

Qalipu First Nation
Council Meeting
February 6, 2021

Microsoft Teams Meeting

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Welcome and Opening Prayer

The Council of Qalipu First Nation held its regular meeting of Chief and Council on Microsoft Teams and at the Community Room - 1 Church Street, Corner Brook. The room was smudged by Elder and Councillor Odelle Pike. The meeting was live streamed for members of Qalipu. Chief Mitchell welcomed staff, Councillors, Youth Representative, and the members who were listening. Councillor Odelle Pike led the meeting with a prayer and the official QFN meeting began at 9:10 am.

Attendance

The following members of Council and Staff attended the meeting:

Name:	Position:
Mr. Brendan Mitchell	Chief
Mr. Keith Cormier	Western Vice-Chief
Mr. Randy Drover	Central Vice-Chief
Mr. Jasen Benwah	Councillor Port Au Port
Mr. Brian Dicks	Councillor Corner Brook
Mr. Frank Skeard	Councillor Glenwood
Ms. Odelle Pike	Councillor Stephenville
Mr. Calvin Francis	Councillor Gander Bay – Left meeting following lunch break
Mr. Andy Barker	Councillor Exploits
Mr. Ivan White, SR	Councillor Flat Bay
Mr. Ivan J. White	Councillor St. George's
Mr. Bernard White	Councillor Benoit's Cove
Ms. Sabrina Muise	Youth Representative - sworn in on December 12, 2020
Mr. Keith Goulding (Staff)	Band Manager
Ms. Tina Diamond (Staff)	Office Administrator
Ms. Alison White (Staff)	Communications Officer
Mr. Ryan Matthews (Staff)	Communication & Computing Specialist

Absent

All individuals scheduled to be present were in attendance.

Review and Acceptance of the Agenda

The agenda was reviewed. Chief Mitchell read the items.

Motion 40-20-21 – Adoption of the Agenda

A motion was made to accept the **agenda** with no additions and a request to remove an item.

Moved by:	Jasen Benwah	Seconded by:	Bern White
Motion Carried	All in Favour	Eleven (11) For	Zero(0) Against

Agenda accepted with changes noted below.

Additions to Agenda

- None

Removal from Agenda

- Housing Committee Strategic Plan

Review and Acceptance of Minutes

Meeting Minutes - December 12, 2020

A draft of the meeting minutes was distributed to Council for edits. A final draft was provided prior to this meeting.

Edits suggested: Add "was made" to a sentence to provide further clarification – page 5; replace absent with "absence"- page 6; replace book with "research" – page 7; add a sentence to provide further clarification regarding the absence of the Director of Operations – page 6.

These suggested edits will be completed.

Motion 41-20-21 – Adoption of the Minutes

A motion was made to accept the **minutes of December 12, 2020** with suggested edits.

Moved by:	Bern White	Seconded by:	Ivan White, SR
Motion Carried	All in Favour	Eleven (11) For	Zero(0) Against

Minutes of December 12, 2020 were adopted.

Business Arising from December 12, 2021 minutes

Further to Mr. Frank Speck's research – which is now on Qalipu's website – Councillor Andy Barker indicated that several other research items are available to read.

First Nation Financial Management Board (FNFMB) Compliance

On an Annual basis, Chief and Council are required to re-sign the Conflict of Interest(COI) Declaration, COI Disclosure, and the FMB Code of Conduct Declaration. Councillors were emailed all documents which require a signature. Several Councillors members signed the documents at today's meeting. All required signatures have been received and recorded.

10-Year Strategic Plan

At a special meeting on Friday, February 5th, 2021 Council met to discuss and revise the current draft of the Strategic Plan. The plan guides Qalipu and can be amended as needed. It is a working plan which has had feedback from several consultations. A draft is on the website for review by membership.

All recommendations, made at Friday's February 5th meeting, have been made by Band Manager, Keith Goulding, and a final draft is ready for approval.

Motion 42-20-21 – Adoption of the Strategic Plan

A motion was made to approve the recent draft, as modified, of the 10-Year Strategic Plan.

Moved by:	Calvin Francis	Seconded by:	Ivan White, SR
Motion Carried	All in Favour	Eleven (11) For	Zero(0) Against

Strategic Plan approved.

Organizational Review

At the special meeting held Friday, February 5, 2021, Council discussed the Organizational Review and made recommendations to edit the document – this document is also known as the Operational Review.

Motion 43-20-21 – Adoption of the Organizational Review

A motion was made to approve the recent draft, with recommended changes, subject to the phased-in budgeting process.

Moved by:	Odelle Pike	Seconded by:	Jasen Benwah
Motion Carried	All in Favour	Eleven (11) For	Zero(0) Against

Organizational Review approved as amended.

Annually, the organizational chart requires approval. The Organizational Chart will be presented at the next council meeting in March 2021.

General By-Laws

Following the AGA, held in Corner Brook in September of 2020, recommendations were made to revise the General By-Law. These edits have been completed and Council was presented with those changes at the meeting held on Friday, February 5, 2021. Band Manager, Keith Goulding noted that sections 4.8 and 4.9(a) & (b) were added to the By-Law and read those sections to the Council and to members listening.

Motion 44-20-21 – Accept the revisions to the General By-Laws

A motion was made to accept the revisions of the General By-Laws

Moved by:	Keith Cormier	Seconded by:	Bern White
Motion Carried	All in Favour	Eleven (11) For	Zero(0) Against

Revisions to the General By-Law accepted.

Other Items to Discuss

Advisory Councils

This topic was added to discuss having advisory councils with regards to Youth, Elders and Women. It was noted that we have a current youth on Council, and we have a woman on council who is also an elder. It was advised that the Advisory Councils ought to be codified and there ought to be conversations in the future. Councillors agreed to create a committee to review Advisory Councils. Individuals who will serve on the committee are Councillor Odelle Pike, Councillor Ivan White SR, Councillor Jasen Benwah, Councillor Francis Skeard, and Youth Representative Sabrina Muise.

Election 2021

The next election must be no later than three(3) years from the last election and therefore will have to be scheduled on or before October 22, 2021. The plan is to start promoting the election early by promoting how to vote, promoting electronic and telephone voting, and promoting the benefit of having GINU updated. It was also noted that to apply to be a Ward Councillor, you must live in the ward, be 18+ years of age, obtain two signatures from an elector (18+ years of age), and pay a fee.

Improved access to Council Meetings

Members have expressed concerns trying to find the Council Meeting Minutes and other valuable information on the Qalipu Website.

The website was last updated several years ago, Band Manager indicated that the website does require revisions.

Social Economic Agreement (SEA) - Marathon Gold

It is important to note that Qalipu First Nation has not signed a SEA with Marathon Gold. Qalipu is involved in hearing the concerns of members and will decide on the signing of the SEA at a later date.

Following a brief discussion of topics of interest at various consultations, Councillor Frank Skeard made a motion.

Motion 45-20-21 – Conclude the final draft of the SEA

A motion was made to provide authority to Marathon Gold Sub-Committee to conclude the final draft of the SEA to bring back to Council at the next meeting for ratification.

Moved by:	Frank Skeard	Seconded by:	Andy Barker
Motion passed	One (1) Abstain	Six (6) For	Four (4) Against

Motion passed.

Annual Operating Plans(AOPs)

The AOPs were presented by email to the Council in advance of the meeting. After discussions of a small number of items, a motion was made.

Motion 46-20-21 – Accept the AOPs

A motion was made to approve all AOPs for end of Quarter 3.

Moved by:	Calvin Francis	Seconded by:	Bern White
Motion Carried	All in Favour	Eleven (11) For	Zero(0) Against

AOPs for Q3 accepted.

Band Council Resolution (BCR) 03-20-21

The BCR concerns obtaining two signatories on the Seed Funding Agreement with Canada Mortgage and Housing(CMHC) and Qalipu First Nation(QFN). Band Manager, Keith Goulding, read the Resolution to the Councillors and indicated that the Office Administrator, Tina Diamond, will complete the fields on the BCR. Once finalized and approved by Council, both Chief Brendan Mitchell and Band Manager, Keith Goulding, will sign the BCR.

Motion 47-20-21 – Signing of BCR 03-20-21

A motion was made to approve the signing of the BCR.

Moved by:	Calvin Francis	Seconded by:	Bern White
Motion Carried	All in Favour	Eleven (11) For	Zero(0) Against

BCR Approved.

Committee Updates

Five(5) committees submitted a written report as part of the Council Kit. The chairs of the committee's were provided an opportunity to briefly detail the report and address questions of Council.

Finance & Audit Standing Committee (FASC)

Vice-Chief Randy Drover began by noting that the Director of Finance, Ms. Jodie Wells, will be leaving Qalipu for a new position with Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and Ms. Karen Tiller is now the Finance Manager for Qalipu. Mr. Drover then discussed the FASC minutes of February 1, 2021.

FAC Meeting Minutes – February 1, 2021

Mr. Drover highlighted important information from the meeting and discussed several Budgets. While reviewing Covid-19 funding and the amounts previously given to Community Groups, a new program beginning at end of month will be initiated. A surplus of funds in Education and Training will create new funding programs - Budgets to be developed by Ms. Monique Carroll, Director of Education and Training. Funding programs discussed include: Mature Student Funding Programs; Central K-12 Funding Program; Pre-School Program; Financial Literacy Program/Workshops; Life-Skills Workshops; Work-term Partnerships; Child-Care Program; Travel Program; and Cultural Workshops.

The next meeting of FASC is scheduled for February 19, 2021 and Breakfast Programs can be discussed.

Motion 48-20-21 – Adoption of Budgets presented

The following motion was made:

To adopt the budgets of Bill C52, Education Partnership, Experience Qalipu (Strategic Development), Marathon Gold, and Professional and Institutional Development as presented and discussed.

Moved by:	Randy Drover	Seconded by:	Brian Dicks
Motion Carried	All in Favour	Eleven (11) For	Zero(0) Against

Budgets accepted.

Motion 49-20-21 – Land Grant for Wigwam Point

After describing the location and providing a background of history of the land known as Wigwam Point, Mr. Randy Drover made the following motion:

The Band move forward to obtain a land grant from Government of Newfoundland and Labrador for Wigwam Point.

Moved by:	Randy Drover	Seconded by:	Keith Cormier
Motion Carried	All in Favour	Eleven (11) For	Zero(0) Against

Land Grant approved.

The land grant will give full title to the Qalipu First Nation who will continue to work with Sple'tk First Nation (SFN) who previously held a lease on the land.

Motion 50-20-21 – RFPs for Pay-Scale Classifications

The following motion was made:

The Band proceed with developing and issuing a Request for Proposals (RFPs) to implement the recommendations from higher talent as it relates to classification of 'pay-scale' system for the band and affiliated companies.

Moved by:	Randy Drover	Seconded by:	Odelle Pike
Motion Carried	All in Favour	Eleven (11) For	Zero(0) Against

RFPs to be developed and issued.

Communications Committee

Prior to the meeting, Councillor Odelle Pike presented to Council a Communications Report with the Terms of Reference(TORs) and the Communications Plan Template attached as subsequent documents.

Sections of the report were read, and recommendations were made. The TOR, as revised, to be signed by Band Manager. The template for QFN Strategic Communication Plan was accepted by Band Manager and Communications Officer given direction to proceed with writing the document.

Education & Training Standing Committee

Councillor Odelle Pike read and summarized all projects in the Education & Training Department. She indicated that the committee discussed funding opportunities for students currently enrolled in school and currently receiving funding. The committee recommended that some of the surplus, discussed in the Finance Committee Report, should go to these students.

FASC to review recommendations from the Education & Training Committee.

Natural Resources & the Environment Standing Committee

As previously stated, the report was provided to Council prior to the meeting. Councillor Frank Skeard's report highlighted activities and action items of the committee. The following comments were made:

- Prospectors Course - Frank Skeard, chair of the NR Committee, the Education & Training Department, and NL Prospectors Association will work together to offer the course.
- SEA with Marathon - Two QNR representatives will be amongst the Engagement & Environmental Stewardship Committees.
- Red Fish - This file is with QDC; however, it is categorized under QNR.
- Traditional Territory Map - More information should be posted in a couple of weeks.

Councillor Skeard requested if there were any further comments or questions to contact him directly. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 19, 2021.

Community Development Standing Committee

Councillor Keith Cormier, Chair of the committee, provided updates in addition to the written report.

- The MMIWG Project will aim to conclude in the spring to be ready for June 21st, 2021.
- Language Project, with Dean Simon, is going well. Online reach is close to ten thousand(10K)
- Wigwam Point land grant application is a project of the Committee
- Cultural Foundation's online auction will end on Sunday

Youth Representative

Sworn in on December 12, 2020, Ms. Sabrina Muise updated Council on activities of the youth in the past three months. She handed out an overview of her report and briefly explained how the current Youth Council will be created and how they will engage and make decisions. The youth have held online events and Ms. Muise provided Council with the feedback from participants who attended those sessions. The report provided information regarding the four proposed Governance Structures and the Youth Council election process. Ms. Muise informed Qalipu Council that the youth have received government funding with the intent of using it for the Youth Council Election.

With respect to Lateral Kindness/Violence Training, Band Manager, Keith Goulding indicated that he has funding available for Lateral Violence Training and Youth can participate. Also, Councillors asked Ms. Muise along with the Youth Council to submit a Request for Donation to the Band Manager.

Band Manager Report

With regards to the recent report submitted, the following updates were provided:

- Additional Covid-19 funding was received
- RFP for Traditional land Use will be completed by end of February
- Executive Committee will aim to meet with the three community Chiefs in Flat Bay Ward in March
- 10-year anniversary of the Band – there will be an event in September
- Letters of Support for an Urban Reserve - letters received from Government of NL and Miawpukek First Nation(MFN)
- Meeting with QCF – Has been postponed, no new date set

Executive Committee Report

Since the submission of the report, Chief Mitchell provided to Council the following updates:

- Succession Plan template – Executive Committee is reviewing
- COVID Vaccinations – Chief Mitchell has made contact with government officials
- Enrolment – no new updates on the court case
- Mi'kmaq Grand Council Flag Raising Ceremony – held at Grenfell Campus on Saturday, January 30th; MUN wants a similar ceremony in St. John's
- Letter of Support for PET Scanner – letter drafted, edited, signed and submitted
- Aboriginal Sport Circle - the process of who will purchase and store the equipment is still not determined. The money is currently held in trust – Qalipu does not have access to the funds, it is not in our account or in our budget.

Council Remarks

Councillors were asked to update each other on activities within their communities and the Youth Representative was asked if she had any other info to add to her report.

Ivan J. White: To Sabrina - Applaud results and your courage; you have exhibited empathy and compassion.

Ivan White, SR: Three bands in the Ward are busy with food initiatives. Have had meetings to discuss areas of concern and will continue meeting with the three bands in the ward.

Bern White: In process of having the Benoit Cove Band up and running. With regards to Pinchgut Lake land - a discussion needs to be had.

Jasen Benwah: Been communicating with the Veterans. Those just approved for status under Wells Case, are still waiting for letters and cards – Who do these individuals speak with?

Sabrina Muise: The courage and the strength provided comes from the Youth Council.

Randy Drover: Do not intend on running in the next election. Will work the next three(3) months to finish up projects and will seek further education.

Odelle Pike: Been busy and engaged in the community and will know more soon about several projects.

Brian Dicks: Have had numerous member requests for information on Education and Health Funding. Was contacted by a local Tourism group who seeks Funding. Grenfell made contact regarding developing a Housing Research Hub focussing on Indigenous Housing. Worked with Sherry Dean and the Corner Brook Aboriginal Women's Association regarding funding. A warm welcome to Sabrina and your representation of the Youth.

Andy Barker: No Comments

Frank Skeard: In Glenwood Ward, there are a lot of activities in support of Qalipu First nation; There are several grassroots organizations focussing Culture and Heritage. Working to support the membership whom he represents. Have had requests for the Executive to visit the Glenwood Ward. As Chair of NRSC committee, there is a recognition for significant opportunities regarding economic development.

Keith Cormier: Thanks to everyone for the work completed in the last two days. Safe travels and “Welcome to the table” Sabrina.

Chief Mitchell: We have had a good meeting today. Thanks to Tina Diamond and Alison White for the work you do.

Next meeting

Tentatively scheduled for March 20, 2021, however there was a request to change it to March 27, 2021. Next meeting is now scheduled for Saturday, March 27, 2021.

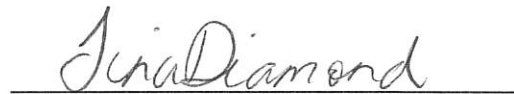
Adjournment

Odelle Pike made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.

Minutes Submitted By: Tina Diamond



Approved By: Chief Brendan Mitchell



Certified By: Tina Diamond