

SERPENT RIVER FIRST NATION

195 Village Road
Cutler ON, P0P 1B0



Telephone: (705) 844-2418
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SRFN Chief and Council Meeting
Tuesday, August 23, 2022

Chair: Brent Bissaillion

Council: Wilma-Lee Johnston, Kerri Commanda, John (Jack) Trudeau, Shirley McLeod

Regrets: Michelle Owl, Steve Meawasige

Director of Operations (DOO): Tracey Seabrook

Staff: Tyler Gary, Communications Office; Lilli Doughty, POLEA

Recording Secretary: Lilli Doughty

1) Call to Order/Opening Prayer/Remarks:

- The duly convened Chief and Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm
- Councillor Trudeau said an opening prayer

2) Adoption of Agenda

MOTION: 2022-08-23-01

That Chief and Council adopt the Agenda for the Chief and Council Meeting of Tuesday, August 9, 2022, as amended.

Moved by Shirley McLeod

Seconded by John (Jack) Trudeau

CARRIED By Consensus

3) Declaration of Conflict of Interest:

- None declared at this time

4) Community Presentations

- None at this time

Recording Secretary:	Lilli Doughty	Date Approved	2022-09-13
2022-08-23 DRAFT C&C MINUTES		Motion of Approval	2022-09-13-02

5) **Approval of Previous Minutes**

a) Tuesday, August 23, 2022

MOTION: 2022-08-23-02	
That Chief and Council approve the Council Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, August 9, 2022 as presented	
Moved by	John (Jack) Trudeau
Seconded by	Kerri Commanda
CARRIED	By Consensus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9. a) Councillor Trudeau seconded the motion - 9. b) Councillor Johnston seconded the motion - 11. c) The North Shore Tribal council has offered their support to foster and encourage members to recycle, along other supports 	

6) **Business Arising from Minutes**

a) Update - Waste Management Progress

<p>ISSUE: Addressing outstanding issues related to waste management for Serpent River First Nation.</p> <p>BACKGROUND: At the previous Chief and Council meeting on August 9th, 2022 a briefing note was presented regarding the outstanding negotiations with the Town of Spanish for disposal of waste from Serpent River First Nation. A meeting was being convened with North Shore Tribal Council to discuss support they may be able to provide and how to move forward to arrive at a positive position for Serpent River First Nation. Subsequent to the meeting, discussions also ensued with Indigenous Services Canada regarding funding opportunities to support the community.</p> <p>CURRENT STATUS: A meeting was held between Serpent River First Nation, North Shore Tribal Council and Indigenous Services Canada on August 17th, 2022. It was discovered that in March 2021 a Waste Management Options Report had been completed for Serpent River First Nation and an Implementation Plan presented in July 2021. In addition to this funding is available to support 80% of the Transportation Fees related to waste and 100% of the Tipping Fees. In discussions with Indigenous Services Canada we may be able to retroactively receive the funding for these costs to April 1, 2022, and moving forward if the invoices are submitted these costs will be covered as per above.</p> <p>Additionally, it was noted a seacan was purchased for Serpent River First Nations for the collection of Hazardous Waste. This is currently stored behind the band office and should be relocated to the Waste Transfer site once final improvements are made there.</p> <p>The implementation plan sets out milestones for the next five years to achieve a responsible waste management approach for Serpent River First Nation.</p>

Recording Secretary:	Lilli Doughty	Date Approved	2022-09-13
2022-08-23 DRAFT C&C MINUTES		Motion of Approval	2022-09-13-02

The Director of Operations (Interim) is currently working to provide the invoices to North Shore Tribal Council to support SRFN's submission for reimbursement for transportation and tipping costs. In addition, meetings are continuing with NSTC and ISC to further implement the Waste Management System Plan which may involve the further negotiation of an agreement with the Town of Spanish.

7) Reports

a) Chief's Report

- None at this time

b) Director of Operations Report

- None at this time

8) Doodem & Committee Minutes & Reports

a) Child Wellbeing Meeting Minutes

MOTION: 2022-08-23-03	
That Chief and Council approve the Child Wellbeing Meeting Minutes of Monday, June 20, 2022 as presented	
Moved by	John (Jack) Trudeau
Seconded by	Kerri Commanda
CARRIED	By Consensus
- POLEA to make sure to always include the Terms of Reference to the minutes package	

9) Business Arising from Minutes & Reports

None at this time

10) Standing Items

- None at this time

Recording Secretary:	Lilli Doughty	Date Approved	2022-09-13
2022-08-23 DRAFT C&C MINUTES		Motion of Approval	2022-09-13-02

11) New Business

a.) Hydro One Service Agreement

MOTION: 2022-08-23-04	
That Chief and Council agree to the terms and conditions as set out in the Contract concerning connections at 1 and 3 Sugar Bush Road, including the payment payable by the First Nation under the terms of the contract	
Moved by	John (Jack) Trudeau
Seconded by	Wilma-Lee Johnston
CARRIED	By Consensus
<p>ISSUE: Approval required to move forward with Hydro One connections at 1 and 3 Sugarbush Lane.</p> <p>BACKGROUND: Funding has been previously received to move forward with two new modular homes at Serpent River First Nation. The site preparation for these lots has been underway for some time.</p> <p>CURRENT STATUS: The homes are anticipated to be delivered in December 2022/January 2022. To ensure electrical power is in place to support the connection for the homes the approval is required.</p> <p>KEY CONSIDERATIONS: Hydro One is experiencing long wait times for hookups so it's imperative we move forward with this as soon as possible.</p> <p>WHEREAS: Having reviewed the 302909748_SERPENT_RIVER_7FN_Serpent_River_7fn between the First Nation and Hydro One Networks Inc. attached as Schedule "A" for the new or modified connection of the Service Location identified therein to the distribution system (the "Contract")</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:</p> <p>That We, the Council of Serpent River FN, representing the Serpent River FN (the "First Nation"), at a duly convened meeting of Council held on August 23, 2022:</p> <p>(a) Agree to the terms and conditions as set out in the Contract, including the payment of all amounts payable by the First Nation under the terms of the Contract;</p> <p>(b) Authorize Brent Bissaillon – Chief to:</p> <p>i. Execute and deliver the Contract on behalf of the First Nation, on substantially the terms as the Contract;</p> <p>ii. Pay all amounts payable under the terms of the Contract; and</p>	

Recording Secretary:	Lilli Doughty	Date Approved	2022-09-13
2022-08-23 DRAFT C&C MINUTES		Motion of Approval	2022-09-13-02

iii. Execute such other documents and do such other things as may be required, and in such forms, to complete the transactions contemplated in the Contract for 1 Sugar Bush Ln and 3 Sugar Bush Ln; and

iv. The Fee Structure is: \$795.71 for 1 Sugar Bush Ln and \$876.97 for 3 Sugar Bush Ln.

(c) Approve the location of the poles, anchors, conductors and equipment on the Reserve identified in the sketch attached hereto as Schedule "B" that will be erected, installed and/or constructed under the terms of the Contract.

b.) Amending Agreement #0016

MOTION: 2022-08-23-05	
That Chief and Council approve the Comprehensive Funding Agreement Amendment #0016 and agree to the terms and conditions set out in the agreement, including any reporting requirements	
Moved by	Shirley McLeod
Seconded by	Kerri Commanda
CARRIED	By Consensus
<p>ISSUE: Comprehensive Funding Agreement Amendment #0016 under Agreement 2212-ON-000028 has been submitted for your review and approval. This amendment is to support the Lands and Environment Special Project (LEDSP) application to support the remediation of the Cutler Acid site, specifically the clean up of Aird Bay position for the Cutler Acid Remediation Project.</p> <p>BACKGROUND: An amendment is issued for approval of both parties upon any change to an existing agreement.</p> <p>CURRENT STATUS: Amendment #0016 includes additional program funding for the fiscal year 2022/23 in the amount of \$700,000.00.</p> <p>KEY CONSIDERATIONS: Additional information to be brought to Chief and Council related to the in year expenditures to address this additional funding.</p>	

c.) Amending Agreement #0017

MOTION: 2022-08-23-06	
That Chief and Council approve the Comprehensive Funding Agreement Amendment #0017 and agree to the terms and conditions set out in the agreement, including any reporting requirements	
Moved by	John (Jack) Trudeau
Seconded by	Wilma-Lee Johnston
CARRIED	By Consensus
<p>ISSUE: Comprehensive Funding Agreement Amendment #0017 under Agreement 2212-ON-000028 has been submitted for your review and approval. This amendment is to support the continued needs due to the Covid 19 pandemic.</p>	

Recording Secretary:	Lilli Doughty	Date Approved	2022-09-13
2022-08-23 DRAFT C&C MINUTES		Motion of Approval	2022-09-13-02

BACKGROUND: An amendment is issued for approval of both parties upon any change to an existing agreement.

CURRENT STATUS: Amendment #0017 includes additional program funding for the fiscal year 2022/23 in the amount of \$101,730.44.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS: Additional information to be brought to Chief and Council related to the in year expenditures to address this additional funding.

d.) Business Retention and Expansion Project Opportunity

MOTION: 2022-08-23-07

Chief and Council are recommending to make Economic Development Corporation aware of the ELNOS Business Retention and Expansion Project and find out a deadline

Moved by	Shirley McLeod
Seconded by	John (Jack) Trudeau
CARRIED	By Consensus

ISSUE: Decision required to determine if Serpent River First Nation wishes to participate in a Business Retention and Expansion regional project in partnership with the City of Elliot Lake and Elliot Lake and North Shore Corporation (ELNOS).

BACKGROUND: Earlier this year, the City of Elliot Lake and ELNOS each had a staff member undertake training from Business Retention & Expansion International through which they received their certification as Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E) Coordinators. A few months later, they also participated in a webinar series for the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Foods and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) BR&E format. As a result of this training, it was thought that now might be a good time to launch a Regional BR&E program.

CURRENT STATUS: A BR&E Program will assess local businesses to identify the needs of the business community and prioritize projects that can address these needs. These efforts will promote job growth and provide support to business owners in the areas that will be the most beneficial. The initiative will require businesses to engage with surveys, either online, in person, or over the phone.

They recently met with an Economic Development Manager who participated in a regional project such as this to learn how we might duplicate one. In that situation, each community conducted the surveys with their individual local businesses and assessed the needs of their area to create solutions and action plans. They collaborated on the creation of the surveys to select the questions and focus the Region would like to analyze. They also shared data from survey results and connected when similar issues arose to partner on possible combined action plans. We believe this same approach can be completed efficiently within the ELNOS region.

The City of Elliot Lake has already received approval from Council to move forward with the project and will conduct a city-wide BR&E this fall regardless of the interest in the Region. ELNOS believes that it would be

Recording Secretary:	Lilli Doughty	Date Approved	2022-09-13
2022-08-23 DRAFT C&C MINUTES		Motion of Approval	2022-09-13-02

valuable to both Elliot Lake and the rest of the Region to join forces for this project as opposed to creating a whole new program at a later date.

As a result, they are inviting Serpent River First Nation to join us on this endeavor and are reaching out to gauge your community’s interest in this project. ELNOS recognizes that some of our smaller communities may not have the manpower to take on a project like this, and we are prepared to assist as much as needed by conducting surveys, analyzing results, and any other aspects of the project that would require our help.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS: From a SRFN perspective it is helpful in future planning to understand the needs of our business community so we can be supporting and guiding planning to support them. Further business development creates employment opportunities within the First Nation and has other positive economic benefits to the community.

OPTIONS:

1. Recommend that the Economic Development (ECDEV) department engage with the City of Elliot Lake and ELNOS to participate in this Business Retention and Expansion project.
2. Participate as Serpent River First Nation in partnership with ECDEV, the City of Elliot Lake and ELNOS in the Business Retention and Expansion project.
3. Indicate at this time we are unable to participate.

PROPOSED MOTIONS:

Serpent River First Nation recommends to the Economic Development department to indicate their interest in participating in the Business Retention and Expansion project in partnership with the City of Elliot Lake and Elliot Lake North Shore Corporation (ELNOS) to further support planning for the community.

- The Director of Operations (Interim) presented the briefing note and answered questions from Council
- Council is suggesting to join this opportunity later as we are still in “transitioning” stage
- The Director of Operations (Interim), will inquire about the deadline
- Council is strongly suggesting that ECDEV is being made aware of this opportunity

e.) Director of Education - Update

- The Director of Operations (Interim), presented the “Director of Education” job description, and answered questions from Council

Recording Secretary:	Lilli Doughty	Date Approved	2022-09-13
2022-08-23 DRAFT C&C MINUTES		Motion of Approval	2022-09-13-02

f.) Band Office Renovations Update

MOTION: 2022-08-23-08	
That Chief and Council support a Phase III development of the renovations to the Band Office to include the reception area and washroom facilities	
Moved by	John (Jack) Trudeau
Seconded by	Wilma-Lee Johnston
CARRIED	By Consensus
<p>ISSUE: Outstanding band office renovations.</p> <p>BACKGROUND: Indigenous Service Canada approved renovations to the band office on November 3, 2017. The total estimated cost of the project is \$450,000. \$75,000 was released in 2017/18 towards the design by Form Studio. The roof and heating/cooling system was repaired in 2019 and the proposal fee paid to Form Studio to oversee the renovations for the new Finance Department offices and Council Chambers of \$39,950. was approved by Chief and Council in April 2022, leaving a remaining balance of \$327,285.56 to further</p> <p>CURRENT STATUS: A bidders meeting was held with Form Studio and prospective contractors on Wednesday, August 17, 2022 to review the plans for the new office space for Finance and Council Chambers. There were a couple of additional changes to the plans proposed by Form Studio which were approved on August 18, 2022 by the Director of Operations (Interim) and Housing Liaison. The bids will close on August 31, 2022 and work is anticipated to begin within a couple of weeks of the closing.</p> <p>Once the bids are received, we will have a greater understanding of what work can be achieved with the remaining funds.</p> <p>KEY CONSIDERATIONS: Sufficient time is allowed between the final renovations of the area proposed for the Finance Department (Phase I) so they can move their desks, financial records to the new location before work can begin on the Council Chambers.(Phase II) Once the work is completed a second proposal can be submitted to begin work on the front entrance of the building moving the reception area to the open area of the entrance and renovations of the washrooms. (Phase III)</p> <p>OPTIONS: If there is not adequate funding to support the completion of the new council chambers, it could be included in Phase III of the Band Office Renovations.</p> <p>- The Director of Operations (Interim), answered questions from Council and Community members</p>	

12. Next Meeting Dates

a) C&C Duly Convened Meeting Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Recording Secretary:	Lilli Doughty	Date Approved	2022-09-13
2022-08-23 DRAFT C&C MINUTES		Motion of Approval	2022-09-13-02

Final Remarks - Chief Bissaillon

- The Chief informed Council and the Community that he will be going on a personal leave, to focus on his mental health
- The Chief answered questions from Council and Community members
- The Community members are suggesting to add “Band Members Concerns/Comments”, to the agenda

13.) Adjournment

MOTION: 2022-08-23-09	
That Chief and Council adjourn the Chief and Council Meeting of Tuesday, August 23, 2022, at 6:34 p.m.	
Moved by	John (Jack) Trudeau
Seconded by	
CARRIED	By Consensus

Recording Secretary:	Lilli Doughty	Date Approved	2022-09-13
2022-08-23 DRAFT C&C MINUTES		Motion of Approval	2022-09-13-02