

# CHIPPEWAS OF GEORGINA ISLAND

## Quarterly Reports

December, 2011



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## QUARTERLY REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2011

Ahneen Georgina Island Membership!

Enjoy reading our first quarterly report from Council, please do not hesitate to contact Chief or any Council members for questions or suggestions. Miigwetch!

Community Announcements:

First announcement we would like to make is a big congratulations going out to our daycare workers Jackie Ellis and Debbie Fiume and our school teacher Tanya Leary. These three individuals are recipients to the Prime Ministers Award for Excellence in Early Childhood Education. These outstanding educators are 3 out of only 28 to receive this award in Canada this year! We're very proud of these individuals and we are honoured to say they are employees of the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation! Congratulations!

Chief and Council would also like to congratulate Michelle Charles who is the owner of MCT Excavation for receiving the Youth Entrepreneur of the Year Award through Waubetek. Way to go Michelle!

The Chief would like to congratulate Councillor Bill McCue on his re-election to the Lands Management Board of Canada. Councillor Bill McCue's involvement in the Lands Management Board brings a lot of opportunity to the First Nation with our own Lands Management Act.

Our annual Barbecue with the York Regional Police in September was well attended by both our membership and the York Region Police Force. The community members at the barbecue had the opportunity to meet the new Police Chief Eric Joliffe who presented the First Nation with an amazing picture of our own members who are York Region Police officers. The picture is being put up to be displayed in the Community Center for all to see.

Attended and volunteered at the fall feast that Joint Services held in October. It was a very nice dinner that the Joint Services team organized for the community. The Joint Services is a volunteer committee that are employees from various departments of the First Nation volunteer or join to collaborate, support, and address community health and wellness as a whole.

The Chief participated in the Remembrance Day Parade in Sutton and laid a wreath on behalf of our Georgina Island veterans who had joined the war. Remembrance Day ceremony was also held on the First Nation with local legion members present to address questions from our school children on the war. This day was organized by our Education coordinator, Lauri Williamson for our children to be made aware of the importance of remembering our veterans and what they had fought for.

## Pukwis Project

On October 18, 2011, Council began a review of the Pukwis Project due to the lack of a secured financial partner and financial commitments that were now required of the project. Through this review, several occurrences came to light that indicated that were problems in the original conception and business plan of the project that needed to be rectified before Council support could continue. Through to November 3, 2011, several meetings were held to gain a complete understanding of where the project was and evaluate all of the information. Due to the resulting circumstances, the Project Manager was relieved of his duties by Council.

On November 3, 2011 Council continued with the internal review of the Pukwis Project and the changes that had to take place to bring support back to the project. Council hired Northern Waterworks as a lead consultant due to their engineering and large scale project management experience to oversee the review. A preliminary term of reference was produced that defined the concerns of each of the council members regarding the project with Hatch Engineering receiving the contract. Hatch agreed to put seven of their team members on the report to meet the required deadline of November 21, 2011. At this time a meeting would be held with Council to review the findings. On November 21, 2011 a meeting was held with Hatch, Northern Waterworks, Council, Band Management and Band Personnel involved in the project to review the findings. The report confirmed the reasoning behind the changes. Given this information Council adjourned the meeting and decided to convene the next morning to allow time to absorb the information prior to making a decision.

On November 22, 2011, Council met and withdrew its support for the project. Changes in the project's construction, equipment requirements, lack of financing, environmental concerns and dwindling support within the community as a whole lead to this decision. On December 5, 2011 a press release was issued and employees were notified of this decision. The delay in the internal notification was due a to communication plan being developed and the need to address contractor concerns as the project was no longer moving forward.

Council would like to thank all of those that participated in the project.

## Coldwater Treaty Update:

Important Notice is attached, the Coldwater Vote for the Meeting on January 16<sup>th</sup> has been delayed by Canada due to the Settlement Agreement not being completed or signed off on their end. Our lawyers and negotiators as well as CTC Chiefs and Nawash Chief are working together on a plan to Canada of their lack of commitment to resolving this claim. It has been communicated that Canada is lacking personnel to work on this claim being completed but still thinks a vote date will be before the fiscal year end.

The CTC First Nations and Nawash have all been diligent in completing their Trusts for the vote and keeping on timelines. It's unfair that Canada expects us to comply with timelines while they so easily disregard their mandate.

We are hoping to have a meeting in the New Year with our negotiator and lawyer to present the draft Settlement Agreement to the membership and to answer any questions or concerns. Notices will be posted and sent out to the membership on the meeting as well as emailed to those who have provided their addresses to the Community Consultation Worker. All the Chiefs are working hard with our negotiator and Lawyers to resolve this outstanding claim and finally bring it to the membership for the vote and compensation.

#### Other Meetings Attended by Chief & Council:

September 26 <sup>th</sup>	Chief and Council Internal Meetings
September 28 <sup>th</sup> -29 <sup>th</sup>	OTC Annual General Meeting
October 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Chief and Council Internal Meetings
October 4 <sup>th</sup>	Sisters in Spirit
October 5 <sup>th</sup>	Pukwis Meeting
October 11 <sup>th</sup>	Chief and Council Internal Meetings
October 11 <sup>th</sup>	Community Auditors Presentation
October 12 <sup>th</sup>	Chief and Council Internal Meetings
October 17 <sup>th</sup>	Chief and Council Internal Meetings
October 18 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup>	Lands Board Annual General Meetings
October 24 <sup>th</sup> -25 <sup>th</sup>	Administration Planning
October 26 <sup>th</sup>	Pukwis Meetings
October 26 <sup>th</sup>	Elders Meeting on Coldwater Trust Agreement
October 27 <sup>th</sup>	Coldwater Information Session
October 31 <sup>st</sup>	Chief and Council Internal Meetings
November 1 <sup>st</sup>	Meeting with TD Bank Manager
November 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Pukwis Meeting
November 7 <sup>th</sup>	Chief and Council Internal Meetings
November 9 <sup>th</sup>	Coldwater Meeting with CTC, Nawash and Canada officials
November 14 <sup>th</sup>	Chief and Council Internal Meetings
November 15 <sup>th</sup>	Community Meeting on Draft Trust Agreement
November 17 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with Elders on Draft Trust Agreement
November 21 <sup>st</sup>	Council Budget Meeting
November 21 <sup>st</sup>	Pukwis Meeting with Advisors
November 23 <sup>rd</sup>	OTC Board Meeting
November 24 <sup>th</sup>	CTC and Nawash Meeting on Coldwater
November 28 <sup>th</sup>	Chief and Council Internal Meetings
November 29 <sup>th</sup>	Joint Services Meeting
November 30 <sup>th</sup>	TD Bank Manager & Vice President Meeting on First Nation Market Based Housing.

December 5<sup>th</sup>

Meeting with Consultants and Project Team on Upper York  
Sewage Solutions in York Region

December 12<sup>th</sup>

Chief and Council Internal Meetings

\*In closing the Chief and Council would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

## Councillor Brett Mooney's Quarterly Report 2011

### **Transportation:**

The Ferry has been running quite well. The weather has been good and I hope we get through the Holidays with good travel.

This is the year the engines and generators are due for rebuild. When the boat stops for the season Toromont Cat will have a crane mobilized to lift the engines out to transport to Concord. The turnaround time is approximately 2 months.

Councillor Mooney apologizes for the delay in acquiring seats for the passenger's quarters he is still hoping to have them for when members leave their vehicles on the mainland.

The airboats will be having their final preparations in the next few weeks.

### **Public Works:**

Andy Godin has made sure all vehicles at public works have been serviced for the winter months.

Also we have stockpiled sand for the main roads.

The fencing around the public work yard has now been completed along with minor repairs to the public works building. We have also completed fire extinguisher inspections for the buildings and the community.

### **Housing:**

This year has been tough for renovations as we had eight septic systems to complete. With help from Kerry-Ann Charles who did a great job applying and getting funding through the Lake Simcoe Community Stewardship program. Attendance at a workshop and an application process was required to receive funding to off- set some costs associated with the installation of the septic systems. Councillor Mooney will continue to work with Kerry Ann to see if we can access this program again.

Councillor Mooney also introduced Vicky Wolske as assistant to infrastructure and housing. Vicky has continued to excel at her job and has been acquiring the necessary training for housing inspections. Vicky has also completed inspections of apartments and rental units and we are in the process of completing repairs.

Two R.R.A.P. renovations were approved from prior submissions. Becky Big Canoe and Nathaniel Scelbe.

December 2011

Quarterly Report

Patricia Big Canoe

I will start by saying that I don't recall the Council or the staff having ever been busier than these past three months. Puckwis and Coldwater have been consuming most of our time and the pressure has been on the get everything right. Weighing the future security of the First Nation and the desires of some of the community members has not been an easy task but we have done our best. It is impossible to please everyone. Puckwis is gone and the Trust for Coldwater has been completed. Now we wait for the vote!

The annual Police B.B.Q. was held on September 20<sup>th</sup>.

Joint Services held a Fall Feast on October 02<sup>nd</sup> and even though it rained, cancelling the outdoor events, everyone appeared to have a good time.

- The seniors went on the train to a workshop in Ottawa, a trip to Niagara New York, Cirque de Soleil, plays in Toronto and Aurora. These events were sponsored out of the LHIN budget and the New Horizon grant.
- Willow received nominations for ten worthy teens who received bicycles from a donation made to the Island from Orillia Soldiers Memorial Hospital.
- Joint Services went to a 1 1/2 workshop to reestablish its mandate and purpose, set guidelines and to decide which events it would carry out each year.
- I dealt with various staff issues and worked on budgets for next year.
- Through the sole efforts of Lynn and Karen, the Library and Literacy budgets were greatly enhanced this year. This funding enabled them to extend and expand their programs.

For greater detail, please visit the Georgina Island website where you will find various reports from my portfolios.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**POLICE REPORT  
September 2011**

15 occurrences for the month of September 2011

- 1 – Found Property
- 1 – Traffic Complaint
- 1 – Possession of a Narcotic
- 1 – Public Intoxication
- 1 – Domestic Disturbance
- 1 – Police Assistance
- 1 – Break and Enter
- 1 – Insecure Premises
- 4 – Community Event
- 1 – Motor Vehicle Collision
- 2 – Police Information

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**POLICE REPORT  
October 2011**

16 occurrences for the month of October 2011

- 1 – 911 Hang Up
  - 5 – Police Assistance
  - 2 – Community Initiative
  - 2 – Domestic Disturbance
  - 1 – Noise Complaint
  - 1 – Assault, Threatening, criminal harassment investigation
  - 1 – Investigation Follow-up
  - 1 – Trespass to Property
  - 1 – Threats
  - 1 – Harassment
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## **POLICE REPORT November 2011**

13 occurrences for the month of November 2011

- 1 – Training
- 1 – Dangerous Driving
- 2 – Assault
- 1 – Police Information
- 1 – Threats
- 1 – Lost Property
- 2 – Police Assistance
- 1 – Medical Transport
- 3 – Investigation Follow-up

P/C Gagnon was out of the community for 6 weeks on medical leave and was also away for a week in November on annual training.

In November Sgt Buffett was away from the community for the first 2 weeks on vacation.

In November P/C Loucks was away from the community for the last 2 weeks on vacation.

**Wishing everyone a safe and happy Christmas holiday!**

## Councillor Quarterly Report: December 2011

### Lands Management

Fifteen years ago, our Community had the honour of hosting perhaps the most historic Aboriginal event in Canadian history. The first government-to-government agreement, between a group of First Nations and Canada, was signed in our hall. This *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management* enabled us to resume jurisdiction and control over our reserve lands and resources, which the *Indian Act* in 1876 unilaterally had removed.

On October 18 and 19, 2011 our First Nation again had the honour of hosting, this time in Ottawa, another major Aboriginal event. We hosted the Lands Advisory Board Annual General Meeting at which the Board signed with Minister Duncan a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a new funding formula for land governance under the *Framework Agreement*.

Thirty of the 34 operational First Nations under the *Framework Agreement*, with limited economic development opportunities at the moment, will benefit significantly and soon will be in a position to generate revenues and jobs for their members.

Georgina Island, as the host Community, played a significant role in making all of this happen. In order for 30 First Nations to benefit, four First Nations were required under the new formula to agree to receive less annual funding. Georgina Island was one of the four. However, our Chief, Councillor Pat Big Canoe and I proudly took the lead role to support the 30 Communities which required funding assistance to provide a better way of life for their people. I have always maintained that we came out from the *Indian Act* to exercise our jurisdiction not to continue depending on Canada for approval of what we do on our First Nation.

Although we took an insignificant cut in operational funding, we managed to negotiate an increase of \$150,000.00 in one time costs for transitional and environmental funding. So in essence we will not experience any lack of services on our Lands Budget in actuality we come out ahead.

### Environment

The Region of York is planning a project called the Upper York Sewage Solutions. This project would result in the diversion of sewage waste water from the Greater Toronto Area being diverted to Lake Simcoe. We were unaware of this process till we read it in the local paper. Council and staff are quickly trying to catch up with this project and ensure we have been properly consulted before any type of decision is to be made. We

are working closely with the Georgina Town Council for they too have the same concerns as us. Our lake is our greatest resource if we have it irreparably damaged who knows how it will affect our way of life.

### Membership

I have made several inquiries to Canada on behalf of our membership to move the process along for those members who are awaiting their status instatement. Some of our membership have been waiting several months for their applications to be processed and with the upcoming settlement of the Coldwater claim this could prove very costly to them. Furthermore it is their right as defined by the Supreme Court that they be granted status in the MacGiver case.

### Economic Development

I attended the Waubetek Business Corporation annual awards ceremony. I was very proud to see our own Michelle Charles receive an award for her outstanding achievement. Well done Michelle your a positive force in showing our membership what can be done when you work hard and follow your dream. It is good to see our people move forward in the areas of entrepreneurship and I congratulate all those that choose this path as well as the Ec Dev staff for assisting.

In closing I would like to say what an honour it is for me to serve the people of this First Nation and I will continue to do my best to advocate on their behalf. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and all the best for 2012.

**COMMUNITY TEACHINGS PORTFOLIO**  
**Councillor Lorraine Big Canoe**  
**Quarterly Report – September through November 2011**

**Early Childhood Education**

In October we were advised that Debbie Fiume and Jackie Ellis had won a Prime Minister's certificate award for Excellence in Early Childhood Education, Also Tanya Leary at the school received a Prime Minister's award in Excellence in teaching. This is for the transition program delivered junior kindergarten at the child care centre and the school to those children entering senior kindergarten the following year. All three ladies will be honoured at the Christmas Concert on December 13<sup>th</sup>.

Kim Big Canoe worked with Bernice Landry of Best Start Network to successfully acquire funding to deliver an After School Recreation Program to children age 4 to 8 from 3:15 to 4:15, 4 days a week. The program will also run on teacher professional days and for March Break. Tanya Leary and Kelsey Trivett will be delivering the program.

All staff at the Child Care Centre took First Aid training during the month of November.

**Education Manager's Report – Lauri Williamson**

Waabgon Gamig's Junior Class attended the Peace Tree Conference on Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> as special guests of the York Region District School Board. Students and staff participated in workshops that focus on bringing peace to our community, our country and the world. Workshops topics included bullying and initiatives that support children less fortunate.

On Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> the Sutton Royal Canadian Legion joined the Waabgon students and some community members in a wonderful ceremony honouring our veteran's and recognizing Remembrance Day. The students heard stories from those who have served and were given the opportunity to ask questions.

Lyla (Starr) Big Canoe has been hired as our new school safety monitor. Her role is to accompany Morning Glory students safely, on the car ferry, to the mainland to board the school bus and to accompany them on the return trip in the afternoon. She also provides assistance with the breakfast program and at lunch and recess at the school.

Mother Earth Mentorship Program is a new program being developed and implemented at Waabgon. It will be called Akinoohmaagzid, meaning all the teachings that come from the earth and how we honour them. More details and activities will be shared in the next quarterly report.

The After School Recreation Program is now the responsibility of Lauri to manage. After parent consultation and participation, a policy has been developed which provides detailed procedures for the program.

An Ojibwe Language Committee has been created by the York Region District School Board to discuss ways that that school board can improve Ojibwe language services. They will also review Ojibwe language teachers that come our way. Lauri and Lorraine sit on this committee.

## **Post-Secondary**

This year's budget commitment from Aboriginal Affairs Canada is \$263,729.00. We are currently funding 25 students at various post-secondary institutions. Our total commitment for these students to June of 2012 is currently \$300,836.00. Next quarterly report we will let you know the kinds of careers our students are pursuing.

## **Heritage, Culture and Language**

Andrew Big Canoe and Suzanne Howes have started a Talking Circle on Georgina Island. One of the reasons they wanted to start the Talking Circle was to reconnect with members and hear their stories of the Island. It is a way to learn about the Island from the members' perspective and to reconnect on and off reserve members. The Talking Circle is politics free and is a great way to share your stories and pictures of the Island. The first one was held on Thursday, Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> the second one on Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>. It was two interesting evening spent sharing stories, pictures and food with one another as well as songs on the second evening. We have a lot of interesting and talented people associated with the Chippewas of Georgina Island and it's a great way to get to know them. We hope to see you at the next Talking Circle in January. Watch for the flyer.

Georgina Wolske has attended the "*Learning through Language & Culture Conference*" that took place December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011 in Peterborough. This is for her own professional development in the delivery of her Ojibwe language classes in the mainland schools she teaches at.

Delores, Heather and Sally Charles have organized community sweat ceremonies facilitated by Pat Green. One was held in mid-November and another will be held on December 17<sup>th</sup>. Anyone wishing to participate please contact Heather Charles.

**CHIPPEWAS OF GEORGINA ISLAND FIRST NATION**

**LIBRARY AND LITERACY**

**REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2011**

All programs are running as usual. Our teacher, Marian Borsellino, is here on Tuesdays and Thursdays for anyone needing upgrading or help with their online courses.

Beading class is Monday evenings unless otherwise specified, call either Lynn or Karen for an update.

The Balancing Your Personal Medicine Wheel workshop continues with Denise Toner on Tuesday evenings, no new registrations are being accepted.

Library visits for the school and daycare continue on a weekly basis.

Total number of visits to the library in November –**167**

**Meetings Attended**

November 8	Literacy Program Visit from MTCU Field Consultant Joint Services
November 9	Scrabble/Potluck with visitors from Sutton Public Library Scrabble Club
November 15	Aboriginal Language Initiative meeting(Karen) Southern Ontario First Nation Library Officers teleconference (Karen)
November 21-22	SOLS First Nation Consultant visit
November 23-24	Anishnaabe Kwewag Gamig Meeting (Lynn)
November 28-29	Joint Services Meeting

**\*NOTICE\***  
**COLDWATER VOTE DELAYED**

Settlement Agreement has not been completed. The First Nations and Canada have been working to finalize a Settlement Agreement that will accurately set out the terms of settlement of the Claim. The substantial work that has taken place includes numerous full table negotiation meetings for ongoing negotiations on the terms of the Settlement Agreement, working group drafting meetings between the lawyers, preliminary drafting of the necessary information package and ratification materials and analysis of legal and other issues that have arisen during the drafting of the Settlement Agreement.

Canada's legal has taken a leave of absence of 1 month for health reasons; therefore, leaving us at a standstill until their return to office in January. Due to the complexity of negotiations Canada is not bringing another legal representative to the table.

Attached to this notice is a paper outlining the clear steps that need to be addressed leading up to ratification stage and the ratification process.

Please do not hesitate to contact Chief and Council or our Community Consultation worker at the Band Office (705) 437-1337 for questions or clarification.

A meeting will be scheduled in the New Year, hopefully to present the completed Draft Settlement Agreement and announce the new Vote date. Mail outs and postings will be sent out to notify the membership of the dates for community meetings.

**Miigwetch From Chief and Council, Chippewas of Georgina Island**

**APPENDIX**  
**Coldwater Narrows Claim**  
**Steps Remaining**  
**December 14, 2011**

<b>Estimated<sup>1</sup> Timeframe</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Item</b>
Dec	NRCAN	Complete mapping of selection areas
Dec	NRCAN	Legal description of selection areas
Dec	All lawyers	Confirm correctness of mapping of surrender area
Dec	All lawyers	Confirm correctness of legal description of surrender area
Dec	AANDC Region	Confirm wording change to provisions drafted by lawyers about residual Crown interests
Dec-Jan	AANDC RDG	Respond to Chiefs' letter about surplus federal Crown lands
Dec-Jan	All lawyers	Re-drafting of advice certificates (schedule to settlement agreement)
Early Jan	All lawyers	Develop wording for provisions about surplus federal Crown lands (if applicable)
Jan 13	All lawyers	Drafting meeting to finalize lawyers' draft settlement agreement wording and collect all pieces together
Late Jan	All lawyers	Advise clients about lawyers' draft settlement agreement
Late Jan	All Parties	Consider lawyers advice and decide about authorizing initialing of the settlement agreement
End Jan	All Parties	Initialing of the settlement agreement
Early Feb	AANDC Elections Staff	Preparing materials initiating process: BCR requesting referendum & appointment of Deputy Electoral Officer
Early Feb	All lawyers	Review materials initiating process: BCR requesting referendum & appointment of Deputy Electoral Officer
Early Feb	First Nation Councils	Pass BCR requesting referendum & appointment of Deputy Electoral Officer
Early Feb	AANDC Elections Staff	Appoint Deputy Electoral Officers

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<sup>1</sup> PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL DATES ARE ESTIMATES ONLY. FINAL SCHEDULING WILL TAKE PLACE FOLLOWING THE INITIALING OF THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT.

<b>Estimated<sup>1</sup> Timeframe</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Item</b>
Early Feb	AANDC Elections Staff	Prepare required materials for mail-out: Notice of Referendum, ballot, ballot declarations, letter from electoral officer, surrender, instructions to elector
Early Feb	All lawyers	Review required materials for mail-out: Notice of Referendum, ballot, ballot declarations, letter from electoral officer, surrender, instructions to elector
Early Feb	First Nations lawyers and communications staff	Prepare confidential materials for mail-out: summary and advice about settlement agreement, summary and advice about trust agreement, letter from Chief
Early Feb	AANDC or First Nations Membership Staff (GI)	Finalization of Voters' list
Mid Feb	First Nations Elections staff	Copy materials, post on reserve and mail out package off-reserve: Notice of Referendum, ballot, ballot declarations, letter from electoral officer, surrender, instructions to elector, summary and advice about settlement agreement, summary and advice about trust agreement, letter from Chief, settlement agreement, trust agreement.
Early March	First Nation Councils, lawyers, and AANDC Elections Staff	Information meetings for each reserve and some for off-reserve.
End March	First Nations Elections staff	Vote

<sup>1</sup> PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL DATES ARE ESTIMATES ONLY. FINAL SCHEDULING WILL TAKE PLACE FOLLOWING THE INITIALLING OF THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT.

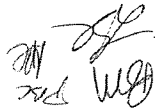
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CHIPEWAS OF GEORGIA ISLAND  
Quarterly Reports  
December, 2011

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