

## **Wahta Mohawks Community Meeting Minutes**

**Date: November 22 2016**

- I. Present:** Chief Philip Franks, Councillor Lawrence Schell, Councillor Mike DeCaire, Councillor Teresa Greasley, and members.
- II. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm.
- III. Adoption of the Agenda:** Moved by Councillor Decaire, Seconded by Councillor Greasley. Carried.
  - I. Adoption of October 25, 2016 minutes**
- IV. New Business:**

**Residency** – Councillor Schell stated he does not believe the current tenant issue he is facing affects Chief and Council and this issue does not require band support. Chief Franks read aloud the statement that he released to APTN upon their request for comment.

**Standing Rock Support** – A motion has been made to donate \$1000 to support Standing Rock. We have put in a request to Iroquois Caucus to find out the best recipient for this cause. Karen Commandant also stated the staff would like to participate in raising funds. There is also a speaker coming to the Bean Supper to speak to this issue. Councillor Schell stated that we should also support the pipeline issues in British Columbia.

**TD/Scotia Bank Investments** – Inquiries were made to see if we have investments in Enbridge which supports pipeline projects. The investments total 2355 shares for a total value of \$ 136 616 which is .5% of total portfolio. Chief and Council is meeting with Scotia bank next week and will give direction to discontinue those

---

investments. Similar investments should be discontinued with all banking institutions.

**January Wellness Series** – There was discussion that the Health and Wellness series include membership agenda with Ed Connors and Three Bears consulting. It was decided that since the January conference has participant requirements a different date will be set for a membership conference. Councillor Schell stated that MNR indicated that Indian Affairs is coming close to no longer issuing status cards, specifically on Beausoliel Island.

**ICG Survey Feedback** – Survey will be going out in a self addressed stamped envelope that has three options, spend over 2 million, 1.4 million or close the farm operations. Gerry Fox asked what would happen to the assets if the farm closed, Councillor Greasley stated they would be sold. Councillor Schell stated that this money can also go towards more education. Karen Commandant stated that there are other business opportunities that can be explored.

**AIAI Education Partnership Agreement** – AIAI is looking for each First Nation to support the improvement of education with a focus on language and culture. Some examples are support for the resource centre at Glen Orchard Public School as well as developing more language opportunities. Councillor Greasley stated that there is now a language page on the website that has Mohawk language audio and video files.

**AIAI Education Resolution** – Wahta Mohawks do hereby support the initiative to be an active participant based on an Education partnership memorandum of understanding. This will identify joint action plans with Indigenous and Northern Affairs and Ontario Ministry of Education and negotiated on First Nations behalf from AIAI. Chief and Council's do hereby approve the Education partnership memorandum of understanding and the agreed upon action plan. Resolution was signed by council.

---

**GST Rebate** – The Chief financial officer discovered that Wahta Mohawks has not filed for GST recovery in the past, regulations only allow as far back as 4 years. The total recovery is estimated to be \$205 000 minus the fee from KPMG of 20%. Recovery will be approx. \$164 000, the ICG portion is about half.

**AIAI Chiefs Council** - Chief Franks attended the recent AIAI Chiefs Council, signed an MOU for Cancer Care Ontario so they can play a bigger role in First Nations and support the cancer care navigator. Other updates include education and environment including some logging and land treaty issues with revenue sharing.

Minister of Finance has a revenue sharing model whereby First Nations develop our own tobacco laws and instill levies and they will contribute funds as well. This was not well received; the free trade tobacco agreement was cited. Most First Nations do not have or support their own tobacco laws at this time. Tobacco Allocation Review is included and needs further review as well as a meeting with tobacco quota holders.

### **Motion Summary**

**Enbridge Investments Motion Nov 22 2016** – Motion to discontinue and withdraw investment support by any banking institutions that include Enbridge shares. Moved by Councillor Schell, seconded by Councillor Greasley, carried.

**Standing Rock Motion 11.10.03** – Motion to support and send a donation of \$1000 to Standing Rock in their fight against the Dakota Access Pipeline as also supported by the Iroquois Caucus. Moved by Councillor Greasley, seconded by Chief Franks carried by consensus

## **V. Questions/Comments**

Ellen Franks asked if Tori Cress was given permission to use the church parking lot for a rally at her home location. There was concern it would appear that the church

---

was supporting this. Councillor Schell said he did not mind if the church parking lot was used and that this was not a Council issue. He also stated that Williams Treaty did not apply. Chief Franks confirmed that the Certificate of Possession belongs to Lawrence Schell.

II. **Next Meeting Date:** January 31 ~~2016~~ (No Meeting in December)  
2017

VI. **Motion to Adjourn:**

VII. **Closing:**

**Adoption of the Minutes of  
Community Meeting**



Chief Philip Franks

---

Councillor Teresa Greasley



Councillor Lawrence Schell



Councillor Mike DeCaire

---

Councillor Stuart Lane