approval of Agenda**
2. **Indigenous Reconciliation and Northern Relations**

~ Regional Report

Stew did a presentation:

Summary from the Dauphin Office - pandemic has forced us all to do business differently. Changed the way we deliver services. Hopefully we have turned the corner and things are getting better. We started the Town Halls because of covid but we're going to continue them for information sharing. Doing video teams calls. First Tuesday of every month at 1:30pm. Provide any related updates from our program areas - roads, operator certification, water, wastewater, disposal, respectful workplace - let communities talk to one another. Next one is Sept 6.

Have had good rep from Western region, not so much from the north.

Highlights of regional workshops - 50 delegates in Dauphin - emergency preparedness, operator cert etc.

Staffing - staff have left - Crystal Dumas moved east, had been there for 20 years, hired Bonny Dumas. New admin assistant Jo. Have a vacancy for the northern regional director - recruiting that position now.

Department highlights - directly supporting wastewater lagoon systems, phosphorous limit before communities can discharge the lagoons - applying allum sulfate for fall discharge, may need to do this with PW staff

Talked about Kim's work with water operator certification
Kim: hoping to offer small systems training in person in the spring

Trenching near miss incident - PW staff was trapped - stop work order
Department had to tell people to stop trenching without certification
Annual infrastructure audits coming up

Flooding events like Red Deer Lake
If you are doing emergency repairs, please submit related invoices back so we can submit to the DFA program. DFA will reimburse 70% of costs - call Kevin Popowich

Hired a contractor to restore a road Issues in Manigotagan

Brand new admin building in Barrows. Spent a lot of money on water treatment in the last few years.

Shannon Greer

Requires information for capital planning - CMP
Hope that you are all planning - divvying up 3.7M for 48 communities
Cost of one new water plant is 5M- can't even do one big project a year

Large road project in Berens River
Commits to having staff travel and work with communities

Barrows thanked Robert for being awesome

Terry - Camperville rep for Sonny:

Is there anything IRNR can do with the road by Camperville that was promised 2 years ago?
They are worried about road safety - people pulling into a ditch
MLAs are not helpful
They are concerned that there's no activity - and yet Pine River road got lots of attention
Logging trucks are an issue
Political promise over two years ago - Stew asks him to write a letter to the Minister, rep says its been done, Stew says to get NACC to write a letter

They went into the Minister's office with rocks and gravel and he acted on the need
Stew says we are just low level bureaucrats working in government - communities get more attention if they interact directly

"If you don't do something you're going to have dead people."

Discussion about Eileen Clarke and how great she was

Cell service is also a huge issue - they have better cell service in Anchorage Alaska

OFC officer commented on how cell phones don't work

Starlink

People gather around places with wifi and cell service and then drive away because there isn't good service in many areas

Gave the number of Mark Talbot to everyone in the community and had everyone call him twice a day. Barry Rempel is his boss, they can call him too

Communities think they should go to the media

Bonny spoke as well - she has 9 communities she works with

Has lots of interesting things to do

Jessica said a few words as well - she's the new Kerri

3. Reports:

- **Board of Directors**

Doug gave a speech

Waterhen has three of the major projects - dump, lagoon and water treatment plant

What they don't tell you is there's no money for operating

There's no budget for that

It comes out of your budget

We get hell from ECP because we don't maintain the ditches

"Be on the O&M dollars right from the start because there is no money"

Also concerned about regionalization and what it will look like - who will win and who will lose

We deserve better than what we're getting"

Peter gave a speech as well

He is a gardener and teaching children right now

Fiddling, jiggling, dancing, singing

He wants to travel to different communities

Would like to see more music festivals

- **Communities**

Barrows report - Green Team, hiring of students, waste site cleanup, garden program U pick, two festivals, etc.

Camperville Report - Physical activity programs, hydro community development initiative, youth coordinator, flooding event where the community came together, renovations to the hall

Crane River - annual festival, garden program, barrel program, NMFCCB (?) grocery cart program, but community issues - crime - don't feel safe - bad internet service - roads
** province needs to do more to address road issues (are deteriorating)

Duck Bay - Finance clerk here of CAO - water treatment plant had problems - BWA was rescinded through work by IRNR but plant was never built to code - operator helped a lot - 2021 lost CAO and he filled in part time, had lots of backdated work - in a better financial position - IRNR consultants helped them - lots of good work since last fall - experienced high water and flooding, SOLE - sandbags etc. Worse than 2011 - 5 rivers coming into Duck Bay all crested at same time. Lots of help provided. Purchasing new public works truck for community. Feasibility studies for water and sewer - need shutoff valves - water and sewer and side road all need to be done. Hoping to get a feasibility study to get that underway.

Mallard - active in NHIF garden program, garden tower, greenhouse program. United Way grant for groceries. Work done on water plant, replaced water hauling, cleaned out sand. Annual community clean up, BBQ, back to school, hot dogs, Christmas dinner, Halloween, Santa deliveries. Current PWE hired until Nov. Hoping to get recreation program up and running. Admin and fire halls redone. Furnace redone as well.

Meadow Portage - roads and culverts washed out in the spring. Almost completed repairs. Community involved in several different programs. Grants from NMFC for groceries and a chicken program - received funds for meat cutting equipment - fruit plants and trees also received. Able to gather as a community in June - mothers and fathers' day - craft workshops for gardens. Have summer students hosting game nights - pickleball - NHIF programs - garden seed, greenhouses, garden towers. Near completing road work. Infrastructure - pump house upgrade, want an engineer for community hall, fall craft nights, potluck and Christmas party

Red Deer - no report.

Rock Ridge - grant from makeway? For kitchen upgrade. New CAO, green team, grants for gift cards, hampers for Canada Day, Halloween and Christmas, park, ribbon making workshop, recreation for kids.

Spence Lake - Passing of Aggie Bass. Redone board room hall for meetings and use by community (donations)- seats 50. Residents can use. Hired one green team and one Metis youth. Purchased a seat can? Purchased kayaks to let community use. Also share resources with unorganized places around as their community is getting older. Will be replacing one community councillor.

Waterhen - community Christmas party and bonfire, seniors supper, Canada Day parade and duck race by fire department, potluck cake and games, recreation center open all week, day camp, bipole money went towards improving community - green team students - NHFI bulbs and seeds, trees distributed - another grant provided fruit for residents. Healthy Together Now gave them canning and gardening supplies. New bear proof recycling

Challenges: waste disposal maintenance - no funding to run. Inadequate funding, drainages, flooding damages. Big financial burden. Possibility of fall flooding

4. **Regional Resolution Development**

- Geraldine moved that all resolutions be pastes as a blanket
- Diana T, seconded

5. **Nominations for the Resolution Committee Member**

Need a volunteer to go up and present this meetings' resolutions
Sarah from Mallard will volunteer
Dianne nominated, Betty seconded

6. **Elections for Resolution Committee Member**

Larry passed away and his seat was vacated - there was no election
Nothing happened during covid except "stupid phone call meetings that never worked"

7. **Nominations for the NACC Western Chair**

Lorraine Chartrand nominates Harold, Geraldine seconds
He must resign from Secretary Treasurer to take this nomination

Harold Fleming resigns and accepts the nomination

Must be a member of council to accept a nomination
Lorne was nominated but cannot accept

Nominations closed

8. **Elections for the NACC Western Chair**

Secretary Treasurer - now this doesn't get voted on until next year
Unless they have a byelection for the position - unless there is a byelection
Linda wants to leave it vacant and Harold thinks the community should decide

Jeff moved, Terry seconded for motion on byelection
Community voted - Agreed to have a byelection

Nominations for secretary treasurer - Leonard Thompson nominated Peter Paul Chartrand,
Diane seconded

Andrew nominated Doug Popowich (Mayor Waterhen), seconded by Betty

Voting was coordinated by Bonny

Only delegates can vote (green nametags)

Voting commenced

Jessica and Bonny counted the ballots

Doug was voted in 13 to 7

Motion to destroy – Betty motions, seconded by Diane

9. **Other Business**

Cost of living increases required

Workshops on butchering and firearms

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No other business

Adjourn at 2:41