



**GENERAL CHIEF AND COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 13, 2022**

Minutes of the Millbrook First Nation (MFN) General Chief and Council (Council) meeting held September 13, 2022, at the Millbrook Council Chambers, 820 Willow Street, Millbrook, Nova Scotia, scheduled for 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**CHIEF AND COUNCIL
PRESENT:**

Chief, Robert Gloade	Councillor Zachary Julian
Councillor Natasha Bernard	Councillor Ward Markie
Councillor Anissa Blackmore	Councillor Lisa Marshall
Councillor Alex Cope	Councillor Stephen Marshall
Councillor Carley Gloade	Councillor James Stevens
Councillor Garrett Gloade	Councillor Dana Sylliboy
Councillor Chris GooGoo	

DELEGATES / GUESTS:

Sgt. William Collier, RCMP
Cpl. Natasha Jamieson, RCMP
Natalie Gloade, Community Member (Item 3.2)
Debbie Lattie, Manager of Treaty Entertainment and Tobacco Store (Item 3.1, via MS Teams)
Lindsay Peach, Executive Director, Tajikeimik (new/developing Health and Wellness Organization)
Philippa Pictou, Director of Policy and Planning, Tajikeimik
Chief Deborah Robinson and Senior Staff, Mi'kmaw Family and Children's Services of Nova Scotia

STAFF:

Claire Marshall, Executive Director	Carla Moore, Director of Health Services
Shelly Martin, In-House Legal Counsel	

RECORDING SECRETARY

Suzanne Penney, Admin Assistant to Chief and Council

1. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1.1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:00 a.m.

1.2 Adoption of the Agenda

Related Information: Agenda for the September 13, 2022, Millbrook First Nation General Chief and Council Meeting.

MOTION ITEM 1.2

It was MOVED (Councillor Stephen Marshall) and SECONDED (Councillor Carley Gloade)

That the agenda for the September 13, 2022, Millbrook First Nation General Chief and Council meeting be approved as presented.

CARRIED

1.3 Adoption of Previous Minutes (Chief Robert Gloade)

The previous minutes of the Chief and Council General Meeting dated July 12, 2022, were reviewed noting corrections to be made.

MOTION ITEM 1.3

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

That the minutes of the Chief and Council meeting held July 12, 2022 be approved with the following corrections:

- 1.2 BCR Motion: Councillor James Stevens – Abstained;*
- 1.4 b) changed to 1.5;*
- 2.2 Bold and underline (lines) Request/Response;*
- 5.0 Reports - Motion: Name Correction;*
- Names to be left off motions*

CARRIED

1.4 BUSINESS ARISING/NEW BUSINESS

1.4 a) Nova Institution for Women Tour (Chief Robert Gloade):

An overview was provided noting:

- Millbrook is considering ways to build the relationship and do things for the Institution's staff and/or provide some cultural teachings and workshops
- Of the Institution's 80 clients, 24 women are Indigenous
- The tour included one house with eight Indigenous women living and working together on becoming better prepared for release
- Some clients will agree to do a longer sentence (two years or more) so they can go to Federal prison and not the Provincial prisons
- Like the Pathways Program in Springhill, NS, there may be a possibility of beginning a co-op, which would introduce the Heritage Centre and potential partnering.

Additionally, it was shared that Thomas Kayter, Crown Prosecutor, is working on a low to medium risk facility in this community to serve all-Indigenous clients with all Indigenous staffing. Mr. Kayter will be invited to provide further information as the project proceeds.

1.4 b) Moose Hunt Update:

- Three councillors have been working on bringing back the Youth Moose hunt for October 7 and 8, 2022
- A rough budget projection, considering the rising cost of gas, is \$17,000
- Community donations to cover the cost are currently showing a \$5,000 shortfall

- With 10 chaperones (three councillors and seven volunteers) as many as 30 youth could participate in the Moose Hunt.

CONSENSUS DECISION ITEM 1.4b)

It was agreed by consensus that the Band could cover the budget overrun, if required, for the 2022 Youth Moose Hunt.

2. DELEGATIONS

2.1 BCR/MOU for Tajiikeimik

Lindsay Peach, Executive Director, Tajiikeimik, and Philippa Pictou, Director of Policy and Planning, provided a presentation noting:

- Support from Chief and Council was sought for sign-off on a memorandum of understanding (MOU): Shared Commitments to Action on Health Transformation for the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia
- The process and federal requirements for transferring responsibility and federal funding were discussed
- Health programs and services to Tajiikeimik will serve the Mi'kmaq of NS
- Collaboration and coordination between Tajiikeimik and the Province on health planning, decision-making, and funding processes affecting the Mi'kmaq people of NS
- The development and implementation of a framework and process to ensure shared transparency and accountability, to define how the work foreseen in this MOU will be done in a deliberate, planned, and measurable way; and to monitor improvements in health service delivery and health outcomes for the Mi'kmaq in NS

Next Steps:

- Once implemented, the parties will develop a shared workplan to support achievement of the agreed upon actions outlined in the MOU
- The parties commit to begin negotiations of the Agreement in Principle by April 1, 2023, with the aim of concluding the negotiation by March 31, 2024.

2.2 Mi'kmaw Family and Children Services of Nova Scotia (MMFCS):

Chief Deborah Robinson and MMFCS Senior Staff provided an overview of the services offered by MMFCS, with a staff compliment of approximately 200, from the main office in Eskasoni and satellite offices at a variety of locations including Dartmouth.

Council was invited to consider a potential land lease arrangement with Mi'kmaw Family and Children Services at the Power Centre within Millbrook, NS.

MOTION ITEM 2.2

It was MOVED (Councillor Stephen Marshall) and SECONDED (Councillor Alissa Blackmore)

That Councillor Stevens be authorized to enter into a potential land lease arrangement at the Power Centre with Mi'kmaw Family and Children Services.

CARRIED

One opposed; one abstained

Discussion ensued on the benefits of a location in Millbrook noting the following:

- Response time to significant situations would be quicker with the Immediate Response Circle in place
- In 2021, there was approximately 200 children in the care of the Province, including nine children from one family that were all separated from each other
- Currently there are 82 in long term care and 11 in temporary care
- Priority is to rebuild the foster care program, with a focus on keeping children in the home, and doing home risk assessments often
- A Millbrook location would make family visitation for children in care easier
- Within the current referral process there is an eight-week window to substantiate any/all reports submitted through credible sources with consideration to the severity of each situation.

Discussion ensued on the role of the Band Designate noting:

- The Band Designate must be contacted if a child is to be placed in care
- Information is shared with the Band Designate unless the family states that they are not permitted to do so
- Band Designate direct involvement could ensure every support is made available to families
- The Family Support Program works with the family as a unit in the home.

2.3 RCMP UPDATE

Sgt. Collier and Cpl. Jamieson reviewed a handout circulated to Chief and Council and requested feedback for the detachment.

In the ensuing discussion the following was noted:

- A Council member offered to research costs of purchasing speed signs for the community
- Sgt. Collier indicated he would like to volunteer within the community to assist with the Youth Moose Hunt.

3. POLICY DISCUSSION/DECISIONS

3.1 Tobacco Quota and Millbrook Tobacco Revenue Reduction

Debbie Lattie, Manager of Treaty Entertainment and Tobacco Store, joined the meeting via MS Teams and provided an update regarding tobacco sales, noting:

- Reviewed margin losses based on sales loss
- Manager of Treaty Entertainment and Tobacco Store does regular inventory
- The shelf life of the product varies and can be three months and up
- Product could be returned or Millbrook could reduce buying, which would lead to cutbacks on the allotted quotas, by the Province of NS
- Current anticipated loss in revenue is \$800,000 to \$1,000,000 if nothing is done
- Continued losses will result in cutbacks to programs and community projects, including sponsorships, donations, recreation, youth, sports, etc.
- This is a new situation for the community.

Discussion ensued:

- At the July 2022 meeting, Chief and Council passed a motion to send a letter to Millbrook shop owners telling them about the tobacco situation and asking them to stop selling unregulated tobacco.
- The Executive Director had circulated a draft letter for comment and received one edit from a councillor after the meeting.

Related to the tobacco discussion, concern was raised over breach of confidentiality relative to a document released to the public through social media with details of a July 2022 Council discussion, which included internal financial information. A media article regarding this issue was read aloud. The Council Code of Conduct was reviewed by Council members for clarification.

Council Code of Conduct

Further discussion ensued about consequences of breaching the Council Code of Conduct. Council members requested a discussion and decision on the following:

- a) Breach of Confidentiality – what are the consequences for the councillors that released the information?
- b) Breach of Trust – not acting in the best interest of the Band
- c) Conflict of Interest – financial gain from decisions made in Council.

A discussion arose regarding a possible land lease and whether a councillor and employee of the Band responsible for land leases would be in conflict. Six (6) councillors voted that the councillor was not in conflict and five (5) voted that he was in conflict. One councillor abstained from the vote.

Further on tobacco, an email sent by a Council member to the Mohawk Council of Kahnawake Chief was distributed and discussed. It was suggested that Council review the trade agreement and investigate the possibility of trade in abundance, since the Mohawks want and need fish and Mi'kmaw wants and needs tobacco. The original signed tobacco agreement was circulated for review.

Action Item (01): Trade agreement to be included on a future meeting agenda for discussion.

Summary of potential solutions to the tobacco issue:

- Re-open and invite other communities to come into Millbrook to facilitate selling tobacco (store was previously closed to non-Millbrook Indigenous members)
- Distribute more quotas
- Meet with Mohawk Council of Kahnawake to explore trade options
- Information sharing about how the selling of unregulated tobacco affects Millbrook's revenue for community programming.

Councillor Chris Googoo Motions

Councillor Chris Googoo submitted a list of motions for review. The motions were briefly discussed.

Action Item (02): It was agreed that the motions submitted by Councillor Chris Googoo will be added to the agenda of the Economic Development and Project Consultation meeting on September 20, 2022.

3.2 Ms. Natalie Gloade, community member request

A community member presented the following requests and discussion items to Chief and Council:

- A \$2,500 scholarship to be awarded to an Indigenous University student that shows forgiveness and accountability, in memory of the late Nora Bernard
- A request for a tobacco quota for her family to sell cigarettes in her craft store; Grammys Healing Hands and obtain a hemp oil licence based on a patent her relative has signed over to her
- Nova Scotia Power came out to the pole location where she had requested a peaked cap banner be placed in memory of her mother, the late Nora Bernard; it was queried why the peaked cap flags were not placed in the other location that she requested; the original request was delegated to the maintenance supervisor who dealt with the pole sites
- Recommendation to name the arbor after the late Lorraine Marshall-Gould, to be discussed with the family of Lorraine Marshall-Gould
- Community member indicated she had not yet received an anticipated letter from CMM regarding an incident during a hiring process a couple of years ago
- A granite stone statue to commemorate the late Nora Bernard was to be constructed in front of the home at 768 Willow St, Truro, NS
- All past Elders to have their painted portraits, along with that of Nora Bernard displayed at the community hall or senior's centre to honour them
- Community member updated Council on the sacred fire she had requested and obtained a permit for
- Clarification was requested on a previous request to have her son return to his community; there was some discussion about potential supports to her soon coming back to Millbrook
- Community member requested that Council send an email to her with their decisions on each point.

Ms. Gloade left the meeting at 3:26 p.m.

4. COMMUNITY LETTERS/REQUESTS/CORRESPONDENCE

4.1 Community Letters:

4.1 a) Letter was received requesting an appeal of a five-day employment suspension. Council member read the letter detailing the reasons for the suspension. Discussion followed and it was decided this was a Human Resource matter and the policy had been followed correctly and this will be directed to Human Resources for resolution. **Reply Letter Sent**

4.1 b) A detailed, handwritten note was received, read into the minutes and reviewed by Chief and Council. Due to the nature of the content, this was forwarded to the RCMP for follow up directly with the individual. **Reply Letter Sent**

4.1 c) Note was received and read into the minutes. Executive Director updated Chief and Council that the inquiry regarding issues with a travel cheque had been resolved before this meeting date. **Reply Letter Sent**

4.2 Community Requests:

- 4.2 a) CP Request** – Deferred (still being reviewed by band solicitor)
- 4.2 b) Letter of support** An email had personally been sent from the Chief to the doctor. A letter will also be sent to the community member acknowledging her contact on the doctor's behalf. Reply letter to be signed by the Chief at next meeting. **(Letter to be sent after signing)**
- 4.2 c) Funding request:** The letter dated August 10, 2022, to Chief and Council was received and after a review with finance it was determined that the requested sports registration fees of \$562.35 would be covered for reimbursement. Further decision was made that a request would be submitted to include Lacrosse as an Elite Sport under the Tobacco Funding criteria. **Reply Letter sent**
- 4.2 d) Sport Funding Request:** This letter will be forwarded to the Education Director for review and decision. **Reply Letter sent**
- 4.2 e) T-Shirts for the Truth and Reconciliation Day** have been ordered and will be distributed throughout the communities of Millbrook, Sheet Harbour, Cole Harbour, CEC, and Newfoundland.
- 4.2 f) Bus Driver Requirements:** The meeting was informed that the Education Department hired a temporary school bus driver. Discussion followed about different kinds of bus licenses that can be held.

Action Item (03): *The Executive Director was requested to confirm that the person hired holds the appropriate license for driving the school bus.*

- 4.2 g) Staff Retreat/Appreciation:** Confirmation was provided that costs for the staff event were included in the budget approved by Council. Feedback was positive in that Millbrook supported Bear River First Nation and had the opportunity to learn more about their developments and had an exchange information.
- 4.3 Flag Design Competition: Submissions Review and Decisions:**
- The 10 flag designs submitted to the Flag Design competition were numbered and displayed without artists' names. Council reviewed displays and wrote down their choice by number.
 - Artist Alyssa Abram, flag design winner will receive a cheque for \$2,000.
- 4.4 Correspondence:** (For information only; no action required)
- Truro Police: Safe Grad Donation – Thank you letter (Attached)
 - The Lung Association of NS and PEI – Thank you letter (Attached)
 - Colouring book created for Chief and Council – On display in Chambers for viewing.

5. REPORTS

5.1 Review of Department Reports

The Executive Director provided the following updates:

- The Health Director's report included the prospect of hiring for several positions to support mental health issues in the community
- Director of Education has an upcoming event opening for the Elders in Dartmouth and Millbrook Council has been requested to attend
- Youth Survival Camp – Security is organizing this upcoming event
- Council was requested to review the Fisheries report included in the agenda package before the next Economic Development Meeting on October 18, 2022
- The meeting was apprised that Ellen Marshall accepted a Summer Games Coordinator term contract position within Millbrook First Nation; the terms of her contract were determined and will be signed by Chief Gloade.

5.2 Finance Committee Update

The Executive Director provided an update from the first Finance Committee meeting, which is working on its terms of reference. The Committee plans to meet monthly to make recommendations within the scope of the budget that will come back to Chief and Council. Having a Finance Committee is a requirement under Millbrook's Financial Law.

5.3 Application Deadlines

New dates and deadlines for the Treaty Grant applications are as follows:

- November 3, 2022, is the cut off for direct deposit applications at 4 p.m.
- November 17, 2022, cut off for direct deposit
- November 10, 2022, cut off deadline for mailout at 4 p.m.
- November 10, 2022, deadline for complete application to be submitted for review.

MOTION ITEM 5.3

It was MOVED (Councillor Garrett Gloade) and SECONDED (Councillor Zachary Julian)

That the application deadlines for Treaty Grants and applied credit be confirmed as detailed.

CARRIED

6. IN-CAMERA SESSION

7. LEGAL UPDATE

Solicitor provided updates as follows:

7.1 Indian Day School Applications

Solicitor apprised the meeting that research is ongoing and requested the continued support of Chief and Council on this issue. Updates will be provided as information on new developments become available.

7.2 Dawn Ellis Matter Update on civil action

The dates of March 1, 2023, and March 2, 2023, have been set for the civil court case.

8. **CONCLUSION:** Meeting Adjourned

9. **NEXT MEETING**

Next General Chief and Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 12, 2022 with consideration to the Thanksgiving holiday.