

SERPENT RIVER FIRST NATION

195 Village Road
Cutler ON, P0P 1B0



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SRFN Chief and Council Meeting
Tuesday, June 28, 2022
Draft Minutes

Chair:	Chief Brent Bissaillon
Council:	Wilma-Lee Johnston (via zoom), Kerri Commanda, Michelle Owl, John (Jack) Trudeau, Steve Meawasige, Shirley McLeod
Regrets:	

Director of Operations (DOO): Tracey Seabrook (Interim)

Staff: Lilli Doughty, POLEA; Tyler Gary, Communications Officer; Taylor Commanda, Lands & Resources Manager (until 6:50pm), Michelle Pelletier, Housing & Infrastructure Manager; Leila Macumber, Community Wellness Manager

Recording Secretary: Lilli Doughty

1) Call to Order/Opening Prayer/Remarks:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm- The Chief welcomed Council and the community to the Chief & Council meeting- Councillor Trudeau opened with a prayer |
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2) Adoption of Agenda

MOTION: 2022-06-28-01	
That Chief and Council adopt the Agenda for the Chief and Council Meeting of June 28, 2022, as amended.	
Moved by	John (Jack) Trudeau
Seconded by	Steve Meawasige
CARRIED	By Consensus

3) Declaration of Conflict of Interest:

- | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- None declared at this time |
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4) Community Presentations

a) Darien Project

- John McLellan and Shawn Tylee from Darien from Ranking Construction and Darien Aggregates Inc., presented a PowerPoint on the Darien Project, and answered questions from Council.

b) Mississagi Park

- Councillor Trudeau, along with committee representatives Daniel Gagnon, Denise Boyer-Payette and Stacy Bissaillon presented a PowerPoint about Mississagi Park, and answered questions from Council
- Logging roots circa early 1900's
- Founded by the province in 1965, and operated seasonally until 2013
- 5 looped hiking trails covering 55kms
- 2 boat lunches with docks and Semiwite Lake
- Portable water supply with a 3-filter system from Chrisman Lake
- Province announced closure in the Fall of 2012, with no notice
- Since 2013, the City of Elliot Lake assumed operations & responsibilities for all operating losses and capital investments
- Mississagi Park Foundation Inc. has been on the radar since 2016
- In November 2021, the foundation has been federally incorporated
- Mission Statement = Mississagi Park to provide a true wilderness experience through promotion of environmental preservation, education and recreation
- Wilma Bissaillon on the Board until June 30th, 2022, and to be replaced with Taylor Commanda

5) Approval of Previous Minutes

a) May 25, 2022

MOTION: 2022-06-28-02	
That Chief and Council approve the Council Meeting Minutes of May 25, 2022 as presented	
Moved by	Kerri Commanda
Seconded by	John (Jack) Trudeau
CARRIED	By Consensus
- Date to be corrected on the bottom of the pages	

6) Business Arising from Minutes

a) Demolition of Buildings

MOTION: 2022-06-28-03	
That Chief and Council approve of the demolition of 1 Sulphur Circle, 20 Woodland Drive and 3 Highway 17 at an approximate cost of \$9650.00	
Moved by	
Seconded by	
CARRIED	By Consensus

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- Demolition of 5 houses/buildings within Serpent River First Nation. The reasons for demolishing these buildings is they are becoming a hazard and dangerous to be used as they may collapse. Another reason for demolition is that the land can be used for different structures needed by the community.

Serpent River First Nation has five (5) condemned structures that require demolishing:

- 1 Sulphur Circle (band owned)
- 20 Woodland Drive (Old Gas Bar/no CP)
- 3 Highway 17 (band owned land/no CP)
- 11 Hillside Drive (section 95 on CP Land)

The house is band owned but there is a Certificate of Possession attached to the lot. A letter will be sent to the Certificate of Possession holder advising that the work will be completed and paid for by the band if the holder agrees to transfer the Certificate of Possession to the band. If not, the band will charge the holder the \$2,275.00 for work completed. A future BCR will follow once this has been addressed.

1 Sulphur Circle

MOTION: 2022-06-28-04	
That Chief and Council approve of the demolition of 1 Sulphur Circle	
Moved by	Shirley McLeod
Seconded by	John (Jack) Trudeau
CARRIED	By Consensus

20 Woodland Drive

MOTION: 2022-06-28-05	
That Chief and Council approve of the demolition of 20 Woodland Drive	
Moved by	Wilma-Lee Johnston
Seconded by	Kerri Commanda
CARRIED	By Consensus

3 Highway 17

MOTION: 2022-06-28-06	
That Chief and Council approve of the demolition of 3 Highway 17	
Moved by	Steve Meawasige
Seconded by	John (Jack) Trudeau
CARRIED	By Consensus

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11 Hillside Drive

MOTION: 2022-06-28-07	
That Chief and Council approve of the letter being send to the Certificate of Possession Holder of 11 Hillside Drive, advising of the work to be completed, and paid by the Band	
Moved by	Steve Meawasige
Seconded by	John (Jack) Trudeau
CARRIED	By Consensus

6. b) i) Medical Transportation Policy

MOTION: 2022-06-28-08	
That Chief and Council approve the Covid-19 Medical Transportation policy as revised. It will now be titled, " Respiratory Illness Safety in the Community Medical Vans"	
Moved by	Kerri Commanda
Seconded by	John (Jack) Trudeau
CARRIED	By Consensus

ii) Proof of Vaccination Policy

MOTION: 2022-06-28-09	
That Chief and Council approve the revised copy of the Proof of Vaccination policy	
Moved by	Steve Meawasige
Seconded by	Shirley McLeod
CARRIED	By Consensus
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The policy should be changed to only include direct staff of SRFN as well as Chief and Council being the leaders in the community. This would remove contractors, visiting health professionals, volunteers and unpaid students from the policy and they would be allowed to provide services. This is based on the fact that there is no longer a vaccine mandate for the rest of Ontario. 2. All job postings would state that all new employees of SRFN must provide proof of vaccination. 3. The health and safety of Serpent River First Nation employees is a priority. Serpent River First Nation is committed to taking every precaution reasonable for the protection of the health and safety of workers from the hazard of COVID-19. Vaccination is a key element in the protection of employees against the hazard of COVID-19. This Policy is designed to maximize COVID-19 vaccination rates among band employees as one of the critical control measures for the hazard of COVID-19. 	

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4. On March 14, 2022, the Ontario government lifted its requirement for hospitals to have a vaccination and testing policy in place. However, individual organizations and hospitals can decide to keep their vaccination policies in place and may continue to do so even as the province lifts emergency orders set in place earlier in the pandemic.
5. On March 14, 2022, the Ontario government revoked its vaccine mandate for long-term care homes in the province. The directive required staff, support workers, visitors, and students to show proof of vaccination before entering a long-term care facility.
6. Previously, the province had mandated a third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine for all long-term care staff and other workers present in long-term care facilities by March 14, 2022, but dropped the mandate on that date instead.

iii) Covid-19 Testing Policy

MOTION: 2022-06-28-10

That Chief and Council approve the Covid-19 Testing Policy to be used at the Kenabutch Health Centre

Moved by	Michelle Owl
Seconded by	Steve Meawasige
CARRIED	By Consensus
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This policy permits access to COVID-19 testing within the Serpent River First Nation Community, to help quickly detect the virus and stop transmission. 2. This policy is to complement the existing Testing Policy which is a delegation to the Registered Nurse and Registered Practical Nurse from the Nurse Practitioner. 	

iv) Covid-19 Masking Policy

MOTION: 2022-06-28-11

That Chief and Council approve removing the Mandatory Masking Policy for all community buildings except for the Kenabutch Health Centre which is an acute care setting and the Geka Wigwam which is a congregate living setting

Moved by	John (Jack) Trudeau
Seconded by	Michelle Owl
CARRIED	By Consensus
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As of June 11, 2022, provincial mask requirements have been lifted in most public settings, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • social gatherings and organized public events • retail settings • personal care services • restaurants, bars and other food or drink establishments • places of worship • public transit 2. To continue providing an additional layer of protection for the most vulnerable, long-term care homes and retirement homes will still require masking. Masking is also recommended for other high-risk congregate living and acute care settings. 3. People at higher risk for severe illness are encouraged to wear a mask, particularly if they have not received all recommended doses of the COVID-19 vaccine, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • people who are older 	

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- people with certain medical conditions
 - people who are pregnant or have recently given birth
4. Our kids are required to continue to wear masks at the Afterschool Program but do not wear masks at school or on the school bus.
5. Some people may choose to continue to wear a mask. The risk of transmission is higher in crowded indoor places and when in close contact with people who are not vaccinated or who are sick. Consider masking or distancing in these situations. Respect the risk tolerance and masking decisions of others

v) Reopening the Community Plan Policy

MOTION: 2022-06-28-12	
That Chief and Council approve to discontinue the Organizational Reopening the Community plan specific to Covid-19	
Moved by	Kerri Commanda
Seconded by	Steve Meawasige
CARRIED	By Consensus
<p>1. The community has removed most of the Covid-19 specific guidelines put in place.</p> <p>2. We have gone through all the Stages to Reopening</p> <p>3. The Precautionary Measures to reopening are contained in the “Reducing Illness in the Workplace” policy.</p>	

vi) Preventing Covid-19 Policy

MOTION: 2022-06-28-13	
That Chief and Council the new Reducing Illness in the Workplace policy	
Moved by	Shirley McLeod
Seconded by	Kerri Commanda
CARRIED	By Consensus
<p>1. Preventing communicable disease requires assessing your risk for communicable disease transmission in the workplace. The risk of certain communicable diseases may increase from time to time or seasonally. This may occur at a local or regional level, or within a certain workplace. We continue to need a Reducing Illness in the Workplace Policy.</p>	

vii) Border Policy

MOTION: 2022-06-28-14	
That Chief and Council approve removing the Border Policy from use	
Moved by	Steve Meawasige
Seconded by	Kerri Commanda
CARRIED	By Consensus
<p>- We no longer have a border up in the community. It was taken down in March of 2020.</p>	

7) Reports

a) Chief’s Report

MOTION: 2022-06-28-15

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That Chief and Council accept the Chief's verbal report	
Moved by	John (Jack) Trudeau
Seconded by	Steve Meawasige
CARRIED	By Consensus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Chief presented his verbal report and answered questions from Council - The Chief was in a "Chiefs of Ontario" meeting all day, in regards to the AFN - The Chief is invited to speak at a 2-Spirit Council on Monday - Congratulations were extended to Councillor Meawasige and POLEA for planning the Pride Parade that took place on June 24th - A lot of changes in the Northshore, many flag raisings took place 	

i) Lianne Leddy

MOTION: 2022-06-28-16	
That Chief and Council approve inviting Lianne Leddy for her video and plan a community gathering with Questions & Answers	
Moved by	Steve Meawasige
Seconded by	John (Jack) Trudeau
CARRIED	By Consensus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Liane Leddy, Author of "Confronting Uranium Mining at Elliot Lake", in regards to the former Cutler Acid Site, would like to come to Serpent River First Nation and shoot a short video about her book - Council suggesting having a prior discussion with Liane, and to include the land & Resources Liaison - Invite Lianne to the PowWow in August 	

b) Director of Operations Report (Interim)

MOTION: 2022-06-28-17	
That Chief and Council accept the Interim Director of Operations written Report, dated June 28, 2022	
Moved by	Steve Meawasige
Seconded by	John (Jack) Trudeau
CARRIED	By Consensus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Interim Director of Operations presented her written report dated June 28, 2022, and answered questions from Council 	

8) Doodem & Committee Minutes & Reports

None at this time

9) Business Arising from Minutes & Reports

None at this time

10) Standing Items

a.) Nogdawindamin Quarterly Minutes

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None at this time

11) New Business

a) Comprehensive Community Plan

MOTION: 2022-06-28-18	
That Chief and Council support the Interim Director of Operations to negotiate to secure Four Worlds within the current budget structure of \$82,500 to build upon the work undertaken in 2013 to develop a Serpent River First Nations Community Comprehensive Plan	
Moved by	John (Jack) Trudeau
Seconded by	Steve Meawasige
CARRIED	By Consensus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In January of 2022, a proposal was submitted to Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) for funding to support the development of a Community Comprehensive Plan. It was approved by ISC in late January for \$75,000 with a 10% contribution from Serpent River First Nation. The total budget for this initial work is \$82,500. Work had been started on this initiative with Serpent River First Nation in 2013 by a consulting firm called Four Worlds but then the future planning and implementation was disbanded with a change in leadership - The Interim Director of Operations has had a recent conversation with Four Worlds for consideration of this work and future planning - Funding is available to support the Community Comprehensive Plan and must be spent in the 2022/23 fiscal year 	

b) Emergency Planning Liaison and Coordinator Position

MOTION: 2022-06-28-19	
That Chief and Council approve the new position and job description for an “Emergency Planning Liaison and Coordinator”, and hiring commence upon confirmation of receipt of funding	
Moved by	Steve Meawasige
Seconded by	Wilma-Lee Johnston
CARRIED	By Consensus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - North Shore Tribal Council hosted a meeting on June 3, 2022 to announce funding had been secured by them from Indigenous Services Canada for each First Nation to hire an Emergency Planning Coordinator. Each First Nation will receive \$70 k to support the hiring of an individual and ancillary costs associated with the position. The funding will come directly from Indigenous Services Canada to each First Nation - This position reporting to the Manager of Lands and Environment will support the ongoing needs of 	

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developing and updating the emergency plan and assist Serpent River First Nation in preparing for responses to emergencies moving forward. This position will also lead the evaluation of the Serpent River First Nation emergency Covid-19 response

- Anticipating funding shortly
- Considerable learning has occurred through the Covid response about emergency planning that will be critical in updating the plan.

c) Amending Agreement #0013

MOTION: 2022-06-28-20	
That Chief and Council approve the Comprehensive Funding Agreement Amendment #0013 and agree to the terms and conditions set out in the agreement, including any reporting requirements	
Moved by	Steve Meawasige
Seconded by	Shirley McLeod
CARRIED	By Consensus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amendment #0013 includes additional program funding for the fiscal year 2022/23 in the amount of \$246,126.00 - Additional information to be brought to Chief and Council related to the in-year expenditures to address this additional funding. 	

d) Amending Agreement #0014

MOTION: 2022-06-28-21	
That Chief and Council Comprehensive Funding Agreement Amendment #0014 and agree to the terms and conditions set out in the agreement, including any reporting requirements	
Moved by	John (Jack) Trudeau
Seconded by	Shirley McLeod
CARRIED	By Consensus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amendment #0014 includes additional program funding for the fiscal year 2022/23 in the amount of \$96,273.71 - Additional information to be brought to Chief and Council related to the in-year expenditures to address this additional funding. 	

e) Expression of Interest Application - Lot Servicing and Pre-Construction

MOTION: 2022-06-28-22	
That Chief and Council support the Expression of Interest application for the Lot Servicing and Pre-Construction Application to be shovel ready for new builds	
Moved by	Shirley McLeod
Seconded by	Steve Meawasige
CARRIED	By Consensus

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- On reserve population is growing and is need of new housing units.
- Funding is not expected to exceed the amount equal to 20 lots at \$49,200 per lot. Upon completion, all lots must be considered shovel ready for the construction of new homes
- There are currently 11 vacant lots. Infrastructure staff have 4 lots cleared to date
- The following lots meet the eligibility requirements:
 - Village Road Lot 8, 22, 92, 93*
 - Walkhouse Bay Road: 2 lots (not surveyed)*
 - Gaaming Road: Lots 23-7, 23-2, 23-6*
 - Sulphur Circle: Lots 1, 32, 33, 37, 38, 92 and 93.*
 - Woodland Drive: 4 lots/no survey*

f) Talking Together to Improve Health Research

MOTION: 2022-06-28-23	
That Chief and Council acknowledge and approve the Talking Together to Improve Health Research Project, Serpent River First Nation Community Report.	
Moved by	Shirley McLeod
Seconded by	Steve Meawasige
CARRIED	By Consensus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Taking Together to Improve Health – Gi-noondidaa ji mina~maajiishkag noojimoowin research project began in an effort to better understand how Northeastern Ontario First Nations communities want to engage and collaborate with Public Health Units in Northeastern Ontario, and the principles and practices that can promote effective engagement - The Research group from Algoma Public Health would like to share the report with their Board of Directors so that this data can drive the work needed to be done moving forward. - One meeting has been had with key staff from Algoma Public Health and Community Wellness Department staff to determine next steps. - It was decided that longer-term sharing may be achieved by establishing an ongoing commitment to attending each others’ meetings, as well as integrating locally-specific knowledge and/or practices into cultural competency and safety trainings for Algoma Public Health staff, for the purpose of achieving positive outcomes for all people living in Algoma. This is currently being planned 	

g) Aird Debris Clean-Up at the Cutler Acid Site

MOTION: 2022-06-28-24	
That Chief and Council supports the proposed work for the Aird Bay Debris Clean-up at the Cutler Acid Site to be conducted in 2022	
Moved by	John (Jack) Trudeau
Seconded by	Kerri Commanda
CARRIED	By Consensus

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- Serpent River First Nation has been approved for a maximum contribution of \$700,000 to complete the Cutler Acid Plant Site Debris Removal Project through Indigenous Services Canada’s (ISC) Lands and Economic Development Services Program (LEDSP)
- Clean-up efforts will focus on removing metal, concrete, submerged logs and debris along the shoreline and in Aird Bay
- The timeline of the Aird Bay Debris Clean-up efforts will be from August to November 2022 and is contingent upon weather conditions

12. Next Meeting Dates

a) C&C Duly Convened Meeting Tuesday, July 12, 2022

13.) Adjournment

MOTION: 2022-06-28-25	
That Chief and Council adjourn the Chief and Council Meeting of June 28, 2022, at 9:02pm	
Moved by	Shirley McLeod
Seconded by	
CARRIED	By Consensus

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