

**Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation
Matrimonial Real Property Law Committee
Council Chambers
Tuesday, February 16, 2021**

MINUTES OF ZOOM MEETING

PRESENT: Shelley Cornelius, Tina Hill, Larissa Johnston, Teena Millette, Gail Nadjiwon,Carolynn Wright,
Nuala Robinson (recorder)

REGRETS: Barney Keeshig,

OPENING: Carolynn Wright called the meeting to order 10:09 am. She asked for someone to say an opening prayer and Joyce Nadjiwon (who resides with Gail) offered a prayer for the committee.

AGENDA

A short agenda was previously distributed by Nuala Robinson and this was approved. It includes discussions on:

1. MRP Information Brochure
2. Request for Use of Logo and Copyright of Logo
3. Dispute Resolution

No additional items were requested.

Moved by Tina Hill

Seconded by Gail Nadjiwon

THAT the Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation Matrimonial Real Property Law Committee hereby approve of the agenda as presented.

CARRIED unanimously.

1. MRP INFORMATION BROCHURE

A further draft of the proposed brochure was previously distributed by email to the committee members. The following changes were requested:

- a. The last bullet point under the panel titled Benefits of an MRP Law be changed to read, "Addresses the safety of First Nation members, their spouses or partners, children, and residents in situations of family violence."
- b. In the panel headed MRP Committee Promises, the wording in the second bullet is changed to read, "To create a law that is fair for all, that protects the interests of members, their spouses or partners, and their children, that complements traditional laws, customs, and practices, and is applied without discrimination."

With these changes, Nuala Robinson is authorized to approve the final proof for printing

Moved by Teena Millette

Seconded by Shelley Cornelius

THAT the Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation MRP Committee hereby authorize the MRP Coordinator to approve the final draft of the MRP brochure.

1 Abstention – Teena Millette abstained as she believes the brochure is too wordy.

CARRIED.

2. REQUEST FOR USE OF LOGO AND COPYRIGHT OF LOGO

Nuala Robinson reminded the committee that a request had been received from an individual who reached out with a request to use the MRP logo in a book that she is writing. Discussion took place on whether or not to allow the use of the logo for Ms. Carr's book and what the implications may be for (1) allowing it to be published outside of the Chippewas of Nawash; and (2) whether the logo should be trademarked by the band. It was decided that we will not ask Council to permit the outside use of the logo at this time. Nuala will contact Ms. Carr and provide her with a link to the original free-use clipart that inspired the design.

There was discussion on obtaining a trademark or copyright to protect the logo. This could open the door for the logo to be licensed to individuals or groups requesting to use it. After some discussion it was decided that the logo is specific to the Nawash MRP program and it should be kept for use by the Chippewas of Nawash only. As requested by the committee prior to the meeting, Nuala Robinson exchanged messages with band lawyer Patrick Nadjiwan. She read his email to the committee wherein he recommended consulting a lawyer with expertise in Intellectual Property law. He offered to recommend a lawyer if the band decides to go this way.

Further discussion involved whether copyright work should be funded out of MRP program funds or by the band. It was determined that as Chief and Council had approved the logo when it approved the MRP minutes by Motion 362 in its meeting of August 21, 2020. As such, the logo is the property of the Chippewas of Nawash and the committee feels that any copyright work should be initiated and paid by Council.

RECOMMENDATION #1

Moved by Gail Nadjiwon

Seconded by Teena Millette

THAT the Chippewas of Nawash hire an intellectual property lawyer with expertise in copyright and trademark law to work with the MRP Committee to examine the viability of trademarking the MRP logo, following which the MRP Committee will report to council and make a recommendation.

CARRIED unanimously.

3. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Nuala Robinson noted that during the lockdown she had spent considerable time researching Dispute Resolution. The Centre of Excellence had proved an excellent resource and each committee member (except Teena Millette) indicated they do have a copy of the Dispute Resolution manual from the Centre of Excellence. Nuala will print a copy of the book for Teena. She stated that once the MRP law process is a little further along a dispute resolution process will be needed. She believes that as there needs to be community consultation on this process alongside the consultations over the MRP law. Nuala requested that the committee members read the book and be prepared to discuss a survey, as well as traditional dispute management, at the next meeting.

4. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, March 9th at 9:00 a.m. (in person in council chambers or by zoom if preferred)

5. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Carolyn Wright declared the meeting adjourned at 11:38 am.