



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PROJECT CONSULTATION  
MARCH 15, 2022

Minutes of the Millbrook First Nation (MFN) Economic Development and Project Consultation Meeting held March 15, 2022, at the Millbrook Community Hall, 72 Church Road, Millbrook, Nova Scotia (NS), at 9:00 a.m.

**CHIEF AND COUNCIL**

**PRESENT:**

Chief, Robert Gloade	Councillor Zachary Julian
Councillor Anissa Blackmore	Councillor Ward Markie
Councillor Alex Cope	Councillor Lisa Marshall
Councillor Carley Gloade	Councillor James Stevens
Councillor Garrett Gloade	Councillor Dana Sylliboy
Councillor Chris GooGoo (via videoconference)	

**ABSENT:**

Councillor Natasha Bernard

**REGRETS:**

Councillor Stephen Marshall

**STAFF:**

Gerald Gloade, Community Engagement Officer	Claire Marshall, Executive Director
Johnathan Lowe, Director of Fisheries (Item 3)	Shelly Martin, In-House Legal Counsel

**RECORDING SECRETARY**

Jessica Haji Mohamad, Administrative Assistant

**GUESTS**

Devin Hartnell, Chief Operating Officer,  
Lindsay Construction (Item 3.2)  
Andy Knowles, Regional Director,  
Lindsay Construction (Item 3.2)  
Debbie Lattie, Tobacco Store (Item 3.5)  
Pat Lipton, Scotia Port (Item 3.3)  
Sonny MacDougall, Meyers Norris Penny (MNP)  
Jeff Shannon, MNP  
Chief Norman (via videoconference) (Item 3.4)

**1. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

**1.1 Call to Order**

Chief Robert Gloade called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

**1.2 Adoption of the Agenda**

*Related Information: Agenda for the March 15, 2022, MFN Economic Development and Project Consultation Meeting.*

**It was MOVED (Councillor James Stevens) and SECONDED (Councillor Alex Cope)**

That the agenda for the March 15, 2022, Millbrook First Nation Economic Development and Project Consultation meeting be approved.

**CARRIED**

Absent: Councillor Natasha Bernard and Councillor Stephen Marshall

**1.3 Adoption of Previous Minutes**

*Related Information: Draft Minutes of the January 18, 2022, MFN Economic & Development Consultations meeting.*

During review of the Minutes of the January 18, 2022, MFN Economic & Development Consultations Meeting, it was noted that the previous Chief and Council, with quorum of five Councillors and Chief Robert Gloade, had approved the Minutes from January 18, 2022.

**It was MOVED (Councillor Lisa Marshall) and SECONDED (Councillor Alex Cope)**

That the Minutes of the January 18, 2022, Millbrook First Nation Economic Development and Project Consultation Meeting be approved with edits.

**CARRIED**

Absent: Councillor Natasha Bernard and Councillor Stephen Marshall

**2. Consultation Presentation**

**2.1. Community Engagement Officer**

The Community Engagement Officer provided background on the Crown Consultation including the securement of \$180,000 (\$60,000 annually over three years) in provincial block capacity funding from the Office of L'nu Affairs (OLA), to assist MFN with participating in provincial files.

Many of the MFN's active projects are on the Eastern Shore, directly affecting Beaver Dam and Sheet Harbour. RJ Maclsaac Construction Ltd. (RJMI) bid on a Deep Panuke decommissioning project, which the MFN wrote a letter of support for in 2020. The RJMI, MFN, and MCG collaborated on a Reef Ball project to restore marine life in Sheet Harbour and the Lo-Pro Reef Ball will be installed March 21-25, 2022. RJMI (and other employers) noted challenges in hiring First Nations employees, which prompted discussions of the MFN becoming a General Service Contractor.

Further presentation highlights included:

- NS Power dam refurbishments in Sheet Harbour, Ruth Falls, Sloane Dam, and Governor Lake:
  - Upgrades will increase the stability of the dam and use modern water management controls to meet Canadian Dam safety guidelines
  - Measures such as salmon ladders, are being taken to assist the safer migration of salmon and eels through the louvre
- Atlantic Gold (St. Barbara Ltd.):
  - Four proposed locations in Touquoy, Beaver Dam, Fifteen Mile Stream, and Cochrane Hill
  - Atlantic Gold discussions focused on benefits over evaluating impacts

- Council requested contingency and remediation plans and Atlantic Gold indicated the availability of scholarships, bursaries, and capacity dollars to assist MFN with environmental monitoring
- First Traditional Land and Resource Use Study (TLRUS) to be completed by a community in the Atlantic in coordination with the firm Moccasin Flower (Alberta):
- The study revealed activity would significantly impact Treaty and Aboriginal rights and that many members were sustenance harvesters
- Next steps:
  - Prepare a letter of support and send to Chiefs, Ministers and Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs)
  - Conduct a TLRUS for the Fifteen Mile Stream mine
  - Arrange a meeting with the Director of the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) Atlantic to discuss concerns
  - Determine potential dates for a meeting with Chief Executive Officers (CEOs)
- Wentworth Valley Windfarm:
  - Receipt of a notice of procurement from Renewable Energy Systems Ltd. (RES) on the development of two wind farms in Colchester and West Hants County
  - Arrangements underway for a provincial workshop on how wind farms are regulated, permitted and how they impact the environment
- Deer harvest update:
  - The municipality of Truro established a Deer Management Strategy Board, including a seat for MFN, on a deer harvest program to reduce the deer population
  - Two harvesting locations were proposed near MFN; however, MFN Chief and Council did not endorse the locations due to their proximity to MEEC
  - A tree stand and crossbow hunt were determined to be the appropriate method
  - MFN community process included Youth mentoring, land-based learning, community food sharing, and firearm and wilderness safety training
- Food security update:
  - Upon Chief and Council direction, a Food Security Working Group was established
  - The Working Group is currently reviewing food security models that address both short and long-term issues
  - Funding is available through the Community Food Centres Canada and Aboriginal Diabetes initiative
  - Monthly food baskets provided to 15 households in Sheet Harbour and Beaver Dam.

During ensuing discussion, comments were offered related to:

- A previous Chief and Council decision for an investigation/study into what is causing eel death
- Suggestion to grow eels in captivity, potentially at MFN's wharf
- Challenges noted with hiring First Nations due to tax issues
- European programs and studies on eels could be valuable resources
- Evidence the lake at the Touquoy Mine Lake is dead due to environmental impacts of mining
- How Afton is being affected by environmental issues in the area
- A letter drafted previously by Chief Gloade stating that MFN's rights are not for sale.

**It was MOVED (Councillor Zachary Julian) and SECONDED (Councillor Alex Cope)**

That the Millbrook First Nation Chief and Council approve the total expenditure of \$3,889.50 for the distribution of \$75 food baskets, including 45 reusable bags from Eastern Woodland Print Communication (EWPC) equaling \$514.50, to 15 households in Sheet Harbour and Beaver Dam, for the duration of three months.

**CARRIED**

Absent: Councillor Natasha Bernard and Councillor Stephen Marshall

**3. Director of Fisheries, Millbrook Fisheries**

The meeting was advised that a motion in regard to the sale of the Amy Marie vessel had been passed by the previous Chief and Council, but documentation relating to the passing of that motion had been misplaced. A quorum of the previous Council would be required to approve the motion and the motion date be changed to reflect the new approval date of March 15, 2022.

**It was MOVED by a Quorum of Chief Robert Gloade, Councillor Lisa Marshall, Councillor Carley Gloade, Councillor Alex Cope, Councillor Ward Markie and Councillor James Stevens**

That the motion regarding the sale of the Amy Marie vessel passed by the previous Chief and Council but subsequently lost, be approved with the revised date of March 15, 2022, and initialed by the MFN Band Solicitor.

**CARRIED**

The Director of Fisheries introduced the team including the Administrative Assistant and Wharf Manager.

The MFN Fisheries core business areas include communal commercial fishing; the development and expansion of land-based seafood buying, processing, holding, and marketing opportunities; exploration of economic opportunities in the ocean sector, and the participation in Mi'kmaw fishery management activities that align with responsible harvesting.

*Councillor Carley Gloade departed the meeting at 11:22 a.m.*

Presentation highlights included:

- MFN Fisheries vessel fleet and assets:
  - Work on a waterfront concept at Sheet Harbour Wharf
  - Upgrades include an advanced live lobster holding system, bait freezers, and a groundfish processing area
  - Satellite offices will facilitate community interaction with MFN staff and Chief and Council

*Councillor Natasha Bernard arrived at the meeting at 11:32 a.m.*

- MFN important commercial species include snow crab, lobster, and tuna:
  - Quota of approximately 800,000 pounds of snow crab and fisheries taking place on the eastern Scotia shelf
  - Five lobster licenses in the Gulf region (Caribou/Lismore), two in Sheet Harbour (LFA 32) and nine in the Bay of Fundy (LFA 35)

- The 2021 tuna quota was 3.440 Metric Tons (MT):
  - 0.898 MT caught in Scotia-Fundy and 2.98 MT caught in the Gulf
- Upcoming priorities include:
  - Livelihood Fisheries community engagement
  - MFN interim harvesting plans and implementation
  - MFN and Millbrook Fisheries assuming a larger role in supporting Mi'kmaq-led fisheries science, resource management, monitoring, and education.

During ensuing discussion, comments were offered on:

- Concerns with prioritizing the hiring of community members over outsourcing
- Whether funding was available through food, social, and ceremony (FSC) programs
- Boats leased by MFN fishermen are not owned by MFN Fisheries
- Hiring is at the discretion of captains, not the MFN
- The benefit of holding a session on fisheries for Chief and Council
- Suggestion that a committee be formed to obtain community input on MFN fisheries
- Suggestion to speak with Listiguj Rangers in regard to Sheet Harbour.

In response to a question, the Director of Fisheries confirmed that MFN Fisheries could share the 15% drop.

*Councillor Carley Gloade arrived at the meeting at 12:18 p.m.*

Preliminary feedback on the elver engagement was reviewed in which it was noted the MFN had 43 interested elver harvesters, and Livelihood Fisheries were seeking to facilitate a meaningful treaty rights-based access to the elver fishery. Two additional elver engagement sessions were scheduled in Sheet Harbour and Millbrook, specifically for Elders.

Two options were shared with Chief and Council:

1. If an interim “without prejudice” community harvesting plan were to be finalized and shared with DFO, and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) reached through discussion/consultations (regarding catch limits and monitoring), there is potential this plan could proceed as an “authorized” fishery by DFO in 2022; or
2. A community-endorsed and Chief and Council-sanctioned harvest, outside of formal discussions with the federal government and/or DFO; there would need to be a commitment to defend harvesters charged by DFO and enforcement action would be highly probable.

Chief and Council indicated preference for Option 1.

Discussion ensued on:

- Suggestion that MFN members have an identification card to identify how much they receive
- The importance of including all Band members to create opportunities for everyone
- Harvester safety is a top priority
- Current work of the CMM on creating a Guardians program
- Engagement feedback indicated support that all Mi'kmaq be involved
- Updates should be provided to harvesters.

### **3.2. Lindsay Construction – Presentation**

Representatives for Lindsay Construction reviewed its services, including the review and approval of drawings, specifications and permits, conducting site inspections, and providing guidance on national building codes. Lindsay Construction Project Managers (PMs) will attend meetings with jurisdictional authorities and act as MFN's representative when meeting with the NS Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal. PMs will additionally meet with MFN every third Tuesday of the month and provide status updates on all projects.

Updates were provided on the following projects:

- Caldwell Glen Apartments, Cole Harbour:
  - Building is leased by Twin City Management
  - First phase handed over March 1, 2022 and second phase to be handed over April 1, 2022
  - Final units to be handed over mid-April 2022
  - Phase 2 painting, flooring, and millwork near completion
  - Landscaping to take place early spring 2022
- Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq office building:
  - Roof completed and window installation ongoing
  - Steel stud framing ongoing
  - Commissioning July 2022
- NS Native Women's Association building project not made public
- Develop NS opportunity, Dartmouth NS:
  - Develop NS seeking partners to create a housing community with a mix of affordable units to match a broad range of income levels
  - Leverage high value lands in return for tangible and lasting contributions to housing affordability
  - Development models include non-market and market partnerships.

Discussion ensued on:

- Potential for partnership jobs for MFN members to be built into the Request for Proposal (RFP) process through a mentorship program for new graduates
- Trade partners could provide summer employment for students
- Further discussion will be had on Lindsay Construction employing MFN members
- Suggestion that the next Economic Development & Project Consultation meeting be held in Cole Harbour in order for new Chief and Council members to view the two apartments in the new building.

### **3.3. Scotia Port**

The Scotia Port representative shared a map of the current MFN holdings and reviewed the process for the close and purchase of a property. Site map plans were shared and updates were provided on specific properties including:

During a following discussion, Mr. Lipton informed that an intersection would be installed, and that the MFN is seeking 200 acres of land.

Councillor Natasha Bernard departed the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

**It was MOVED (Councillor Garrett Gloade) and SECONDED (Councillor Anissa Blackmore)**  
That the Millbrook First Nation Chief and Council approve the grant amount of \$1,250 for the June and November 2022 payments.

**CARRIED**

Absent: Councillor Natasha Bernard and Councillor Stephen Marshall

**It was MOVED (Councillor James Stevens) and SECONDED (Councillor Carley Gloade)**  
That the Millbrook First Nation Chief and Council approve the donation amount of \$3,000 for the Millbrook Easter Celebration, as requested by Karen Pictou.

**CARRIED**

Absent: Councillor Natasha Bernard and Councillor Stephen Marshall

#### 3.4. Treaty Enterprise/ MFN Tobacco Store

The MFN Tobacco Store representative advised that sales the previous year had not been good and suggested the MFN should not allocate tobacco quotas to individuals, but that the government develop an allocation process.

During ensuing discussion, comments were offered related to:

- Tobacco coming in from other places is impacting community tobacco store
- Loss of revenue potential to reduce Treaty grants, other programming and supports to community
- The MFN's pricing on cartons
- Unpurchased tobacco quotas will result in reduced allocations
- Issuing more tobacco quotas to smaller businesses to support them
- Tobacco sales in the early months of the year are typically lower
- Tobacco allocations are not owned by the individual but by the community;

#### 4. Letter Requests

The letter requesting a donation for the Easter Celebration was approved by Chief and Council.

In regard to a letter to the MFN Housing Director and By-Law Officer, it was noted that the individual would be notified that the letter had been forward to MFN Legal Counsel for assessment.

#### 5. IN-CAMERA DISCUSSION

##### Fisheries Team

During discussion, it was confirmed that the Fisheries Team has full discretion to operate their department.

#### CONCLUSION

**It was MOVED (Councillor Garrett Gloade)**

That the March 15, 2022, Millbrook First Nation Economic Development and Project Consultation Meeting adjourn.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*Time: approximately 4:29pm.*