

CHIPPEWAS OF GEORGINA ISLAND

COUNCIL REVIEWS AND UPDATES

September 12, 2011

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COUNCIL REVIEWS AND UP DATES

SEPTEMBER 12, 2011

Present: Chief Donna Big Canoe

Councillor Patricia Big Canoe

Councillor Brett Mooney

Councillor Bill McCue

Councillor Lorraine Big Canoe

Band Staff: Marlene Stiles, Willow Hill, Morgan Priester, Bill Linders Jr., Paul Big Canoe, Barb McDonald.

Band Members: Danny Big Canoe, Heather Charles, Deanna Big Canoe, Emily Big Canoe, Faith Big Canoe, Trish Stevens, Myrtle Charles, Susan Hoeg, John Edwards, George Snache, Dawn Sillaby-Smith, Amy Altzeimer, Claire Big Canoe, Georgina Wolske, Andy Big Canoe, Gord Metcalfe.

Law Enforcement: Sergeant Greg Buffett

Opening Prayer: Patricia Big Canoe

Minute Taker: Natalie Priester

The Chief welcomed everyone and hoped they had an enjoyable summer.

Community Announcements:

Chief and Councillors Pat Big Canoe and Lorraine Big Canoe had the pleasure of attending the opening of the Sandy Beach Project. This was an amazing project we were able to get through the "Giver" project. All stated what a remarkable job that Willow Hill did in applying for this project and advocating on our behalf to get this project. Some of our children were selected to be involved in the program and throughout the construction stage. We will see them on television next year when it is televised on TVO, hopefully we will be aware of the time it will be aired and the membership can be informed. The volunteers were equally amazing and everyone did an excellent job. Over the course of 3 days, 45 volunteers assisted in cutting, building, painting, digging, spreading and completely changed the Sandy Beach into a child friendly area. Stephanie Big Canoe assisted Willow with the details which enabled the volunteers to do their work. Please go and see the project.

On behalf of his colleges Councillor Bill McCue congratulated Chief Donna Big Canoe on her recent wedding, and said it was one of the nicer events of the summer.

Chief and Council also announced that a new forum for the Community Council Meetings has been developed and will be implemented following this council meeting tonight. The new structure will have councillor portfolio reports sent out quarterly at the end of the month, to the membership on reserve and posted on the website www.georginaisland.com The full reports are scheduled to be sent out,

- December 2011
- March 2012
- June 2012
- September 2012

Council will still be available by setting aside every Monday of the month to address written Band member concerns or meet with individuals or collective groups whether day or evening.

Please contact Natalie Priester at the Administration office at 705-437-1337 to book appointments with full Council.

Attached is a briefing note to Council to be submitted prior to scheduling a meeting with Council and perhaps a suggested solution especially if it staffing issues.

Membership can still contact individual Council members at any time on a daily basis to discuss any concerns or provide suggestions with their portfolios.

Council is implementing this new forum as Band Members have been raising personal and confidential matters in public meetings that are being recorded into published minutes. Some of these personal/confidential issues that have been addressed have concerned friends and family and left various members feeling uncomfortable.

This new forum is the result of research from enquiries to other First Nations regarding how they conduct their Council Meetings and the formats followed. Chief and Council are striving to continue with their goal to improve communications and good governance. Council looks forward to implementing this new forum with the membership. The new practice will be reviewed after 6 months for its effectiveness.

****PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT COUNCIL WILL STILL BE HOLDING PUBLIC COMMUNITY MEETINGS FOR THE MEMBERSHIP REGARDING MAJOR PROJECTS, TREATIES, AUDIT, ETC. NOTICES WILL ALWAYS BE POSTED AND SENT OUT TO INFORM MEMBERSHIP OF UPCOMING MEETINGS.**

Coldwater Treaty Claim:

The CTC First Nations and Nawash are still continuing to work on our Trust Agreements. Our First Nation has had many meetings with our lawyer, Kim Fullerton and the membership regarding the development of our Trust Agreement. We are striving to gain input from the membership through meeting, e-mails, letters, surveys and one-on-one conversations with the lawyer, or with Chief and Council. Please if you have not provided any input to the Trust development to Council, or Suzanne Howes, our Community Consultation Worker please do so soon, as we must start getting the draft together to present to the Community. The lawyer needs to get as much input as he can before we can submit a final document for the whole community to review and accept. This has to be completed before the ratification stage begins. All four First Nations have to have their trust agreements completed in order for us to move into ratification time line. This time line will be based on every First Nation completing their individual trust. Up to this date our First Nation has had the most Community meetings, and are progressing faster than the other 3 First Nation, we hope the other First Nation will catch up and we will be completing the trusts at the same time.

The Settlement Agreement is also hoping to be completed by September 30th. That's the settlement agreement with Canada and the First Nation. Once that's completed, we will be having another Community Meeting to show the settlement agreement for the membership to review before ratification.

Finance:

The audit has been completed and the draft has been sent to INAC for review. The Chief acknowledged all the extra work and long hours that the finance staff did at this audit time in order to have it completed before INAC's deadline. The Community Auditors meeting is being scheduled for October 11, 2011 in the evening at 7 o'clock p.m. Notices will be sent out and posted on the website prior to the meeting to inform the membership.

Library/Literacy:

The report will be attached.

Councillor Patricia Big Canoe wants the Community to know that there is a possibility that the Literacy Program could be gone within the next two years. The criteria from the Ministry of

Training and Colleges and Universities has undergone major changes. Instead of basing the funding on contact hours, it is now based on task completion and how many people went on to get a job from these programs. You must complete a program once you start it or it is not recognized by the Ministry for funding. Councillor Pat urges the Community to support these programs.

Transportation:

This has been a good year of operation. The AAZHAWE has run quite well. There are still outstanding paint items to take care of this winter. There is still a major overhaul of the engines and generators to address this winter. They will be sent down to the KAT plant in Concord for a complete re-man. This is due to hours of operation on the vessel. We are well passed the time we should have had this done. We are in our 11th yr, it should have been done in the 10th. A permanent hatchway will be made in the deck to complete this necessary work over the winter. We are also addressing a couple of other items on the boat. Unfortunately, the company we ordered chairs from went bankrupt, we have now ordered other chairs and they should be here in a week. Also the rubber for the underside of the gates has been picked up and will be installed as soon as possible. We have also done maintenance work prepping the airboats for the winter and should be ready for the ice when it arrives.

Housing:

We have now had all of the septic inspections completed. Also the reports have been submitted for funding to help with septic repairs and I hope to have a response soon. As soon as this happens, Councillor Mooney will be assessing what monies can be allocated for renovations. Also we are waiting for treasury board to answer us on our CMHC Houses. We are hoping to have an answer by the end of September. Brett is going to be having a meeting with Gail Dorey from CMHC on the 15th of September. We hope to get answers out to the people on housing before it gets too late in the season to haul material. If anyone needs any clarification contact Councillor Brett Mooney at the Band Office.

Public Works:

Andy Godin has been busy getting the vehicles ready for the winter months and patching the roads. Not much money was received this year for road repair. We request money every year and sometimes we get it and sometimes we don't but we'll keep submitting. Some areas are in dire need of repair.

We have completed the quote for the fencing for Public Works and we can start stock piling materials in the fall for the winter in the Public Works yard.

Q. Andy Big Canoe asked Councillor Brett Mooney if he looked after the Marina?

A. Councillor Mooney said there is a Marina Board but he is the Portfolio holder.

Q. Andy Big Canoe said he has seen people who he did not recognize, getting gas at the gas shack and wondered why that would be when gas is so much cheaper in town. He also stated when he asked who the person was he was told it was a First Nation person from another reserve. Andy suggested "no gas cards" should be left at the gas shack in case anyone is abusing them.

A. Councillor Brett thanked Andy for bringing it to his attention and that it would be dealt with at the next scheduled marina board meeting.

SWOP Meeting:

Councillor Bill McCue, as well as other Council Members attended the Safe Water Operation Program which was looking at our waterline and our water systems.

Councillor McCue also attended a meeting in Thunder Bay with Marlene Stiles for Lands and Economic Development. This was a very interesting meeting to see First Nations across Ontario moving forward in different areas of Economic Development. We are moving forward as well in the area of job creation, and wanting to create revenue too. As always funding was a major issue in the new formulas they're suppose to be coming out with soon. The new policy and development will be out in the fall.

Throughout the summer we had 10 students employed. When the students were hired they had to go through the process of submitting resumes, and obtaining a position was based on school marks to make it clear to our students that you have to do well in school in order to move forward in your career and life.

On October 25th, Jason Peltier from Waubetek will be here, anyone interested in business start-up please contact either Rachel Big Canoe or Marlene Stiles, to set up an appointment with Jason, contact Rachel Big Canoe.

Lands:

We will be having a lawyer coming in the next month or so for anyone interested in doing their wills. Councillor McCue highly suggests you do have a will in order that your family doesn't have the burden of figuring out your affairs, and because of assets you have, this should be taken care of prior to anything happening to you. Whenever a date for a Wills Workshop is established the dates will be posted.

Q. Andy BigCanoe raised the subject of why the road for the Pukwis Project was being moved again, and that Landowners weren't consulted.

A. Chief and Council explained that it was a road allowance and there was environmental issues.

Education:

There is a new teacher at our Waabgon Gamig School - Ms. Gina Marucci for Grades 3-5. The school held a "Meet the Teacher" Bar-B-Que on the 8th of September. It was well attended.

The language class has been extended to a full half day on Wednesdays with Barbara McDonald and Kelsey Trivett, who is now working with Barb in that class. Councillor Lorraine had announced last spring that an invitation was going to be extended to parents and grandparents to attend the language classes in order that they learn the same thing that the children are learning and can practise at home. No announcement has been made on this Councillor Lorraine will follow up on this.

At the High School, we didn't get any applications for the Ojibwe language teaching position. The high school advertised through Nation Talk and got one application for Cree. Councillor Lorraine is going to advertise in Anishnabek News. That position will include the Sutton High School and the Keswick High School.

The Education Committee developed a strategic plan over last year. Councillor Lorraine is going to make sure it is on the website. The committee will now be working on putting the strategic plan into a workplan. When the workplan is done the Committee will share this with the Community.

Everyone has been busy working on the "New Learning Centre" which will encompass the school and the childcare centre. The team is developing a feasibility and design proposal that meets the criteria of Indian Affairs and the Ministry of Education. At this point we are not asking for capital funding. The team is just going to see how everything works out first.

We are also participating in a program called "School Success" This program is funded through Indian Affairs. We are part of this with Christian Island and Rama. In October all of their teachers are going to be coming here to do a sharing and learning with our teachers as well as networking. This program involves, literacy, numeracy and student retention. This will promote to our students the importance of going right through to college and university.

Students from the Island school will be attending the Cirque de Soleil Totem on Friday September 16/11.

Mary Burrige is a cottager on the Island she works for the R.O.M. and she is going to bring a variety of fish, birds, and reptiles to the school on October 5, 2011.

Greer Atkinson is back from maternity leave and will be available for counselling and funding information.

Erica Kelly has returned as Transition Co-ordinator at the High School.

Childcare:

Councillor Lorraine Big Canoe and Kim Big Canoe will be going over the Agreement we have with the Ministry of Education, as part of their package we can apply for repair and renovation money.

New Business:

Dawn Sillaby Smith had discussion on the new format for the Council Meetings. She didn't think it was a good idea to cancel regular monthly Council Meetings.

Andy Big Canoe asked if there was going to be any Coldwater Meetings off-reserve. The Chief said they were looking at doing a collective meeting with Rama, Christian Island and Nawash.

Deanna Big Canoe said a Trust Fund Board should be developed with representatives, off reserve, on reserve, an elder, and a youth. This will all be taken into account when the Community meetings are held.

Willow Hill said Parents and Grandparents should be told to keep 4 wheelers off the Sandy Beach Area. Bill Linders Jr. Said signs should be posted with all the rules of the beach. Also garbage bins need to be placed there and the Police need to patrol more. Poop and scoop signs should be placed too.

Also the Community needs to be reminded the Kids are back in School and to please slow down. The maximum speed limit is 40!!

Mr. Gord Metcalfe said he picked up a copy of the Economic Development brochure and thought it was excellent and hopes it continues.

Willow Hill also asked if the sacred grounds, on the map is really designated as sacred grounds. The Chief explained there is a draft Land Use Plan finally completed and a meeting will be held at some point for the Community to vote on accepting the plan. Notices will be sent out.

Willow thanked the Barge drivers for their help and courtesy while the Sandy Beach Project was going on.

The meeting was closed in Prayer by Elder Barb McDonald in the Anishnabek Language.

**POLICE REPORT
June 2011**

13 occurrences for the month of June 2011

- 1 – Found Property
- 1 – Traffic Complaint
- 1 – Marine Assist
- 1 – Unwanted Person
- 1 – Theft Under \$5000
- 1 – Police Assistance
- 1 – Phone Calls
- 1 – Meeting at OPP Headquarters
- 1 – False Alarm
- 1 – Community Service
- 1 – Motor Vehicle Collision
- 1 – 911 Call – unfounded
- 1 – Keep Peace



**POLICE REPORT
July 2011**

36 occurrences for the month of July 2011

- 8 – Traffic Enforcement
- 4 – marine Assist
- 2 – Police Assistance
- 3 – Community Service
- 1 – Theft Under \$5000
- 1 – Break and Enter
- 1 – Neighbour Dispute
- 4 – Noise Complaints
- 1 – Unwanted Person
- 1 – Harassing Calls
- 1 – Check Premises