



**GENERAL CHIEF AND COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 7, 2021**

Minutes of the Millbrook First Nation (MFN) General Chief and Council (Council) Meeting held December 7, 2021, at the Millbrook Community Hall, 72 Church Road, Millbrook, Nova Scotia, at 9:00 a.m.

CHIEF AND COUNCIL

PRESENT:

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| Chief Robert Gloade | Councillor Ward Markie |
| Councillor Colin Bernard | Councillor Lisa Marshall |
| Councillor Natasha Bernard (departed at 10:41 a.m.; returned at 11:30 a.m.) | Councillor Barry Martin (arrived at 9:40 a.m.) |
| Councillor Alex Cope | Councillor James Stevens |
| Councillor Carley Gloade | Councillor Leana Kennedy |
| | Councillor Gordon Johnson |

ABSENT:

REGRETS:

Councillor Peter Gloade
Councillor Stephen Marshall

STAFF:

| | |
|---|---|
| Claire Marshall, Executive Director | Lorne Paul, Housing Director (Item 3.2) |
| Carla Asprey, Native Employment and Training Officer (Item 2.3) | Art Stevens, Director of Educational Services (Item 2.3) |
| Chantel Langille, Housing Project Officer (Item 3.2) | Donna Stephens, Aboriginal Community Development Officer (Item 2.2) |
| Shelly Martin, In-House Legal Counsel | |
| Greg Mosher, Finance Department (Item 4.2) | |

RECORDING SECRETARY

GUESTS

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| Jessica Haji Mohamad, Administrative Assistant | Sergeant William Collier, RCMP (Item 2.4) |
| | Corporal Natasha Jamieson, RCMP (Item 2.4) |
| | Chris Millier, Canada Lands Company (Item 2.1) |
| | Scott Robertson, Senior Associate, Nahwegahbow Corbiere Genoodmagejig (Item 3.3) |

1. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1.1. Call to Order

Chief Robert Gloade called the meeting to order at 9:21 a.m.

1.2. Adoption of the Agenda

Related Information: Agenda for the December 7, 2021. General Chief and Council meeting.

It was MOVED (Councillor Alex Cope) and SECONDED (Councillor Leana Kennedy)

The agenda for the December 7, 2021 Millbrook First Nation General Chief and Council meeting was approved with the addition of Item 3.3. – Cannabis Policy Engagement Strategy.

CARRIED

(Absent: Councillors Peter Gloade, Stephen Marshall and Barry Martin)

1.3. Adoption of Previous Minutes

Related Information: Draft Minutes of the November 9, 2021 MFN Regular Chief and Council Meeting.

It was MOVED (Councillor James Stevens) and SECONDED (Councillor Carley Gloade)

That the Millbrook First Nation Chief and Council approves the minutes of the November 9, 2021 General Chief and Council meeting, as presented.

CARRIED

(Absent: Councillors Peter Gloade, Stephen Marshall and Barry Martin)

Member Arrived

Councillor Barry Martin joined the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

1.4. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

Discussion ensued on the ownership of a Band member's house and whether a CP was issued.

Action Item (01): *The Housing Director to investigate whether a CP was issued for the Band member's house.*

Action Item (02): *The Director of Commercial Operations to provide information on the share price of Zenabis (HEXO) at the next General Chief and Council meeting.*

2. DELEGATIONS

2.1. Canada Lands Company

Chris Millier, Canada Lands Company, joined the meeting.

- Property – CLC closed Canada 150 Trail on Oct 31st, 2021. Next year, they'll open it a bit earlier to broaden the public access to the trail. People would like to use the trail in the spring if the weather is nice.
- CLC sent a contract to its existing property management firm to continue using them. Their model is to subcontract out the services for the work that needs to be done such as landscaping and other improvements. CLC will make sure that interested Millbrook businesses are notified of opportunities. Spring 2022, they will require clean up, garbage removal, and looking to open the trail up the second week of May.
- CLC is working on their corporate plan cycles and are planning work in 2022/2023.
- A meeting is scheduled on January 12th, with CLC, NS Power and Millbrook First Nation to discuss the transmission towers on the property.

The meeting adjourned to an in-camera session to receive an update from Canada Lands Company, following which the meeting reconvened.

Mr. Miller departed the meeting.

2.2. Reintegration of Community Member – Band Member - Update Presentation

Related Information: Presentation titled “Band Member - Update Presentation”.

Donna Stephens, Aboriginal Community Development Officer, joined the meeting.

The Aboriginal Community Development Officer provided an update on the challenges with identifying housing for a client.

Discussion ensued on:

- Suggestion to contact MFN Housing Director and Project Manager to discuss an alternative if the emergency housing option is not available when required
- Suggestion that community members be asked to provide temporary housing under a Section 84 agreement.

Ms. Stephens departed the meeting.

Member Departed

Councillor Natasha Bernard departed the meeting at 10:41 a.m.

2.3. Educational Services Department Update

Art Stevens, Director of Educational Services, and Carla Asprey, Native Employment Officer, joined the meeting.

Ms. Asprey reported on:

- The payment process for students and training institutions
- Issues with direct deposits for some students.

Discussion ensued on:

- Suggestion that career opportunities be posted to the website more quickly
- The need for students to indicate whether they will be living on or off campus on the applications

Action Item (03): *Staff to provide a report to Chief and Council including:*

- *A recommendation on increasing post secondary student funding to reflect increases in the cost of living and if so, the amount of the increase and cost to MFN.*

Mr. Stevens reported on:

- Current initiatives:
 - Digitize student records
 - Improve application forms and procedures
 - Development of a business plan for a small MFN Centre of Excellence to host MFN students and to provide support with their programs
- Assistance is provided to students for tuition, travel and living expenses
- Funding was provided to 99 post-secondary students in 2021/2022

Discussion ensued on:

- Whether Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq (CMM) has an online student portal
- Total expenditures and funding received from Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) in 2019/2020

Ms. Asprey and Mr. Stevens departed the meeting.

Member Returned

Councillor Natasha Bernard returned to meeting at 11:30 a.m.

2.4. RCMP Update

Corporal Natasha Jamieson and Sergeant William Collier joined the meeting.

- Community visibility – RCMP member on the MFN hockey team.
- Community members are coming out more (i.e. Remembrance Day) since COVID.
- Had a meeting with the band solicitor and the executive director and it went well.
- Visited the retirement home on Abenaki, spoke with the director and they were pleased with the visit.
- Huge recruiting happening in First Nations, hasn't been released to the provinces yet but currently being worked on.
- MFN stickers are on the police vehicles.

The meeting adjourned to an in-camera session to receive an update from the RCMP, following which the meeting reconvened.

Corporal Jamieson and Sergeant Collier departed the meeting.

3. POLICY DISCUSSION/DECISIONS

3.1. Community Letters

Council considered letters from community members requesting:

- Housing repairs
- Provision of four nights' hotel stay due to health concerns in the current home
- Approval of invoice for heat pump cleaning
- Approval to conduct a sentencing circle in Millbrook
- Approval to transfer a tobacco quota to a family member.

It was MOVED (Councillor Carley Gloade) and SECONDED (Councillor Lisa Marshall)

That the Millbrook First Nation (MFN) Chief and Council approves the provision of a hotel room for four days, at the MFN's expense, for band member's family before transitioning into a new home due to health concerns.

CARRIED

(Absent: Councillors Peter Gloade and Stephen Marshall)

It was MOVED (Councillor Lisa Marshall) and SECONDED (Councillor James Stevens)

That the Millbrook First Nation Chief and Council approves payment for the cleaning of heat pumps for seniors living off-reserve upon submission of receipts, to a maximum of \$200.00.

CARRIED

(Absent: Councillors Natasha Bernard, Peter Gloade and Stephen Marshall)

Consensus Decision: The MFN agrees to permit the sentencing circle to proceed.

3.2. Housing Update

Chantel Langille, Housing Project Officer, and Lorne Paul, Housing Director, joined the meeting.

Mr. Paul and Ms. Langille provided updates on:

- The eviction previously approved by Chief and Council
- Housing requests previously discussed by Chief and Council
- Requests for renovations and repairs to housing and community buildings
- Requests for housing from Band members
- Report out on ISC funding for fiscal year 2021-2022:
 - Renovations – \$164,694
 - Individual homeowner construction subsidy – \$50,000
 - Band-owned construction – \$235,000
 - Lot servicing for Band-owned home – \$25,000

Discussion ensued on:

- Recommended amendments to the Housing Policy:
 - If building a new house vs. buying a house, require both on and off-reserve Band members to provide receipts to a maximum of \$30,000 to receive funding of \$25,000 with the final \$5,000 to be paid when the new construction and landscaping are completed
 - Provide a subsidy of \$30,000 to Band members purchasing a home when the ownership of the house is transferred
- Emergency housing:
 - Whether there is adequate own-source revenue to fund the initiative
 - Other options for the provision of emergency housing.

Ms. Langille and Mr. Paul departed the meeting.

3.3. Cannabis Policy Engagement Strategy

Scott Robertson, Senior Associate, Nahwegahbow Corbiere Genoodmagejig, joined the meeting.

Mr. Robertson reviewed the plan for consultation sessions with the community to inform the development of the cannabis policy.

Discussion ensued on the impact of the lack of consultation undertaken with First Nations by the federal government prior to the legalization of cannabis.

Mr. Robertson departed the meeting.

3.4. 2022 Elections Process

Chief and Council were advised of the 2022 election dates provided by the Electoral Officer.

It was MOVED (Councillor James Stevens) and SECONDED (Councillor Alex Cope)

That the Millbrook First Nation (MFN) Chief and Council accepts the dates for the 2022 MFN election.

CARRIED

(Absent: Councillors Natasha Bernard, Peter Gloade and Stephen Marshall)

3.5. Community Requests

Councillor Lisa Marshall reviewed community requests for:

- Moccasin and ribbon skirts course
- Drum course
- Provision of more after-hours care to palliative care patients.

4. REPORTS

4.1. Health Centre

Discussion ensued on the Health Centre request to provide travel reimbursement of \$10.00 per day for workers who must make multiple trips per day within the community as part of their regular duties.

It was MOVED (Councillor Carley Gloade) and SECONDED (Councillor Alex Cope)

That the Millbrook First Nation Chief and Council approves the amendment to the Health Centre's budget to provide travel reimbursement of \$10.00 per day for workers that are required to make multiple trips per day within the community per day as part of their regular duties.

CARRIED

(Absent: Councillors Natasha Bernard, Peter Gloade and Stephen Marshall)

4.2. Finance

Greg Mosher, Finance Department, joined the meeting.

Mr. Mosher provided updates on:

- The status of the 2020 financial audit
- Development of the Finance Policy and Procedures Manual
- Staff training and recruitment.

It was requested that the Finance Policy be provided to Chief and Council prior to the meeting at which approval of the Finance Policy is considered.

Mr. Mosher departed the meeting.

4.3. Executive Director (ED)

Claire Marshall, ED, reported on:

- The planning for development of the annual report required under the *First Nation Financial Administration Act*, has commenced
- The wage parity exercise is near completion
- Commencement of performance evaluations for all staff reporting to the ED
- Preparation for orientation of newly elected Chief and Councillors

- Initiation of monthly management team meetings to improve communications across departments
- Receipt of funding to develop a Comprehensive Community Plan (CCP)
- Application to Tree Canada for funding for more trees in the community.

Member Departed

Councillor Gordon Johnson departed the meeting at 5:41pm.

4.4. Candidates List

Discussion ensued on:

- The process to be followed by Band employees wishing to run for elected office
- The requirement for Band employees to choose between being an employee or holding elected office, if elected.

It was MOVED (Councillor Leana Kennedy) and SECONDED (Councillor James Stevens)
 That the Millbrook First Nation Chief and Council agrees that, for all future elections, all nominees will be offered the opportunity to submit a one-page letter that would be included in an election booklet to be shared with voters.

CARRIED

(Absent: Councillors Natasha Bernard, Peter Gloade, Gordon Johnson and Stephen Marshall)

5. LEGAL UPDATE

The meeting adjourned to an in-camera session.

6. CONCLUSION

It was MOVED (Councillor Ward Markie)
 That the December 7, 2021 Millbrook First Nation Chief and Council General Meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
Time: 5:52 p.m.

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