

Orihwase'shón:'a ne Wahta Rontenro Raotirihwá:ke



Ennisko:wa- The Time of Much Lateness

March 2018



This issue....

Calendar of Events
Minutes
Health Services
Culture Centre Events
Education and Training
FYI & Notices

Lots for Sale

Two lots with frontage on Muskoka Road 38.
One lot is about 1 hectare and has a driveway. The other is about 1.8 hectares with no driveway.
If interested please call 705-644-4227.

Matt Commandant
wahta.com
705-644-4227

Children's March Break Cultural Camp

**Cultural Activities, Crafts, Games, Snacks and
More**

March 12-15 from 9-4, Friday March 16 from 9-1

**Located at the Longhouse with Terry & Lucia
Please contact Amy at ext. 240 or Kara at ext.
227 to sign up**

Citizenship Meeting

A new rescheduled
date for the next
citizenship meeting is
**Saturday March 17 at
10am**

March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Admin Building red Culture Centre Blue	After School Program	Yoga every Tues 8:00PM Faith Circle 7:00PM After School Program	Tutoring every Wednesday	1	2	3
4	5	6 Community Shopping	7	8	9	10 Yoga Retreat 10.00am
11	12 Polka Dot Door 10:30 am	13 Diamond Dotz 10am	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Drum Group -630-730	21 Movement Therapy 10am	22	23	24
25	26 Colouring 1pm	27 Water Drum and Horn Rattles	28 Chair Exercise Water Drum and Horn Rat- tles Community Kitchen	29	30	31

Wahta Chief and Council Update

To begin this month's update, I want to acknowledge and pay condolences to the friends and family of Jennifer Strength who passed from this world February 16th while struggling with health issues. Jennifer grew up at Wahta and later resided in Toronto but kept in touch with friends and family.

In my last update I spoke of how participation is needed to get involved with the initiatives Council have ongoing regarding bylaws on trespass, hunting and fishing, election, and membership codes. This month I will focus on council activities with these initiatives.

Locally, we have held meetings and discussions on a number of items as follows.

The Wahta Development Corporation, a board of directors that would oversee Wahta economic development initiatives such as the newly formed Wahta sign leasing company, or any upcoming business that may be formed along the highway 400 corridor.

The road that was expropriated from Wahta in order to build the Big Eddy hydro generation station will be closed mid August for twelve weeks in order to build a new bridge above the Ragged Rapids generation station. Council met with representatives from the Ontario Power Generation Corporation (OPG) recently and voiced some concerns such as building a temporary bridge for the duration of construction; the extra distance for residents living along that road for travel to reach town and proposed compensation for those persons, although nothing has yet been confirmed. It was also discussed how people living on the off reserve section would be affected as well as general travel and construction vehicle inconvenience.

Council will entertain a memorandum of agreement that OPG to cover the liability issues of using Iroquois Cranberry Drive as a means of access. Council proposed road improvements to the "hydro road" due to increased traffic and liability and that Iroquois Cranberry Drive be improved and repaired due to road use during this time. A further meeting will occur by May this year with OPG. In the meantime, OPG will be doing door to door consults with affected residents. If you live in the affected area you will likely be contacted by OPG.

Council will be responding to Ontario's call for comment on the gas tax exemption system and how that can be modernized. The province is proposing to discontinue use of the Certificate of Exemption (the gas card) for use on reserve purchased gasoline and institute the use of the federal status cards. It is generally believed this would be a positive approach if the issues of slow renewal of status cards that expire is dealt with by INAC, or those possessing older status cards that have no expiration are honoured, and that retailers would not have to carry extra costs to have third party firms do submissions to Ontario for rebates to the retailer.

Our Long-term care study is currently in phase two. Council awaits a report from the consultant but has been looking at other more immediate solutions rather than a fully licensed long-term care home, the enhancement of home care services is an ongoing priority. Recent announcements from Ontario coupled with federal funding should see increased services for the elderly, disabled and palliative care. Our administration will be working on plans for the coming fiscal year beginning April 1 this year with implementation rolling out as soon as possible.

Council recently appointed Councillor Lorie Strength-Fenton as a board of director to the Woodland Cultural Centre. Wahta has been a partner of the Centre since its inception in 1972 and continues with Six Nations and Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte to provide a centre of excellence in the preservation of Indigenous culture and language.

Councillor Blaine Commandant was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation, a body that assisted us with building inspections as well as water issues.

Through meetings with the District of Muskoka Wahta Council anticipates the implementation of safety zone designation on the main road Muskoka 38, this could mean increased speeding fines and reduced speed limits. This is due to concerns of community members regarding speeding mostly in the summer months.

Approval was given by Council to purchase radar signs which display the current rate of speed to warn drivers. They are also capable of traffic data collection for use in analyzing trouble spots and other important data areas such as economic development.

Very recently I attended an engagement meeting with Hydro One which covered a great number of interactions with First Nations in Ontario. There are several services to First Nations available of which Wahta is a part of regarding home inspections that may offer receiving energy saving measures, low income installation of appliances and home insulation upgrades, and rebates on purchase of appliances.

Discussion was also the Ontario wide plan for Hydro One investments to reduce power outages understanding that Northern Ontario and First Nations in general have a need for better service. There will be an improved service to forestry to keep lines clear throughout Ontario, and investments in infrastructure to lessen numbers of outages and duration time.

Through the Chiefs of Ontario, one hundred and twenty-nine First Nations signed on to owning 2.5% of shares of the publicly held stocks in Hydro One. Wahta was among them but will not see a dividend as the purchase was based as a loan. The dividends of stocks will be repaid to Ontario. First Nations will be realizing returns in twelve years on a portion to be distributed. During the next while a distribution formula for the First Nations will be worked on through First Nations and the First Nations Sovereign Wealth Limited Partnership.

Governance issues of Wahta have avenues created through the membership and electoral initiatives, but in addition there hopefully will continue to be ongoing discussion on current issues through the Wahtahro:non Ka'nikonhri:io Kentiohkwa (formerly referred to at the Peace Process) to help the community of Wahta better communicate with each other.

The strategic plan is still ongoing, there are short and long-term initiatives included that address the needs of Wahta, the preservation of identity and our culture, the land and the economy. As Wahta Mohawks we should try and participate in whatever means we can to advise the council on our opinions for the long and short-term issues of Wahta.

Nia:wen for your participation, look for further updates or contact the Council office for more information usual. You can send all questions or comments directly to Chief and Council, Administration or here at info@wahtamohawks.com

Chief Philip Franks

Wahta Mohawks Cultural Centre Construction Costs

Date	Cost	Ontario Trillium	Wahta Mohawks Trust	Family Wellbeing	FedNor	Wahta Mohawks
March 31 2016	635,795	150,000	290,700			195,095
March 31 2017	85,911			50,000	10,000	25,911
December 20 2017	170,480				87,500	82,980
Total	892,186	150,000	290,700	50,000	97,500	303,986

March 31 2016	Actual	Original budget
CHC Site Clearing & Excavation	2,310	60,000
CHC Foundation	110,615	25,000
CHC Framing	23,115	102,000
CHC Roofing	77,699	14,000
CHC Windows & Doors New	16,909	14,000
CHC Windows & Doors Replacement	3,550	4,000
CHC Electrical	39,527	13,700
CHC Plumbing	33,605	28,000
CHC HVAC	27,650	0
CHC Insulation & Vapour Barrier	9,911	21,000
CHC Flooring New	46,904	28,000
CHC Flooring Replacement	40	23,000
CHC Interior Finishes New Addition	145,925	42,000
CHC Interior Finishes Existing Building	4,390	39,000
CHC Exterior Finishes	75,273	27,000
CHC Miscellaneous	18,372	0
	635,795	440,700

March 31 2017	
Sinkerator Outback Plumbing	575
Re-work cabinets	2,236
Jarick Contracting- deposit	24,093
Jarick Contracting	50,000
Drainage	9,007
	85,911

December 20 2017	
Muskoka Rural Electric- wire-in remote screen	356
Neal Exca.& Landscaping- French drains/waterproofing	5,700
Jarick Contracting 2nd draw	52,924
Jarick Contracting 3rd draw	52,924
Jarick Contracting- final pmt	31,754
Vertex Custom Carpentry- basement reno	15,000
Paint	482
Neal Exca.- Finish drains.	9,600
The Smithy- chandelier for entrance	1,050
Muskoka Rural Electric- install exterior light fixtures	691
	170,480
Total	892,186

2017 Council Weekly Meeting Summaries

Council Weekly Meeting Summary – Thurs November 9, 2017

In Attendance:

☑P Franks ☑L Schell ☑B Commandant ☑T Greasley ☑L Strength-Fenton

Agenda:

11.09.01 Economic Development Update/ICG – Discussed ongoing issues, a simple environmental assessment was done in the area of the proposed signage, a request for increased start up funds for Wahta Signs Inc is requested. Looked over the terms of reference for the Development Corporation and discussed the Boards relationship and responsibility to council. The roof is leaking at the MFP building and needs repair. Discussed leasing options to interested parties.

11.09.02 Christmas Baskets – There were issues in the past of food spoilage and affordability as this program is funded by the children's programming. A new proposal was made to offer gift cards only with an increase to families with children.

11.09.03 Wellness Conference – Costing Approvals – A motion is required to finalize the costs for the yearly Healing and Wellness series for 2018. See motion below.

11.09.04 Comp Time Policy – Motion required to revise the Human Resources policy as the request of the Senior Administrator. See motion below.

11.09.05 Staffing Updates – Library and Language Project – Interviews are being held for Language Video project and librarian.

Motions:

11.09.01 – Amend motion 08.31.03 to a total amount of \$20 000 promissory note to Wahta Signs Inc. Carried by consensus.

- **08.31.03** – Motion to grant a promissory note for \$10 000 to cover insurance, accounting and legal fees for Wahta Signs Inc. a branch of Wahta Development Corporation. Carried by consensus

11.09.03 – Motion to authorize \$31 000 in funds for Healing and Wellness held February 2018 paid through program funding with considerations for next year. Carried by consensus.

11.09.04 – Motion to approve Human Resource Policy No. 2011-07 amendment section 2 working conditions regarding overtime and flex time. Carried by consensus.

Council Weekly Meeting Summary – Wed November 15, 2017

In Attendance:

☒ P Franks ☐ L Schell ☒ B Commandant ☒ T Greasley ☐ L Strength-Fenton

Agenda:

11.15.01 Hydro One Shares - Hydro is selling 2.5 % of shares at a cost of 118 million, 108 First Nations need to sign on by this week for approval. Shares will be paid off through the dividends earned over several years (approx. 25 years) before profits are realized, no cost to First Nation communities. Discussions on a decision to sign on.

11.15.02 Regalia – Chief and Council agreed to contribute to the cost mounting artifacts for donation to Wahta Mohawks Cultural Centre after use at the Woodland Cultural Centre.

11.15.03 OPP Dean Ronson – Met with Officer Dean Ronson to update on the relationship protocol as well as discussions on increased police presence to deal with ongoing speeding issues. Also discussed was a community safety zone and the pending trespass by-law.

11.15.04 Economic Development Update – Discussed ongoing issues of the terms of reference for the Board of Directors for the development corporation, remuneration and set up.

Council Weekly Meeting Summary – Wed November 22, 2017

In Attendance:

☒ P Franks ☐ L Schell ☒ B Commandant ☒ T Greasley ☐ L Strength-Fenton

Agenda:

11.22.01 Additions to Reserve Representative – It was decided that one council member oversee the ATR process in conjunction with staff. Blaine agreed to attend the meetings with Scott Aubichon.

11.22.02 Monthly Finance review – reviewed the monthly expenses report. See motion below.

11.22.03 Education Assistant Support Salary –Special Education needed for two students who are residents of Wahta Mohawks and have been identified on the INAC nominal roll. The support comes in the manner of purchasing the services of two Education Assistants specifically for the identified students for the 2017/2018 academic year. See motion below.

Motions:

11.22.02 – Motion to approve the ongoing budget deficit of \$1 911 054 for 2017/2018. This includes all future expenses for the Clean Wastewater fund and water treatment plant initiative. The budget will be revisited to reflect normal fluctuations and ongoing changes. Carried by consensus.

11.22.03 – Motion to approve the Trillium Lakeland District School Board Education Assistant support salary of \$44 935. Carried by consensus.

Council Weekly Meeting Summary – Tues November 28, 2017

In Attendance:

☒P Franks ☒L Schell ☒B Commandant ☒T Greasley ☒L Strength-Fenton

Agenda:

11.28.01 District of Muskoka Meeting – Went over a number of items including traffic calming options, widening shoulders, vegetation management, lowering speed limits, active transportation, signage, crosswalk and long term planning. The district requires an MCR for any official requests. They provided pricing on speeding signs and updated us on their master plan and the local invasive species and vegetation management. They also suggested Wahta sit on the transportation committee. Scott Aubichon to follow up.

11.28.02 Board of Directors Review – Discussed areas of difficulty to be included in the corporation by-laws. Also discussed possible Board members and the qualifications.

2017 Wahta Mohawks Community Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday November 28, 2017

Present: Chief Philip Franks, Councillor Lawrence Schell, Councillor Blaine Commandant, Councillor Teresa Greasley, Councillor Strength-Fenton and members.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

Adoption of the Agenda: Moved by Councillor Schell, Seconded by Councillor Greasley. Carried.

Adoption of Minutes of October 30, 2017: Moved by Councillor Strength-Fenton Seconded by Councillor Commandant. Carried

Updates – Furnace is now installed in the administration building

Actions Arising:

- **Letter from Iroquois Caucus to Minister** – Iroquois Caucus is trying to re-establish a relationship with the government. A letter was drafted including item of concern including Jobs and Growth Act, Omnibus Bills, C10 Tobacco, Financial Transparency Act, MRP, Consultation, TRC Calls to Action, Membership issues, splitting of INAC etc. There are no objections from Chief and Council to this letter to the Prime Minister.

New Business:

- **Sovereign Wealth Hydro** – Hydro is selling 2.5 % of shares at a cost of \$8 million, 108 First Nations need to sign on by this week for approval. Shares will be paid off through the dividends earned over several years (approx. 25 years) before profits are realized, no cost to First Nation communities. Wahta Mohawks has agreed to sign on. Councillor Schell is not in favour. It is built into the agreement that this partnership does not prevent a First Nation from any legal action regarding other hydro issues or our inherent rights.

- **Hiring Update** – New part time librarian Samantha Walker. Language Video project coordinators are Nicole Bilodeau and Artie Martin. Dave Dewasha will be doing the shoveling. A curriculum writer and needs assessment jobs are still posted.

Update – Language Activator still posted as well.

- **Election Regulations** – Election regulation legal analysis review. Certain areas need improvement, it will be dealt with in 2018. Copies now available.
- **Garbage Complaints** – A member sent a in a complaint about garbage on the side of the road. Ellen Franks said it is purposely put there and weighted down, she is asking why it is not being picked up and disposed of, she suggested a reminder in the newsletter.

Old Business/ Follow-up:

Economic Development Update

- **Medical Cannabis Memorandum of Understanding** – The license application has been submitted to Health Canada, the process is moving along. Information packages are being sent out to all members outlining the proposal explaining the financials, there is no investment money up front, the deal consists of profit sharing. Tim Thompson asked if the final deal has been signed, it has not been signed. Legal council is working on our behalf negotiating the 30% profit sharing.
- **Development Corporation - Board of Directors** – More work is ongoing into the Board of Directors ensuring that it will look after the interests of Wahta Mohawks and that it will remain consistent with Council objectives and common goals. Also looked at an overview of the structure, how it is laid out, their policies and operating documents and how it can be dissolved if needed. This will be part of the governance and by-laws within the corporation. Tim Thompson suggested that council can mandate certain things within the by-laws such as land use and community consultation.
- **Wahta Signs Inc.** – There is a client interested in a contract for electronic signage, this will be operating during daylight hours only. They could post amber alerts, road closure, highway conditions as well as advertising. More information will be forthcoming.
- **District Meeting Update** - Met with District Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works. Discussed several items such as traffic calming options, vegetation management. signage and a community safety zone. Electronic speeding signs are \$6000 each, purchase of one or two may be considered. Widening of the road shoulders was also discussed, the District stated this is not in their Master plan and there is no budget for this.
There was some discussion on how Road 38 was acquired. Tim Thompson stated there was no proper surrender. Chief Franks stated that it would be MTO that has this information. He also stated that individuals were approached one by one in allowing access. Councillor Commandant stated it was a land exchange for the road. Scott Aubichon is looking into these details.

November Motion Summary:

11.09.01 – Amend motion 08.31.03 to a total amount of \$20 000 promissory note to Wahta Signs Inc. Carried by consensus.

08.31.03 – Motion to grant a promissory note for \$10 000 to cover insurance, accounting and legal fees for Wahta Signs Inc. a branch of Wahta Development Corporation. Carried by consensus

11.09.03 – Motion to authorize \$31 000 in funds for Healing and Wellness held February 2018 paid through program funding with considerations for next year. Carried by consensus.

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11.22.03 – Motion to approve the Trillium Lakeland District School Board Education Assistant support salary of \$44 935. Carried by consensus.

Questions/Comments:

Tim Thompson asked if Brian Grimwood had publishing requirements to maintain his position. Lance Decaire stated he thought ongoing research is a part of his employment.

Next Meeting Date: January 30, 2018 (December Meeting 2017 cancelled)

Adjournment

2018 Winter Carnival/ Fishing Derby



Citizenship Update – Next Meeting March 17th 10am



A new rescheduled date for the next citizenship meeting is **Saturday March 17 at 10am.**

The discussions are vital in understanding that the community of Wahta exists with a strong history of survival, community and pride. Understanding the perspective of the; youth, parents, non- indigenous spouses, traditional longhouse and others is vital as the process moves along.

With the implementation of Bill S-3 An Act to Amend the Indian Act (elimination of sex based inequities in registration) more people will be obtaining status thereby causing more people to have status and not membership. Although our discussions are not geared towards status issues, it will impact the ongoing interpretation of membership criterion.

- In response to the Superior Court of Quebec decision in *Descheneaux c. Canada*, amendments contained in Bill S-3 have the following effect:
 - Grandchildren of women who lost their Indian status as a result of marrying non-Indian men are entitled to register under section 6(1), and great-grandchildren of women who lost their status as a result of marrying non-Indian men are entitled to register under either section 6(1) or section 6(2) (to address the "cousins issue").
 - Female persons born out of wedlock between 4 September 1951 and 16 April 1985 to an Indian male are entitled to register under section 6(1); the offspring of those female persons are also entitled to register under section 6(1) (to address the "siblings issue").
 - Children born before 17 April 1985 to a minor child who had lost status when his or her Indian mother married a non-Indian male after his or her birth, and who had become entitled to register under section 6(1)(c) of Bill C-31 are entitled to register under section 6(1) (to address the "removed or omitted minors issue").

*Taken from Publication No.42-1-S3-E, February 22, 2017. For more information Go to www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca and search for Bill S-3.

Watch for a complete survey that will be sent to all Wahta members in March. Once this is complete we will be holding one-on-one personal interviews and discussion through online formats as well.

Our membership code is important to everyone whether on or off reserve, we are asking if members would be willing to speak about their thoughts on camera on what the future means for Wahta and how we can ensure that Wahta's roots stay strong and that our community thrives. These videos could be shared (with permission) with the membership and be part of our history.

Next Citizenship Meeting is Saturday March 17 – 10am

10am – 4pm at the Cultural Healing Centre. *Child minding is available for the duration of the meeting on a first come, first serve basis, spots are limited. Please register for child minding no later than March 12th at info@wahtamohawks.com or call all 705-762-2354 ext. 256

Many citizens of Wahta Mohawks and their families live away from their home territory, this should not affect the collective rights of the nation, everyone

counts. Some questions to consider are:

What are the impacts on children and grandchildren?

How will status affect membership?

What are the most important values and principles that should be reflected in our own Wahta citizenship code?

Part of the process is to determine and define possible considerations such as Lineage, Blood Quantum, Tradition, Language, Duties and Responsibilities as members, Residency, History, Clans, Marriage, Adoption etc.

Chief and Council have the responsibility in the collective decision-making process to ensure that the citizenship code, roles and responsibilities reflect the values of Wahta Mohawks and its members. This process will include identifying key decision points, being respectful of other points of view, facilitating and creating a safe place for ongoing discussion.

Please direct any questions or comments to info@wahtamohawks.com

More information can be found at www.wahtamohawks.com/citizenship

Below we have included portions of our past legal opinions presented over the past 20 years. There are some consistent themes that have long since been recognized as problematic with the membership code.

Pratt – Legal Opinion on Issues Relevant to Citizenship June 7, 1999

“A racial approach would focus exclusively on lineal descent from persons who are accepted as being racially Mohawk. Taken to an extreme, this approach would require applicants who were required to demonstrate Mohawk blood quantum to demonstrate a direct line of descent from some presumed set of racially “pure” Mohawk ancestors.”

“Council is entitled to above all find a meaning that does not condemn the Wahta Mohawks to extinction”

Patrick Schindler – Membership Issue, Letter Dated October 31, 2000

“The question remains, what is “Mohawk blood quantum”? Is it the intent of the Wahta Mohawks Citizenship Code that all Wahta Mohawk citizens are to be viewed as Mohawks? Can it be that the framers of the code intended that despite citizenship, some citizens might be viewed as not being Mohawks? This would seem to contradict the purpose of the code as set out in section which purpose includes preserving the “cultural and political integrity of the Mohawks of Gibson Nation”

Rubin Thomlinson/Cory Boyd– Citizenship Code Investigation, Dec 10, 2012 *“The evidence indicates that since its enactment there has been uncertainty about the correct interpretation of the provisions of the code pertaining to Mohawk blood quantum. The earliest minutes of the membership committee meetings make reference to the ambiguity and the need for clarification”*

Alisa Lombard LLP– Citizenship Code Legal Opinion, June 5, 2017

“what is clear is that the membership rules in the Code do not actually achieve the stated purpose of the Code. The purpose is to preserve cultural integrity and sovereignty. Blood quantum requirements preserve racial purity, not cultural purity. Moreover, the Code is an exercise in delegated authority by an Indian Act band of Indian Act rules, which is not an exercise in sovereignty. Because of this, if the Code was found to be discriminatory, the Band could not likely justify the discrimination on the basis of the section 1 of the Charter.”

EDUCATION

The Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians is creating a teachers manual that will contain general information such as First Nations Education: An Overview; Governance, Funding and Administration of First Nation Schools; Culturally-Based Curriculum and the Importance of First Nation Languages.

Classroom-specific topics include Teacher Supports and Mentoring; Literacy; Special Education, etc.

This project comes in two parts. The second component of the project involves the development of booklets that will profile each of the five participating AIAI member communities. A common format and theme will be used for all booklets. **Writers will be contracted for their services by Antler River Associates.**

SHORT TERM EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT

Therefore, **Wahta Mohawks is seeking a 'historian' or someone who possesses strong writing skills to research and write** the Wahta Mohawks profile for the booklet.

Applicant must have strong writing skills with familiarity of our history, culture, services, community etc. Our profile must include high quality photos and or maps.

Final product will be made available to community and Trillium Lakelands DSB therefore final product must meet approval from council and community before release.

There is a very tight timeline, please submit in writing your interest to Carol Holmes at carol.holmes@wahtamohawks.ca by March 2, 2018.

MARCH 10th

MINI YOGA RETREAT

Location: Cultural Centre

Date: March 10 commencing at 10:00 am – 7:00 p.m. or whenever we finish

Includes: Yoga, Reiki, Mindfulness classes

Bring: water bottle and small blanket

Please call Carol at 705-762-2354 x 233 if interested in attending by March 2, 2018.

Post Secondary applications are available and must be returned by March 31, 2018. Please email carol.holmes@wahtamohawks.ca if you would like to receive one.



**Congratulations to
Nicholas Hay and
Julia Cecchetto of
@OsgoodeNews
on their big win at
this years 2018
Arnup Cup!**

Hunting and Fishing By-Law Update

A community consultation meeting was held on January 20th 2018, at the Administration building. The meeting was to discuss the outcomes of the previous meeting and to discuss the options ahead for enforcement of the hunting and fishing by-law. There were 12 community members in attendance at the meeting held in the round room at the Administration building. The council representatives in attendance were Lawrence Schell, Blaine Commandant and Lorie Fenton-Strength, the Administrator Murray Maracle and By-law Coordinator William Manary were also in attendance.

The main topics discussed were the proposed changes to the existing by-law, and the mechanism of enforcement to be used. The discussion on the need to ensure that the hunting and fishing by-law is enforced was the longest. Councillor Schell noted to attendees that the decision on how the by-law is to be enforced must be the priority during the meeting. He noted that without a plan in place to ensure the by-law will be enforced there was no need to worry about changes to the by-law. This point was further stressed when he noted that without enforcement the issues would only continue to put added pressure on the wildlife within the territory from outside sources which have not gained permission to access them. The members in attendance agreed that there needed to be a way to enforce rules pertaining to wildlife. Having discussed the options available and the challenges of attempting to have Wahta provide the enforcement, the solution proposed to have the OMNR&F provide enforcement was agreed upon by the group.

The next topic was the changes to the existing by-law. The current by-law requires that any person who is not a member must have a council approved guide with them while hunting or fishing. This requirement is not being enforced, has no members which are registered as guides, and puts the Wahta Mohawks in a position which could lead to litigation should a hunting accident occur. The section pertaining to guides will be removed from the by-law and will be the only major modification to the by-law.

The steps going forward will be to contact the OMNR&F enforcement representatives and create a Memorandum of Understanding between the OMNR&F and the Wahta Mohawks. The changes to the by-law will be prepared before the February 26th meeting and will be ready to present to the members in attendance.

I look forward to meeting with all members in attendance at the next by-law meeting on February 26th at 6:30 at the administration building.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the office (762-2354 ext 228) to discuss the changes to the by-law or the mechanism of enforcement.

William Manary

Hunting and fishing by-law coordinator

Library Update

Hello everyone, I am still in the process of reorganizing the library, but I have begun planning programming, which is likely to start in April. If you are interested in any of the following programs, please contact me at the library and let me know.

- ◆ Pre-school story time and activities
- ◆ Senior Library Crafts Club
- ◆ Senior Technology Club
- ◆ Book Club

Contact Information

Samantha Walker

Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 8:00-4:30

Email: samantha.walker@wahtamohawks.ca

Phone: (705) 762-2354 ext. 225

The library has recently acquired a large set of online resources that contain a wealth of information that will likely meet the needs of everybody in the community. Examples include:

- ◆ Do-it-yourself databases (hobbies, crafts, auto repair, home improvement, and small engine repair)
- ◆ Health related information
- ◆ Student research databases including a variety of subjects (elementary-university)
- ◆ Children's databases
- ◆ Reading recommendations

A full list of the resources are included below, as well as access information. If you would like more information about any of the resources, please contact me or visit the library.

OverDrive (eBooks and audiobooks)

The library will soon provide access to OverDrive, which is an online collection of eBooks and audiobooks. You can access the collection on your personal e-readers or computers, or through an App on your smartphone or tablet. To access OverDrive, you must have a Patron ID number. You can come to the library to be assigned one, or you can email me your full name and phone number, and I can assign one. More information will be provided once you have received a Patron ID number.

Ancestry Library

This resource can only be accessed in the library or the administration building. You can use the library computers or bring your own device and connect to the Wi-Fi.

Britannica Library Edition – General Information Database for Children, Young Adults, and Adults

<https://library.eb.com/levels>

Username: wahtamohawkspl

Password: bowahta321\$

World Book Advanced – General Database for Children, Students, and Adults

<https://www.worldbookonline.com?subacct=CD31389>

Username: WahtaMohawksPL

Password: WBWahta321\$

Gale Databases

Password: trillium

Canadian Periodical Index (CPI.Q) – Canadian News Database

http://infotrac.galegroup.com/itweb/ko_pl_wahta?db=CPI

Chilton Library – Automobile Information database
http://infotrac.galegroup.com/itweb/ko_pl_wahta?db=CHLL

General Onefile/Infotrac Collections – General Information Database
http://infotrac.galegroup.com/itweb/ko_pl_wahta?db=ITOF

Kids InfoBits – Children’s Information database
http://infotrac.galegroup.com/itweb/ko_pl_wahta?db=ITKE

Literature Resource Center – Literary Article Database
http://infotrac.galegroup.com/itweb/ko_pl_wahta?db=LitRC

EBSCO Databases
Username: nso79913
Password: password

DIY: AutoMate – Automobile Repair Database
<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?authtype=ip,uid&custid=nso79913&site=automate&return=y&groupid=main>

Canadian Points of View – Canadian Current Issues Research Database
<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?authtype=ip,uid&custid=nso79913&profile=pov-can&groupid=main>

Canadian Reference Centre Main Edition – Canadian Research Database
<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?authtype=ip,uid&custid=nso79913&profile=ehost&defaultdb=crm&groupid=main>

Consumer Health Complete – Health Information Database
<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?authtype=ip,uid&custid=nso79913&profile=ehost&defaultdb=cqh&groupid=main>

MasterFILE Premier – General Information Database (with primary sources)
<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?authtype=ip,uid&custid=nso79913&profile=ehost&defaultdb=f5h&groupid=main>

Primary Search – Children’s Magazine & Image Database
<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?authtype=ip,uid&custid=nso79913&profile=ehost&defaultdb=prh&groupid=main>

DIY: Hobbies and Crafts Reference Center – Hobby and Craft Magazine Database
<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?authtype=ip,uid&custid=nso79913&profile=hcrc&groupid=main>

DIY: Home Improvement Reference Center – Home Improvement and Repair Magazine Database
<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?authtype=ip,uid&custid=nso79913&profile=hirc&groupid=main>

NoveList K-8 Plus – Children and Youth Reader’s Advisory
<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?authtype=ip,uid&custid=nso79913&profile=novpk8&groupid=main>

NoveList Plus – Adult Reader’s Advisory
<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?authtype=ip,uid&custid=nso79913&profile=novplus&groupid=main>

Science Reference Center – Science Oriented Database
<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?authtype=ip,uid&custid=nso79913&profile=scirc&groupid=main>

Small Engine Repair Reference Center – Small Engine Repair Information Database
<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?authtype=ip,uid&custid=nso79913&profile=serrc&groupid=main>

PUBLIC HEALTH BULLETIN #2018 -001

Date: February 22, 2018

To: Physicians #001, Specialists #005, IC hospitals #006, Nurse Practitioners #008, Walk in clinics #009, hospital ER #010, Physicians NBRHC #015, Dentists #025, First Nations Health Centers #014

From: Dr. J. Chirico, Medical Officer of Health/Executive Officer

Subject: Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Lapse at Orillia Dental Clinic

An investigation by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health unit (SMDHU) has identified that patients who received dental services at the dental clinic located at 18 Wyandotte Street in Orillia under the business name of Joe Philip and Associates, between January 1, 2012 and December 18, 2017, may have been exposed to improperly cleaned and sterilized instruments used for procedures. We are aware that patients from our region have been referred to this dental clinic.

Following the SMDHU risk assessment, it was determined that the risk of disease transmission is very low in this situation. To date there have been no reports of any patients becoming infected as a result of this IPAC Lapse. However, as a precaution, it is recommended that you consider testing exposed patients for hepatitis B, hepatitis C and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). If a patient was recently exposed follow-up testing should also occur at least three months after the date of the patient's last procedure to take into account the window periods.

The following tests are recommended:

- Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg)
- Hepatitis B core IgM antibody (anti-HBc IgM)
- Hepatitis C screen (anti-HCV)
- HIV screen

Clinician resources including prefilling lab requisitions for this situation are available on the Simcoe Muskoka Health Unit website; <http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/Promos/infection-and-prevention-control-lapse>.

The patient should also receive counselling regarding risk reduction during the evaluation period including discussion to reduce sharing of articles such as clippers, razors, toothbrushes, as well as the use of condoms during sexual activity.

Should you require further information, please contact the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit's CDC program at 705-474-1400, or 1-800-563-2808 ext. 2229. After hours please press "0" ask to speak to the CDC staff on call.

This bulletin was prepared for healthcare providers and is not intended for public distribution.



Communicable Disease Control Program
681 Commercial Street
North Bay, ON P1B 4E7

Tel: 705-474-1400 or 1-800-563-2808
Fax: 705-474-2809
myhealthunit.ca

Health Services March Programs

Community Shopping Tuesday, March 6th (Barrie) Bus starts picking up at 9am

Diamond Dotz Tuesday, March 13 10-12 Round Room Administration

Drum Group Tuesday, March 20 6:30-7:30 Cultural Center

Movement Therapy Wednesday, March 21 10-11 Main Hall Administration

Colouring Monday, March 26 1-3 Round Room Administration

Water Drum and Horn Rattles Tuesday, March 27th and Wednesday March 28th * **you must sign up before hand** * please contact Sherry or Christine

Chair Exercise Wednesday, March 28 10-1 Round Room Administration

Community Kitchen Wednesday, March 28 1-2:30 Administration Kitchen

Paddle Making at the 2018 Wellness Conference



The Good Food Box

A Pilot Project (Starting in January)

The Good Food Box is a monthly box of assorted fresh fruits and vegetables. Bulk ordering of fresh, high-quality produce (mostly local and Ontario) offers a sizable discount to customers. Each box contains a monthly newsletter with health and dietary information along with produce information and recipes to prepare meals from the box of produce you receive.

Boxes can be purchased and picked up from the administration building. **Small boxes cost \$10.00 and large boxes cost \$15.00.**

Boxes must be pre-ordered and paid for by the 7th of each month

Please contact Christine or Sherry



INVITATION FOR RENOVATION ESTIMATES

Proposal to include labour and materials for the purpose of renovating at rental unit 1031 unit #1 Wahta Rd 5. This includes repairs to existing foundation, structural support beams at entrances, one new window and replacement of existing press board siding with new vinyl siding.

1. excavation around building to ensure proper drainage
2. repairs to main support beam under building
3. supply and install one new window
4. approximately 2000 sq ft of vinyl siding
5. repairs to support beams at main entrance

Please contact Harry Byrne at harry.bryne@wahtamohawks.ca or 705-641-0833 for more information.

RED ROAD TO RECOVERY

Addiction Recovery Program

The Red Road to Recovery Program uses the medicine wheel, lessons and truths to guide participants along a good path. This program is based on the Red Road to Wellbriety; which is an Aboriginal holistic approach to healing and self wellness that addresses the physical, emotional, psychological and spiritual aspects of addiction recovery.



Date: Thursday, February 22, 2018 (every Thursday after that for 10 weeks)

Time: 6:30pm—8:30pm

Where: Barrie Native Friendship Centre - 175 Bayfield St., Barrie, ON L4M 3B4

Eligibility: Community members 18 years or older experiencing an addiction

To register, please contact Arlene McKenzie: a.mckenzie@bnfc.ca or 705-721-7689 x 216

Get Your Water Tested

The best time to sample your well water is when the probability of contamination is greatest. This is likely to be in early spring just after the thaw, after an extended dry spell, following heavy rains or after lengthy periods of non-use. If you live on the Territory and would like your water to be tested, please contact Colleen at ext. 241.



Customary Care

Customary care is an important care option for First Nations children who are not able to remain with their immediate family. It is a family-based care model reflective of the culture, values and traditions of the child's parents and community. It recognizes that members of the child's immediate and extended family and community share responsibility in the provision of care to a child, who is or may be in need of protection.

There are two kinds of customary care:

Traditional Customary Care

For First Nations communities, customary care refers to care throughout an individual's lifespan and it is a way of life in which the community takes care of its own members according to its own customs, traditions and standards. Customary care is sanctioned by tribal laws that are indigenous to each Band or First Nations community; tribal laws give Chief and Council the authority to act on behalf of the community in matters related to child and family services. For this reason, the contents of a Customary Care Agreement may vary between each Band or each First Nations community. The mandated child protection agency may or may not be involved in traditional Customary Care Agreements. A traditional Customary Care Agreement may be entered into by a child, the child's parents, the child's Band, or the alternative caregivers who will be providing out-of-home care for the child, pursuant to the Band's customary care declaration.

Formal Customary Care

Where a child protection agency determines that a First Nations child is in need of protection, removal of the child from the parents/caregiver is required and there is a customary care declaration by the Band, the agency may grant a subsidy to the person caring for the child. Formal customary care is recognized as a culturally appropriate placement option for First Nations children, but the child's placement must be supervised by a child protection agency pursuant to the Band declaration and the terms of a signed Customary Care Agreement.

This service is provided by the Simcoe Muskoka Family Connexions FNMI protection team and resource team.

If you are interested in learning more about customary care or if you are interested in becoming a customary care provider in your home, please contact Colleen Mendes at 705-762-2354 ext.241

Longhouse Socials

Join us the 3rd Saturday of every month at 6pm for a Potluck social at the longhouse. Songs, dances and social interaction with community members and guests!

This is an alcohol and drug free event.

Please join us!

2591 Muskoka Rd. 38



Kagita Mikam Employment & Training

Intake applications are ongoing for Kagita Mikam Employment & Training Programs. If you are unemployed, underemployed or out of school and would like to receive training to get back into the workforce then support is available upon meeting the criteria and funding availability.



Programs available through Kagita Mikam are: Purchase of Training, Targeted Wage Subsidy, Mobility Assistance, Youth Work Experience, Employment Assistance Supports and Self Employment Assistance. Funding for training is for 1 year only. Members of Wahta Mohawks without status are eligible for funding. A Letter from Wahta Mohawks stating that you have membership must be provided. Members with status must provide status number and membership letter. For more information on the program please contact Martie at 705-762-3343 x. 272 or by email at martie.stanton@wahtamohawks.ca



Do you need support...someone to talk to?? Everyone needs support at one time or another.

**Aboriginal Mental Health Program (B'saanibaamaadsiwin) 705-764-2512
24/7 Support Line**

This program is aimed at providing culturally appropriate support and treatment for Indigenous individuals, families, and community. Model of service is culturally relevant and community specific therapeutic interventions that are based on best practices.

Please contact Sherry for referral (ext 250) or referrals for counselling and treatment can come through any source or self-referral throughout the districts of Muskoka and Parry Sound. Services can be accessed by calling the Parry Sound Office. People can be supported in community or go into their offices...whatever your preference may be.

Dr. Ed Connors every Thursday at Culture Centre if you would like to book an appointment contact Martie 705- 762-2354 ext 272

Join Our Newsletter Email!

In an effort to help save postage and paper costs, we would like to email the newsletter to as many community members as possible. To join the newsletter list, there are 2 ways to do so.

2 ways to get your newsletter through email:

Register at www.wahtamohawks.com/member-registration

Email us at info@wahtamohawks.com and let us know you would like to have the newsletter emailed to you.

Why Switch to Email

Why should I opt in for Newsletters?

Help Save on Postage and Paper! With over 700 newsletters sent out each month it is a time constraint and costly procedure for staff every month. If you have an email address we would like to email you and save on time, paper and postage costs.

When will I get the Newsletter?

Getting the newsletter online is usually faster than postage. We can email it once it is ready, no need to wait for snail mail.

Do I need to be a member to get the newsletter?

Not necessarily, if you are the spouse or parent of a member then please do not register but instead email us and let us know you would like to receive the newsletter via email.

How else will my email address be used?

Your email address will not be shared with anyone and will only be used for newsletters and occasional communication regarding community updates.

Status Cards

Rama First Nation has been assisting our members with renewing status cards. Unfortunately they can no longer do this.

As an alternative, renewing your status card can be done by mail. The forms are available online at www.aadnc-aandc.gc.a or from the Wahta administration office. Assistance in completing the forms is also available at the Wahta office.

Please check the expiry date on your card, if you have one, as it could take a couple months to renew it by mail.

If you have any questions, please contact the administration office.

Wahta Signs Inc.

Do you have a business that could benefit from a sign on Hwy 400?

We will be renting the billboards on Hwy 400 on a one-year contract basis. We are also looking at installing signs at the Muskoka Road 38 exit that will be shared between advertisers and would let people know your business is at this exit. These would also be available on a one-year contract basis.

For more information contact Lance DeCaire,
Wahta Signs Inc. (705) 762-2354 ext 224
lance.decaire@wahtamohawks.ca

Wahta United Church

Faith Circle will be meeting at 7pm at the cultural centre every Tuesday night.
Church Service will be on March 4th at 11am

If anyone would like a visit, they can contact Pastor Derek at (705) 346-1858



Cindy Cook from Polka Dot Door

Join us on March 12th, 2018 at the Cultural Healing Centre to see **Cindy Cook from Polka Dot Door!** The event begins at 10:30 AM, and lunch will be provided following the performance. See registration details below.

Cindy Cook is a children's performer. She has performed her 6 great shows at schools, libraries, malls, theatres, fairs, and festivals across Canada, the US, and Asia with great reviews. Cindy is frequently joined on stage by some of her puppets including Book Worm, Spelling Bee, Owlle the Baby Owl, Apoot the Baby Polar Bear and Easter Bunny.

Attending the event is free, and all families are welcome. Please contact Samantha by February 26th if you are planning to attend. You can reach her by phone at (705) 762-2354 ext. 225, or email at samantha.walker@wahtamohawks.ca.



Chief and Council

Chief Philip Franks	philip.franks@wahtamohawksCouncil.ca	705-528-9468
Councilor Blaine Commandant	blaine.commandant@wahtamohawksCouncil.ca	705-394-8699
Councilor Teresa Greasley	teresa.greasley@wahtamohawksCouncil.ca	705-644-9934
Councilor Lorie Strength-Fenton	lorie.fenton-strength@wahtamohawksCouncil.ca	705-774-2796
Councilor Lawrence Schell	lawrence.schell@wahtamohawksCouncil.ca	705-644-3001

Administration

705-762-2354

Scott Aubichon	Lands and Resources Coordinator	Ext. 242
Nicole Belcourt	S.S Administrator/Executive Assistant	Ext. 230
Matthew Commandant	Housing Coordinator	Ext. 275
Joanne Contant	Chief Financial Officer	Ext. 245
Sherry Byrne	Health Services	Ext. 250
Christine Cox	Health Services Family Violence	Ext. 273
Amy Davidson	Health and Social Assistant	Ext. 240
Lance DeCaire	Economic Development Officer	Ext. 224
Carol Holmes	Education Services	Ext. 233
Murray Maracle	Senior Administrator	Ext. 231
William Manary	By-Law Coordinator	Ext. 228
Colleen Mendes	AHWS/NCWPW/AHBHC	Ext. 241
Kim North	Finance Clerk	Ext. 237
Bonnie Racine	Housing Intern	Ext. 259
Karen Sahanatien	Lands and Housing Clerk	Ext. 222
Martie Stanton	Human Resources/Employment	Ext. 272
Samantha Walker	Librarian	Ext. 225
Kara Wanoth-Mee	Community Wellness Worker	EXT. 227

Please Feel Free to Call with any Questions or Concerns

Administration Office Hours:

Monday thru Thursday, 8:00am—4:30 pm

Fridays 8:00 am—2:00 pm



P.O. Box 260
Bala, On. P0C 1A0
705-762-2354 phone
705-762-2376 fax
www.wahtamohawks.com