

**Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation
Matrimonial Real Property Law Committee
Council Chambers
Friday, October 22, 2021**

MINUTES OF MEETING

PRESENT: Shelley Cornelius, Tina Hill, Randa Keeshig, Teena Millette, Gail Nadjiwon, Nuala Robinson (recorder)

OPENING: Randa Keeshig called the meeting to order 9:25 am. Gail offered an opening prayer. Nuala Robinson thanked committee members for their ongoing commitment to the project and their patience as the new chief and council worked so hard over the last couple of months to learn what they needed to know to carry on the running of the community.

1. AGENDA

The proposed draft Agenda was briefly reviewed.

Moved by Gail Nadjiwon

Seconded by Shelley Cornelius

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

CARRIED unanimously.

2. COMMITTEE POLICY & OATH OF CONFIDENTIALITY

Nuala distributed copies of the current Committee Policy and the group briefly reviewed it. She then requested members sign the Oath of Confidentiality form and return them to her for filing. Randa explained that council is in the process of revising the Oath and the referenced confidentiality policy so it pertains more to committee participation. She asked that committee members sign the current form and stated that once the form is revised the members will be asked to sign the new one. The signed forms were returned to Nuala for filing.

3. NOTES OF JULY 20, 2021

The notes from the meeting of July 20, 2021 were reviewed. Nuala reminded the committee members that there was no quorum that day and the notes were for informational purposes. There was a recommendation to council included in the notes and for that reason the notes had been distributed to the committee by email, and approval for the recommendation to go forward to council was provided by email. Subsequently council approved the recommendation.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT

4.1. Updated Statement of Revenue & Expenses

Nuala highlighted the most recent statement of revenue and expenses. She noted that the item shown in red in the Office Supplies & Equipment line for August reflects the purchase of her desk and filing cabinet by Administration and the subsequent purchase of a new desk and smaller cabinet for her to use in her new space in the Lands Manager's office. The difference of \$479.17 is money being returned to the MRP program as a result. There was a question about the items shown in red in the upper left of the statement and Nuala explained

that these are revenue amounts, with the first item being funds remaining from the original grant from the Coldwater Trust. The second item is from a grant received from the Centre of Excellence (through National Aboriginal Lands Manager's Association). The third item is money that will be received from another grant from Centre of Excellence. This amount has been approved but not flowed as yet. The dates in the proposal will need to be revised as a result of not having meetings of the committee since July, as well as there being a need for time to conduct the supplemental surveys.

Moved by Gail Nadjiwon

Seconded by Tina Hill

THAT the financial report on revenue and expenses be approved and sent to chief and council for their approval.

CARRIED unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION 1

THAT the Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation Band Council approve the MRP statement of revenue and expenses dated October 21, 2021.

4.2. Funding Proposal, Category 3

As discussed in the previous item.

5. WORKPLAN

The MPR Project Workplan and Schedule was reviewed. Nuala explained that it is a living document and that the delays resulting from not having a committee meeting since July mean that the document must be revised to reflect new proposed dates for completion of the various steps. The committee discussed the new dates and Nuala will revise the workplan and distribute it for review and discussion at the next meeting. At that time a recommendation will be made to council to approve the updated workplan.

6. SURVEYS & SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS

Nuala distributed a list of supplemental questions she would like committee members to review and comment on. She asked members to also give consideration to any other questions they think could be added to the list. She stated that this survey would be added to the website for any and all members of the community to fill out, but specifically directed to those members who filled out the previous surveys and provided their email addresses for any follow-up. Committee members will provide Nuala with any other questions they would like to add to the supplemental survey and these will be discussed at the next meeting.

Nuala asked committee members to return to question 17 on the second part of the initial survey. She noted that the committee had originally decided there would be no police involvement in the Emergency Protection Order issue, but Nuala reminded the members that 70% of survey respondents indicated that they would prefer there be some police involvement. She acknowledged that there are some community members who do not want police involved, but reminded the group that the purpose of the committee is to carry out the wishes of the community. The committee members agreed.

Nuala noted that the survey graphs provided at this meeting include new survey responses received since the last MRP committee meeting.

There was discussion on dispute resolution and alternative justice. This subject will be looked at more in-depth as the community gets closer to enacting its own MRP law. There was general agreement that traditional dispute resolutions be attempted before moving to anything more formalized. It was noted that several community members had training in alternative justice.

7. SURVEY MONKEY (renewal)

Nuala explained that the subscription for Survey Monkey is set to expire on December 3rd. This has been a useful tool for collecting survey responses and can be renewed for another year for \$461.04.

Moved by Tina Hill

Seconded by Shelley Cornelius

THAT the Survey Monkey subscription for the MRP project be extended by one year.

CARRIED unanimously.

8. TRADEMARK

Nuala reported that she had exchanged some correspondence with the trademark lawyer, James Buchan. He has asked that we confirm our direction to apply for the trademark. He also provided a description of the goods and services that may be associated with the use of the mark. The committee added a few items to the “goods” list, but wondered if a “services” list was even necessary. Nuala was instructed to provide the committee’s comments to Mr. Buchan and direct him to proceed with the application.

9. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The proposed terms of reference were reviewed. It was noted that the original terms of reference were approved by council in 2016 and since it’s been about five years, it would be prudent to review and revise them. Nuala circulated a Terms of Reference document with suggested edits. After some discussion the committee made a motion to approve the Terms of Reference and recommend them to council for its approval.

Moved by Shelley Cornelius

Seconded by Teena Millette

THAT the Terms of Reference be approved as revised and submitted to council for its approval.

CARRIED unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION 2

THAT the Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation Band Council approve the updated and revised Terms of Reference for the Matrimonial Real Property Law committee.

10. FLAGS & SIGNAGE

There was some discussion on signage and flags. Some committee members were concerned with putting flags at the entrances, and others wanted to put up flags at the entrances and to keep a third flag for use at community meetings. The flag being considered is one of the tall feather-shaped ones and would have the MRP logo, the website, and “join the discussion” on it. There was a suggestion that instead of flags there be billboards set up at both entrances similar to what can be seen as you enter a town that promotes the service clubs. Nuala was asked to obtain pricing for two billboards. It was noted that council approval would be required before ordering anything like a billboard or flag to be placed at entrances to the reserve. This will be discussed further.

11. NEXT MEETING

Thursday, November 4, 2021; 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (lunch provided)

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Tina Hill moved that the meeting be adjourned at 11:51 am.