

SERPENT RIVER FIRST NATION

195 Village Road
Cutler ON, P0P 1B0



Telephone: (705) 844-2418
Facsimile: (705) 844-2757

SRFN Chief and Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 24, 2023
Approved Minutes

Chair: Councillor Kerri Commanda

Council: John (Jack) Trudeau, Michelle Owl, Shirley McLeod (6:26pm), Brent Bissaillion (zoom), Steve Meawasige (zoom)

Regrets: Wilma-Lee Johnston

Director of Operations (DOO): Tracey Seabrook

Staff: Leila Macumber, Community Wellness Manager (zoom); Lilli Doughty, POLEA

Recording Secretary: Lilli Doughty

1) **Call to Order/Opening Prayer/Remarks:**

- The Chief and Council meeting was called to order at 6:07pm
- Councillor Trudeau said an opening prayer

2) **Adoption of Agenda**

MOTION: 2023-01-24-01

That Chief and Council adopt the Agenda for the Chief and Council Meeting of Tuesday, January 24, 2023, as amended.

Moved by John (Jack) Trudeau

Seconded by Brent Bissaillion

CARRIED By Consensus

- Item 7.b) = deferred

3) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest:**

- Councillor Owl declared conflict for item 11. c)
- Add 11. k) Governance

4) **Community Presentations**

- None at this time

Recording Secretary:	Lilli Doughty	Date Approved	2023-02-14
2023-01-24 APPROVED C&C MINUTES		Motion of Approval	2023-02-14-02

5) **Approval of Previous Minutes**

a) January 10, 2023

MOTION: 2023-01-24-02	
That Chief and Council approve the Council Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, January 10, 2023 as presented	
Moved by	Brent Bissaillion
Seconded by	Steve Meawasige
CARRIED	By Consensus

6) **Business Arising from Minutes**

N/A

7) **Reports**

a) Chief's Report

MOTION: 2023-01-24-03	
That Chief and Council accept the Chief's Report dated January 6 , 2023, as presented	
Moved by	John (Jack) Trudeau
Seconded by	Michelle Owl
CARRIED	By Consensus
- The Chief presented his written report and answered questions from Council	

b) Deputy Chief Report

- Deferred

c) Director of Operations Report

MOTION: 2023-01-24-04	
That Chief and Council accept the Director of Operations Report dated January 10, 2023, as presented	
Moved by	John (Jack) Trudeau
Seconded by	Brent Bissaillion
CARRIED	By Consensus
- The Director of Operations (Interim) presented her written report and answered questions from Council and Community members	

8) **Doodem & Committee Minutes & Reports**

None at this time

9) **Business Arising from Minutes & Reports**

None at this time

Recording Secretary:	Lilli Doughty	Date Approved	2023-02-14
2023-01-24 APPROVED C&C MINUTES		Motion of Approval	2023-02-14-02

10) Standing Items

- None at this time

11) New Business

a.) Funding Agreement #0026

MOTION: 2023-01-24-05	
That Chief and Council approve the Community Development WrapAround Initiative for staffing for \$779,368 for the purchase of the snowplow and ancillary supports and \$35,000.00 for High Cost Special Education supports	
Moved by	Shirley McLeod
Seconded by	Brent Bissaillion
CARRIED	By Consensus
Community Development WrapAround Initiative for \$779,368. for the purchase of the Tandem Truck and Snow Plow, a Garage to house the truck, DZ Licence Training and backfill for two staff and \$35,000.00 for High Cost Special Education Program which was approved August 19, 2022 to support pyscho-educational assessments and student personal supports such as educational assistants/tutor escorts (for a total of \$814,368.00	

b.) Funding Agreement #0027

MOTION: 2023-01-24-06	
That Chief and Council approve additional funding of \$16,086 to support the Home and Community Care Program	
Moved by	Brent Bissaillion
Seconded by	John (Jack) Trudeau
CARRIED	By Consensus
The amendment is for \$16,086 in additional funding to support the Home and Community Care Program.	

c.) Little NHL - CAF Funding Request

MOTION: 2023-01-24-07	
In the spirit of continued financial accountability, Chief and Council support the funding request of up to \$25,000. pending receipt of a budget detailing expenditures and revenues including status cards. Chief and council also mandate the Director of Operations to review the supporting documentation and authorize her to approve upon successful receipt of information	
Moved by	Steve Meawasige
Seconded by	John (Jack) Trudeau
CARRIED	By Consensus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Councillor Owl declared conflict and stepped out - Historically Chief and Council have supported financially members participating in the Little NHL. Due to Covid members have not been able to participate in the last two years 	

Recording Secretary:	Lilli Doughty	Date Approved	2023-02-14
2023-01-24 APPROVED C&C MINUTES		Motion of Approval	2023-02-14-02

- A funding request has been submitted for \$25,000 to support four teams participation and fifty-five members in total

KEY CONSIDERATIONS:

1. No budget for the funding request was received.
2. A list of members (verification of status cards) has not been provided.
3. To continue our efforts to be accountable to all members of the First Nation a budget detailing expenditures and revenues should accompany requests of this magnitude.

d.) Midwifery Project

MOTION: 2023-01-24-08	
That Chief and Council approve and support the research titled, “Exploring the economic costs of obstetric evacuation and the social-cultural benefits of Indigenous midwifery in Ontario”, and grants permission for community data to be included within the project given that the research team agrees to abide by appropriate data governance protocols of the community, and will uphold the principles of OCAP (Ownership, Control, Access and Possession) and provide the community with the research findings at the completion of the project. The contracts from this study will be Dr. Jennifer Leason, Principle Investigator from the University of Calgary, and Ellen Blais, from the Association of Ontario Midwives	
Moved by	John (Jack) Trudeau
Seconded by	Brent Bissaillion
CARRIED	By Consensus
<p>Research and data is a critical component necessary to support future programming and planning to address the health related needs of our community. “Exploring the Economic Costs of Obstetric Evacuation and the Social-cultural Benefits of Indigenous Midwifery in Ontario” is a research project led by Dr. Jennifer Leason, Principle Investigator from the University of Calgary and Ellen Blais from the Association of Ontario Midwives.</p> <p>They are requesting the permission from Serpent River First Nation for community data to be included within the project. This data will come from Health Card use as well as information provided by patients, the local Public Health, Ontario Health as well as a list of disease specific registries such as the Ontario Cancer Registry, etc. ICES, the Institute for Clinical Evaluation Services, who holds, analyzes and reports on Ontario’s Health related data.</p> <p>The research team agrees to abide by appropriate data governance protocols of the community and will uphold the principles of OCAP®(Ownership, Control, Access and Possession) and will provide the community with the research findings at the completion of the project.</p>	

Recording Secretary:	Lilli Doughty	Date Approved	2023-02-14
2023-01-24 APPROVED C&C MINUTES		Motion of Approval	2023-02-14-02

e.) National Housing Co-investment Fund Renewal and Repair - Preliminary Funding Offer

MOTION: 2023-01-24-09	
That Chief and Council support the funding offer of \$150,000 from CMHC under the National Housing Co-investment Fund Renewal and Repair and the work to begin for planning of the expenditures and implementation within three years	
Moved by	John (Jack) Trudeau
Seconded by	Steve Meawasige
CARRIED	By Consensus
<p>This funding must be used to repair a minimum of ten homes and the work must be completed within three years. There must be an effort to create energy efficiencies by 25% through the renovations and 20% of the homes must have accessible elements to the repairs ie. accessible toilets, etc.</p> <p>A funding offer has been received from Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation in the amount of \$150,000 to support renewal and repair of at least ten homes. Confirmation of this offer must be made to CMHC by January 31, 2023.</p> <p>KEY CONSIDERATIONS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This will assist in supporting the improvements of homes on the First Nation for members. 2. The funding per home is \$15,000. 3. The funding amount is not significant taking into consideration staff time to support these improvements including the costs related to materials. 4. It is critical we support improvements but also keep in mind the operational costs to do so. 5. Continued efforts to support access to funding for staffing in Housing and Infrastructure be a priority. 	

f.) Addition to Reserve

MOTION: 2023-01-24-10	
That Chief and Council direct Canada (Indigenous Services Canada) to support us in the Addition to Reserve discussion to secure municipal lands that have been offered to us by the City of Elliot Lake and we also direct Canada (Indigenous Services Canada) to provide funding to support the process of acquiring the land	
Moved by	John (Jack) Trudeau
Seconded by	Brent Bissaillon
CARRIED	By Consensus
<p>The City of Elliot Lake entered into an agreement with Serpent River First Nation in principal for the sale of Parcel 4602 A.E.S., being part of Mining Claims S66392 and S96332, Township of Gunterman in the City of Elliot Lake, District of Algoma (the "Land") in the summer of 2022. The work to formalize the sale of the land started but was delayed due to the change in city council in the spirit of a transparent and positive working relationship with the new Mayor and Council. The new members of the City of Elliot Lake Mayor and Council are moving forward with the sale in the spirit of reconciliation and a positive relationship with Serpent River First Nation.</p>	

Recording Secretary:	Lilli Doughty	Date Approved	2023-02-14
2023-01-24 APPROVED C&C MINUTES		Motion of Approval	2023-02-14-02

In efforts to begin the process of Addition to Reserve (ATR) which can take considerable time to get to an approval, a presentation was made to Chief and Council by Indigenous Services Canada Ontario representatives on the process. To further these efforts, Chief and Council must support a Band Council resolution requesting Indigenous Services Canada's assistance to engage Serpent River First nation and the City of Elliot Lake in the process. Upon receipt of the BCR, the Department at Indigenous Services Canada will be able to provide assistance in navigating the initial steps in getting these important projects moving until such a point that a Project Manager can be brought onboard to action the work plan agreed upon by all parties. The Project Manager will work directly for Serpent River First Nation and Indigenous Services Canada can provide funding to retain this person or a preferred project management firm. They can also provide funding for the undertakings that are federal requirements in adding land to reserve, such as an Environmental Site Assessment, survey, legal fees, etc.

A draft Memorandum of Understanding was agreed to in principle by the City of Elliot Lake and Serpent River First Nation regarding the sale of the land. Given the City of Elliot Lake now has a new Council, it would be prudent to continue these negotiations to finalize this sale and begin the ATR process.

g.) Mississagi Park Foundation Agreement Signing

- The Mississagi Park agreement is between Serpent River First Nation, Mississauga First Nation, and the City of Elliot Lake
- The signing ceremony is taking place on January 31, 2023, at 9am, in Mississauga First Nation

Agenda:

- 9:00 am Arrival
- 9:15 am Pipe ceremony (no photos please during this portion)
- 9:45 am Signing new Management Agreement for the Park
- 9:50 am Unveiling new Crest design for Mississagi Park
- 9:55 am Photo opportunity
- 10:00 am Networking / snacks

h.) Hydro Transmission Line

MOTION: 2023-01-24-11	
That Chief and Council fully support exploring the development of the Project in conjunction with FNEI, including the establishment of an organizational structure to carry out initial project development work including design, routing, environmental assessment, and procurement maintain the new transmission line; and will identify a person to be the point of contact for the First Nation to work with FNEI and the other First Nations to develop the Project	
Moved by	John (Jack) Trudeau
Seconded by	Shirley McLeod
CARRIED	By Consensus
- the Ontario Government has indicated that a new 500 kV electricity transmission line must be built from Mississagi TS to Hanmer TS by 2029 (the "Project")	

Recording Secretary:	Lilli Doughty	Date Approved	2023-02-14
2023-01-24 APPROVED C&C MINUTES		Motion of Approval	2023-02-14-02

- the Ontario Government will designate an existing licensed transmitter to develop the Project
- Five Nations Energy Inc. (“FNEI”), as an existing licensed transmitter, would like to explore developing the Project with the First Nation (and other First Nations along the route), and ultimately have these First Nations own 100% of the Project through a new electricity transmission company
- this new electricity transmission company would be created to own, develop, design, construct and operate the Project, and Serpent River First Nation will be an equal partner in this new company
- this Project will bring income and employment opportunities for the community, its members and businesses in the community for the life of the Project

i.) First Nation Power - MicroHydro Generation Station

MOTION: 2023-01-24-12	
That Chief and Council support FNpower in collaboration with SRFNEDC to further investigate the Hydro One agreement matter on Serpent River’s behalf; as well as further investigate the feasibility of expanding the Hydro Electric Plant using the resources available to FNpower	
Moved by	Brent Bissaillion
Seconded by	Steve Meawasige
CARRIED	By Consensus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SRFNEDC’s 2018-2028 Strategic Plan identified Green Initiatives as the number one long term goal which includes upgrade of the Hydro Electric Plant - SREDC has engaged and executed a Letter of Intent with First Nation Power Development Inc. (FNpower), to investigate the agreement with Hydro One, existing capacity and opportunity for increasing the capacity of the Hydro Electric Plant located on the Serpent River - Chief and Council acknowledge AND support the work being completed by FNpower as part of its Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) Smart Renewable and Electrification Pathways (SREP) Project Capacity Building Project “First Nation Empowerment Capacity Development” - FNpower through its investigation has identified an opportunity to re-establish an outstanding agreement with Hydro One and the existing Hydro Electric Plant located on Serpent River 	

j.) AN Gas & Tobacco Forum

- The AN Gas & Tobacco Forum is taking place at Rama, in Orillia on January 31 - February 1
- Councillor Meawasige and Priscilla Laur (EDC Executive Assistant) will attend

k.) Governance

MOTION: 2023-01-24-13	
That Chief and Council support a one year term with salary and benefits not to exceed \$60,000 for the Deputy Chief, Wilma-Lee Johnston in a Governance Co-ordinator capacity to support the continued work within the Doodems and with an ongoing focus on improved governance	
Moved by	John (Jack) Trudeau
Seconded by	Brent Bissaillion
CARRIED	By Consensus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved governance, with an emphasis on capacity building, will empower members and foster accountability on all levels and a shared sense of responsibility - it is the goal of Chief and Council to increase capacity within the political office for these very reasons 	

Recording Secretary:	Lilli Doughty	Date Approved	2023-02-14
2023-01-24 APPROVED C&C MINUTES		Motion of Approval	2023-02-14-02

- 100% funding has been received from Indigenous Services Canada to support these efforts

12. Community Questions and Answers

Community Members:

- What would be the salary for the Governance Coordinator = *Don't have an answer yet*
- Wage of the Deputy Chief should be public information
- The Community was not included in the process of hiring a Deputy Chief full time
- It seems that there is no transparency to the Community, and that Council only supports Council
- Not a fair process
- Hoping for more communication, transparency and Community input
- Other Community Members/Employees could benefit from an increase instead of hiring a Deputy Chief

- A Community Member expressed their frustration about a CAF request that she submitted 2 times, but never received a response = *The IDOO will follow up in the morning and see what the status is. CAF are usually being processed fairly quick*

13.) Next Meeting Dates

a) C&C Duly Convened Meeting - Tuesday February 14, 2023

13.) Adjournment

MOTION: 2023-01-24-14	
That Chief and Council adjourn the Chief and Council Meeting of Tuesday, January 24, 2022, at 8:36 p.m.	
Moved by	Shirley McLeod
Seconded by	
CARRIED	By Consensus

Recording Secretary:	Lilli Doughty	Date Approved	2023-02-14
2023-01-24 APPROVED C&C MINUTES		Motion of Approval	2023-02-14-02