



Matachewan First Nation Chief and Council Meeting MINUTES

Date and Time	August 22, 2023 @ 6:00 pm
Location	Log Building and Zoom
Chairperson	Jason Batisse
Council Present	Jason Batisse, Adrian Boucher, Melanie Boucher, Lulu Jobson, Elenore Hendrix, Chelsea Daley, Rachel Batisse
Council Regrets	Stan Fox
Council on Zoom	Clara Hanson, Tommy Fox
Recorder	Marilyn Groulx, Delta Flood
Staff	Cathy Yandea – Lands & Resources Coordinator
Guest(s)	Jamie Dollimore – Environment Canada (EC); Melanie Campbell & Brandi Mogge – Dept Fisheries Ontario (DFO) – Stephanie Thibeault, Pamela Powers, Donna Byce – Newmont Paul Collins – Wabun Resource Development Advisor
Related Documents/Reports	

Item #1 – Welcome and Call to Order	
Lead(s):	Chief Jason Batisse
Discussion:	Opening Prayers by Jean Lemieux
Outcome:	Meeting opened at 6:06 pm

Item #2 – Newmont Proposed Fish Compensation Plan	
Lead(s):	Jamie Dollimore – Environment Canada (EC); Melanie Campbell & Brandi Mogge – Dept Fisheries Ontario (DFO) – Stephanie Thibeault, Pamela Powers, Donna Byce - Newmont
Discussion:	<p>Environment Canada & DFO discussed their roles in the proposed Fish Compensation Plan proposed by Newmont which includes looking at the type, extent or area, sensitivity of habitat/species, and expected duration of negative impacts of the disturbed area. All impacts must be offset or compensated for should the request be approved. All alternatives must be researched and weighed as well as consultation must be done before a decision can be made.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offsetting Principles: Support fisheries management objectives; fully balance the impacts; provide additional benefits to the ecosystem; and must be self-sustaining in the long term. • Monitoring Impacts: ensure avoidance mitigation is effective; confirm impacts are not greater than authorized; confirm offsetting is functioning (multi-year from 5 to 20+ years); methods based on objective; reporting requirements; contingencies in the event success is not achieved; conditions are ENFORCEABLE; and financial guarantee is REQUIRED. <p>Councilor wanted to know how often reports get done and if they are sent to the First Nation – Answer was it depends on the project and yes they do.</p> <p>Chief wanted to clarify that there are no spawning habitats being affected by this project – correct. Band member voiced some concerns regarding other animals being affected by drinking impacted water and if the run-down effect to humans was looked at, as well as to clarify what offsetting was and if fish were destroyed – No real answer on the animals, but the DFO’s policy is to replace any impacted habitat as closely to same habitat (like for like preferred).</p> <p>Newmont discussed their current #6 Tailings Management Area including the history of it and surrounding mines owned by Newmont. They are looking to do some offsetting for a total of 15.9ha</p>

	<p>of small-bodied fish habitat (e.g., minnows and brook stickleback) to upgrade the current walls and seepage collection.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • #6TMA was constructed in the 1980's and is unlined with lined raises. • They would like to do upgrades to allow for continued use of it rather than build a new area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2m Dam raise ○ Revise engineering design to reduce footprint included dam raises and upgrades. ○ Add a sludge storage cell within #6TMA for Pamour ETP ○ Relocate an effluent discharge channel 130m north due to infrastructure upgrades. ○ Roads will be expanded to gain access as well as the outer shell to make everything more stable. <p>Offsetting options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Off-Channel Pond near South Porcupine River behind area off Quebec Ave in an old snow dump location – soil samples show non-toxic – 3 ponds would be attached to S Porcupine River – targets small and large body fish. • Remediation of Riparian Habitats in Frederick House River and Mattagami tertiary watersheds. • Complimentary Measures: Off-channel option of habitat mapping and walleye spawning assessment in Porcupine River watershed, hydro-acoustic based studies, silt management, and turbidity curtains will be added as needed. <p>Newmont has been working with the RDA group as well as Zhashagi (Blue Heron Environmental) regarding the plans and have heard and replied to their comments satisfactorily.</p> <p>Councilor wanted to know if there were contingency plans should the current options not be feasible – Answer was they have 34 sites as possible options they can choose from.</p> <p>Band member wanted clarification regarding the seepage issue – Answer was there is seepage from the TMA that Newmont's goal is to have infrastructure in place to collect all of the seepage by 2026.</p>
Outcome:	N/A

Break 7:13 PM

Item #3 – Goldcorp	
Lead(s):	Paul Collins – Wabun Resource Development Advisor
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Used to have a lot more band members on staff but the underground mining portion was closed and most of the old staff don't want to work above ground. - Summer Students can be set up at Northern College dorms if they want to work there. - A lot of Niiwin employees would rather work for them Niwiin the Mines (23 Newmont sites need to be reclaimed and work is to be done by Niiwin). They have so much work they have a hard time finding employees. - Lulu is board of Director. Niwiin will be asked to do a presentation. - Chief mention there were issues between Niiwin and some of our band members in the past – Niwiin is now under new management (2nd in command Don Lafontaine) and their goal is to be 100% FN employees, specifically upper level. - Paul would be happy to coordinate site tours – summer months would be better. - It was noted that the Collective Bargaining Unit supersedes RDA in the IBA - There is an Environmental Committee – Goldcorp pays Zhashagi Environmental Servies (stand-alone offshoot of Blue Heron) for reviews – 27 sites are monitored daily. - We are guaranteed ¼ million between four communities per year plus part of profits – no profits over the past few years. - We also receive \$25,000 for participation, plus some scholarship payments
Outcome:	N/A

Item #4 – Dragonfly Embroidery Sale	
Lead(s):	
Discussion:	<p>Went over what would be included in purchase and benefits. Includes 20 half/day training and she's a call away for questions after. It would take 2 employees to start. A few wholesalers were named. Purchaser responsible for moving equipment and supplies. She offered for Council to stop by anytime from 9am to 7:30 pm to see equipment. Councilor concerned about machine repair – Answer was that the machines are very sturdy but there's a company in Toronto that you pay mileage and time spent for repairs. Price includes a new website: www.dragonflyembroidery.ca</p>
Outcome:	N/A

Item #5 – TLE Signing Celebration?	
Lead(s):	Cathy Yandeau – Lands & Resources Coordinator
Discussion:	<p>MFN TLE Celebration ceremony with 2 Ontario Ministers and 1 Canadian Minister will be held Monday, September 18, 2023, at 10am ending with lunch. One elder is to be used for prayers rather than 2 (one for start, one for close). Wanted to be sure C&C were okay with Canada having a Senior Representative attend as the Minister was not available and it would otherwise have to be rescheduled. C&C seemed okay. A page to sign for photo-ops was included in package given to C&C and MFN's lawyers will look it over to ensure it is worded okay and good to sign at celebration. Event is open to Community – send email to distribution list as well as flyers at homes on community. Discussion around flags to be displayed – consensus was only the Matachewan, Ontario and Canada flags should be up. Discussion on gift exchange – make sure it is something Gov't can display in office buildings. Will purchase 3 paintings and Cathy was thinking of giving a Medicine Pouch to each (which Ministers will be allowed to keep personally). Adrian, Stan and Jason are on the TLE Committee</p>
Outcome:	N/A

Item #6 – Separation Road	
Lead(s):	
Discussion:	The Separation Road would be better and less expensive to build if we used the back road and put up a gate. Will be discussed at the next community meeting.
Outcome:	N/A

Item #6 – Next Community Meeting	
Lead(s):	
Discussion:	Will be on Saturday, September 9, 2023
Outcome:	N/A

Item #6 – Sporting Requests	
Lead(s):	
Discussion:	<p>Would like to have information sent out regarding funding for up to \$500/per child for sports. Information would be shared once policy is signed.</p>

	A list needs to be maintained of who received it and when as well as an application form created. Request for sweaters/hoodies was tabled
Outcome:	N/A

IN CAMERA – 8:40 PM