

SERPENT RIVER FIRST NATION

195 Village Road
Cutler ON, P0P 1B0



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SRFN Chief and Council Meeting
Thursday, January 25, 2024
Approved Minutes

Chair: Wilma-Lee Johnston

Council: Kerri Commanda, John (Jack) Trudeau, Steve Meawasige, Shirley McLeod

Regrets: Michelle Owl

Director of Operations (DOO): Tracey Seabrook

Staff: Lilli Doughty, acting POLEA

Recording Secretary: Lilli Doughty

Number of zoom participants: 6

1) Call to Order/Opening Prayer/Remarks:

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| - Duly Convened Chief and Council meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m. |
| - This is a continuation from January 23, 2024 |

11. b) Whistleblower Draft Policy

MOTION: 2024-01-25-01

That Chief and Council approve the Whistleblower Policy as presented

Moved by	Shirley McLeod
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Seconded by	Kerri Commanda
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CARRIED	By Consensus
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| - An email address will be set up specifically for this matter |
| - Hoping to purchase a policy software, more organized |
| - When it is sent to staff, they will have to sign off on it once they read it |

11. c) Membership Vote Date

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| - There was to be a membership vote in the fall of 2023 for community to vote on acceptance of potential members |
| - Every Spring and Fall a community vote is to be held. A Spring vote in 2023 was held but with the vacancy the membership clerk position, no Fall 2023 vote took place |
| - A date must be assigned by Chief and Council to host a vote. There are currently 39 potential members to vote on |
| - Chief and Council decided by consensus for the vote to be held on March 23, 2024 |

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2024-01-25 APPROVED C&C MINUTES		Motion of Approval	2024-02-13-03

11.d) Rental Increase

MOTION: 2024-01-25-02	
That Chief and Council agree that effective April 1, 2024 rental amounts to be increased by 3% and notice to be given to members by February 1, 2024	
Moved by	Kerri Commanda
Seconded by	John (Jack) Trudeau
CARRIED	By Consensus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Serpent River First Nation rental amounts are well below market value - Housing assets continue to be at risk as a result of this - Maintenance costs continue to increase 	

11. e) Chief and Council Dental Health and Benefits

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chief and Council positions are paid an honorarium and are not employees of the First Nation, therefore members of council are not eligible for dental and extended health benefits. If the Chief or a Council member takes a leave from their employment to sit on Council they may lose dental and extended health eligibility from that employer - Chief and Council positions are not employees of the First Nation but paid via an Honorarium. In the past when the Chief position was an employee of the First Nation, that person was eligible for the health benefits. The Chief and all Council positions are paid via honorarium at this time - Currently there is no option for health benefits for Chief and Council - The total cost of the health benefits lies with the individual that enrolls in the health benefits and the First Nation would not accrue any costs - Offer Chief and Council dental and extended health benefits at the costs as noted below: 	
STATUS	
<u>Family</u>	<u>Single</u>
\$132.39	\$68.41
BLENDED FAMILY	
<u>Family</u>	<u>Single</u>
\$170.99	\$45.00
- Interested parties will reach out to the Director of HR	

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2024-01-25 APPROVED C&C MINUTES		Motion of Approval	2024-02-13-03

11. f) Addition to Reserve – Formerly known as Rockhaven School

MOTION: 2024-01-25-03	
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 purchased by the SRFN Land Holding Inc. On behalf of Serpent River First Nation Chief and Council and we also direct Canada (Indigenous Services Canada) to provide funding to support the process of acquiring the land	
Moved by	Steve Meawasige
Seconded by	Shirley McLeod
CARRIED	By Consensus
<p>- SRFN Land Holding Inc. On behalf of Serpent River First Nation Chief and Council have recently purchased land with the Municipality of the North Shore for land to be returned to the First Nation</p> <p>- To engage Indigenous Services Canada in the process between Serpent River First Nation and the Municipality of the North Shore for the addition to reserve for Parcel 4068 SEC AES; PTLT 10 CON 2 Lewis Being Location CK243 PT 3 PL IR6912; the North Shore being PIN: 31420-039 (LT) and secondly PCL: 4068 SEC AES; PTLT 10 CON 2 Lewis Being Location CK243 PT 3 PL IR6912; the North Shore being PIN: 31420-0012 (LT) municipally known as 1459 Riverview Road, Serpent River, Ontario (the “property”) in the Municipality of the North Shore, District of Algoma (the “Land”)</p> <p>- Chief and Council would like to begin the process of an Addition to Reserve</p>	

11. g) Certificate of Possession – Therese Labelle

MOTION: 2024-01-25-04	
That Chief and Council acknowledge and support issuing the below-mentioned Certificate of Possession to Therese Labelle	
Moved by	John (Jack) Trudeau
Seconded by	Kerri Commanda
CARRIED	By Consensus
<p>Serpent River First Nation (SRFN) Band of Ojibways acknowledges the property described on the Serpent River First Nation Indian Reserve No. 7 (201) be allotted to Therese Labelle - 2010057601. In accordance with Section 20, Subsection 1 of the Indian Act. RSC 1985, Chapters 1-5:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Whole of Lot # 115 2. Serpent River First Nation Indian Reserve No. 7 3. Plan No. 82295 CLSR 	

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The tenant has fulfilled his/her rental housing agreement with option to purchase, as outlined in the agreement and Serpent River First Nation Housing Policies

11. h) Land Holding Company – Director Vacancy

MOTION: 2024-01-25-05	
That Chief and Council appoint John A. Trudeau as the new member of SRFN Land Holding Corporation, replacing former Chief Brent Bissaillon	
Moved by	Shirley McLeod
Seconded by	Steve Meawasige
CARRIED	By Consensus
- A replacement board member for the SRFN Land Holding Company is required to replace past Chief Brent Bissaillon	

11. i) CMHC Section 95 Contracts

MOTION: 2024-01-25-06	
That Chief and Council review the CMHC Section 95 Housing Project 2023-2024 and therefore agree and approve the project as presented	
Moved by	Steve Meawasige
Seconded by	Kerri Commanda
CARRIED	By Consensus
<p>- CMHC Section 95 has been approved based upon the application December 4th, 2023 and requires a Band Council Resolution to pursue the funding</p> <p>- Housing continues to be a major focus of many members of SRFN. While the needs of each band member differs, the housing application centered around the need for renovations to community residences and the need for unique housing opportunities ie mini homes</p> <p>- The objective is to provide and improve housing accommodations for the membership. The current housing initiatives will not fully address the housing need but it will lessen the need for new and renovated homes in the community. The CMHC section 95 housing application addresses 3 housing sectors; the construction of new 2 mini homes; the major renovations of Geka Wigwam; and the renovation of 8 residential buildings in the community</p> <p>- That the CMHC Section 95 Housing application has been approved for \$841,257.00</p> <p>The Section 95 Housing Funding application {\$841,257) comprises of three sections:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Geka Wigwam rehabilitation (8 Units) @\$241,257.00 2. Residential renovations & 2 new Units (10 units) @600,000.00 	

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11. j) Robinson Huron Treaty - Reports

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Valerie Richer has completed the RHT report - The Chief has read the report and a lot of concerns have been brought forward such as protecting Elders, Youth, Addiction, etc. - The report will be posted/shared on the Serpent River First Nation membership portal
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11. k) Appointment for Membership Clerk

MOTION: 2024-01-25-07	
That Chief and Council appoints Kaelin Sago as the Membership Clerk of Serpent River First Nation, effective January 22, 2024	
Moved by	John (Jack) Trudeau
Seconded by	Steve Meawasige
CARRIED	By Consensus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is currently a vacancy in the membership office - Serpent River First Nation appoints Kaelin Sago as Membership Clerk, whereas Kaelin Sago will be taking the ISC training as soon as available - Kaelin Sago will be taking the Indigenous Services Canada Registration Systems training as soon as available 	

12.) Community Questions and Answers

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A community member asked if the vaccination policy is going to be revised, as he feels like it's preventing members that aren't vaccinated against COVID-19 from working for SRFN = There hasn't been any changes to the policy. SRFN checked with Health Canada, and they are recommending 4 vaccines
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13.) Next Meeting Dates

- a) C&C Duly Convened Meeting February 13, 2024

14.) Adjournment

MOTION: 2024-01-25-08	
That Chief and Council adjourn the Chief and Council Meeting of January 25, 2024, at 10:08 a.m.	
Moved by	Shirley McLeod
Seconded by	
CARRIED	By Consensus

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