

Qalipu First Nation
Council Meeting
May 15, 2021

Community Room
1 Church Street, Corner Brook
&
Microsoft Teams

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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 in the Community Room, 1 Church Street, Corner Brook. The meeting was live streamed for members of Qalipu. The room was smudged prior to the start of the meeting and Chief Mitchell welcomed staff, Councillors, the Youth Representative, and the members who were listening. The official QFN meeting began at 12:35 pm. Councillor Odelle Pike was invited to start the meeting with a prayer.

As a tribute to Benoit's Cove Ward Councillor, Bern White, and others who have passed in our communities, the Honour Song was sung, accompanied by drumming.

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. Andy Barker	Councillor Exploits
Mr. Ivan White, SR	Councillor Flat Bay – Joined through Microsoft Teams
Mr. Ivan J. White	Councillor St. George's – Joined through Microsoft Teams
Mr. Calvin Francis	Councillor Gander Bay
Ms. Jessica Saunders	Youth Representative
Mr. Keith Goulding (Staff)	Band Manager
Ms. Tina Diamond (Staff)	Office Administrator
Ms. Alison White (Staff)	Communications Manager – Joined through Microsoft Teams
Mr. Ryan Matthews (Staff)	Computing Specialist – Joined through Microsoft Teams
Mr. Evan Bennett (Staff)	ICT Support Technician – Joined through Microsoft Teams

Absent

All individuals scheduled to be present were in attendance.

Review and Acceptance of the Agenda

Motion 01-21-22 – Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was reviewed. Chief Mitchell read the items. A motion was made to accept the **agenda** with no additions or omissions.

Moved by:	Frank Skeard	Seconded by:	Jasen Benwah
Motion Carried	All in Favour	Ten (10) For	Zero(0) Against

Agenda accepted.

Edits to the Agenda

➤ None

Review and Acceptance of Minutes

Meeting Minutes - March 27, 2021

A draft of the meeting minutes was distributed to Council prior to the meeting. Councillors provided edits to the minutes during the Council meeting.

Edits suggested: provide more clarification to the last sentence of Councillor’s Barker’s Council remarks – page 9; note the name of Councillor who abstained from voting – page 6; edit AOP section, replace ...Operations - Health were presented... with “Health were circulated” – page 7.

The suggested edits will be completed.

Motion 02-21-22 – Adoption of the Minutes

A motion was made to accept the **minutes of March 27, 2021** with suggested edits.

Moved by:	Keith Cormier	Seconded by:	Jasen Benwah
Motion Carried	All in Favour	Ten (10) For	Zero(0) Against

Minutes of March 27, 2021 were adopted.

Committee Updates

Prior to the Council meeting, the Chairs of the committees submitted reports on the activities of the Committees. Councillors were asked if they had any questions regarding the reports circulated in the Council Kit.

Finance & Audit Standing Committee (FASC)

Central Vice-Chief Randy Drover summarized the minutes of the FASC for May 7, 2021 and made the required motions regarding the appendices and the QFN Financials – as of March 31, 2021.

FASC Meeting Minutes – May 7, 2021

The following items were discussed:

- Regarding the Participark project, one partner has revoked their support and thus City of Corner Brook and Qalipu First Nation are to cover those costs - a briefing note was circulated as Appendix A
- The FASC spoke about the computerized systems and the desire to have process management software know as ERP(Enterprise Resources Planning) to handle all processes of the band
- With regards to Covid-19 Health Program, there are applications outstanding – a COVID Report was circulated as Appendix C
- The FASC discussed updating policies – The Meeting Allowance Policy was edited following the FASC meeting and circulated as Appendix B

Motion 03-21-22 – Appendix A – Briefing Note (Participark Project)

A motion was made that the band approved a contribution up to \$30,000 from 2020-2021 LEDSP carry forward budget for the Participark Project.

Moved by:	Randy Drover	Seconded by:	Brian Dicks
Motion Carried	All in Favour	Ten (10) For	Zero(0) Against

Contribution to Participark Project approved

Motion 04-21-22 – Appendix B – Meeting Allowance Policy

A motion was made that the Council adopt the Qalipu First Nation Meeting Allowance Policy as circulated.

Moved by:	Randy Drover	Seconded by:	Keith Cormier
Motion Carried	All in Favour	Ten (10) For	Zero(0) Against

Meeting Allowance Policy adopted.

NOTE: The Meeting Allowance Policy was also known as Councillor Per Diem Policy.

Qalipu First Nation Financial Statement – As of March 31, 2021

Central Vice-Chief Randy Drover provided clarification to Councillors regarding entries in the statement of March 31, 2021. Following the responses, a motion was made.

Motion 05-21-22 – QFN Financial Statements – As of March 31, 2021

A motion was made to adopt the QFN Financial Statements as of March 31, 2021, as circulated.

Moved by:	Randy Drover	Seconded by:	Calvin Francis
Motion Carried	All in Favour	Ten (10) For	Zero(0) Against

QFN Financial Statements adopted.

Motion 06-21-22 – Death of a Councillor

Central Vice-Chief Randy Drover made the following motion:

Be it resolved that Council shall, effective immediately, adopt a policy that in the event a Councillor passes away during the last 12 months of the term, the Councillor’s remaining monthly honourarium for the term shall be paid to the Councillor’s next of kin in a full instalment to help offset funeral and related expenses.

Moved by:	Randy Drover	Seconded by:	Calvin Francis
Motion Carried	All in Favour	Ten (10) For	Zero(0) Against

Motion passed.

Culture, Tourism & Community Development Standing Committee (CDSC)

Vice-Chief Keith Cormier submitted a report to Councillors prior to the meeting. He noted the following:

- Language – the language classes will begin in the evenings until at least June 2021
- MMIWG Garden Opening – A name has been chosen and the space will open on June 11th, 2021
- Rotary Arts Festival – Indigenous events held at the Rotary Arts Center in Corner Brook reached over 10,000 views
- Deer Lake Airport Sense of Arrival Project – This is an Indigenous Awareness campaign within the airport where the airport will offer indoor and outdoor space to market Qalipu operators and crafts people

Motion 07-21-22 – Adopt the MOU with Thomas Howe Demonstration Forest Inc (THDF Inc.)

A motion was made to adopt the MOU as drafted with amendments.

Moved by:	Frank Skeard	Seconded by:	Keith Cormier
Motion Carried	All in Favour	Ten (10) For	Zero(0) Against

MOU accepted with edits to be made following the meeting.

Environment & Natural Resources Standing Committee (ENRSC)

Chair of the Committee, Frank Skeard, submitted a report prior to the meeting. He noted a lot of activity and highlighted the following:

- Prospecting Course – was a successful course which was well attended
- Community Meat Freezer – there is a proposal submitted for the purchase of Freezers; no proposals or partnerships are completed for where these freezers will be held
- Land based Learning – This is being worked on by two departments of Qalipu (Environment & Natural Resources and Culture, Tourism & Community Development); a relationship is developing with National Parks and will be seasonal
- Trout River Project – Parks Canada approached QFN to work with Trout River restoration
- NL Hydro Vegetation Management – feedback was received from Membership regarding spraying of food sources (i.e. Blueberries)
- EmeraNL Vegetation Management – any links will be available on Qalipu’s website
- Marathon Gold – The project is scheduled for 13 years but could last twenty(20+) years; Any environmental concerns are dealt with a Federal Review – any concerns identified go back to Marathon Gold to provide more details.

Education and Training Standing Committee (ETSC)

Councillor Odelle Pike, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report to Councillors prior to the Council meeting. She highlighted some sections of the report and made a motion regarding an MOU submitted

prior to the meeting. The MOU concerns three partners: Qalipu First Nation(QFN), Indigenous Services Canada(ISC), and Newfoundland & Labrador English School District(NLESD).

Prior to the MOU being motioned, one Councillor suggested an edit and therefore the motion was made with the edit.

Motion 08-21-22 – Adopt the MOU between QFN, ISC, and NLESD with an amendment

A motion was made to adopt the MOU with the partners listed and with an edit of ... over nine electoral wards “and those in and around”.

Moved by:	Odelle Pike	Seconded by:	Keith Cormier
Motion Carried	All in Favour	Ten (10) For	Zero(0) Against

MOU accepted with the edit to be made.

Communications Committee

Councillor Odelle Pike, Chair of the Committee, submitted a report prior to meeting. The committee has been working on the hiring of five students to update GNU and assist with the election. Training packages for these students are being prepared and a training date is to be determined. A draft Communications Plan is also being worked upon.

Housing Committee

Councillor Brian Dicks, Chair the Committee, forwarded a report by email to the Council. The report provided an update on recent and ongoing activity of the Committee. It is noted that the last meeting of the committee was April 30th, 2021. Discussed was the report dated March 27, 2021, which was sent out prior to the last meeting of Council. Some agenda items discussed in May’s report include:

- Housing Development Officer – this position needs to be filled soon
- Housing Intern Position – this should be a Student with an interest in housing; 50% funded by CMHC and 50% funded by Department of Education and Training
- SEED funding account – there is a request sent to CMHC to reallocate the unused funds

After discussion of the Housing Development Officer, it was decided that the Band Manager, Keith Goulding, and Human Resources Manager, Janet McAuley, will work with the Housing Committee to fulfill the hiring. Also noted is that the position could be filled by the On-Call Casual list of employees. Band Manager, Keith Goulding, has requested a briefing note regarding the rationale for the hiring.

Youth Representative Report

Ms. Sabrina Muise, Youth Representative for the QFN Band Council, gave a brief overview of her report submitted prior to the Council meeting. She indicated that the Youth Council held an election on April 25th, 2021 and shared the names of the Youth Council and the respective positions. Ms. Muise indicated that the reports prepared for the Band Council will be shared with the Youth along with any notes from the meeting. The Youth Council have had requests for information from various youth and the Youth Council has indicated that research will be required to assist with the inquiries.

Band Manager Report

Band Manager, Keith Goulding, provided his regular Action Item Report to the Councillors as part of the Council Kit. The following items were discussed:

- QFN and DFO discussion on fishing rights. Once negotiations begin, membership consultations can begin – no date has been chosen for Consultations
- Election – will be held three(3) years of the last election which was held on October 22, 2018; there will be a seven-day voting window - A tentative date will be chosen at July's Council meeting

Executive Committee Report

Chief Brendan Mitchell, Chair of the Executive Committee, briefly discussed items on the submitted report to Councillors. Discussion included:

- Pinchgut Lake Land – Work to secure land is ongoing
- Urban Reserve – There is an upcoming meeting scheduled for next week
- Wigwam Point – There have been meetings; however, no update
- Enrolment – Waiting to have a meeting; A press release will be forwarded in 1-2 weeks
- Glenwood Seed Farm – Conversations have been had with Federal Government; Qalipu should be involved in conversations with Provincial Government, Minister of Fishery, Forestry & Agriculture, and the Premier to determine what other business opportunities are available.

Chief Mitchell remarked that the Government of Canada has not yet made decisions on Enrolment files and QFN is putting pressure on Government. Minister Marc Miller is the government official who made the decisions on the Veterans and FNI.

Council Remarks

Youth Representative and the Councillors were asked to update each other on activities within their communities.

Ivan J. White: *Requested a quite time for Bernard White* - No Comments

Ivan White, SR: *Stepped away* - No Comments

Frank Skeard: Band is supporting lots of activities; Anxiously awaiting the Director position in Central

Andy Barker: Participated in discussions regarding the re-naming of the Mary March Museum with: Bands from the Island of Newfoundland and Labrador; employees of The Rooms and the Mary March Museum; Grand Falls-Windsor Town Council; Grand Falls-Windsor Heritage Society. The Mary March Museum was ran by a volunteer group and there was a consensus regarding the name change. Discussions are still ongoing.

Randy Drover: Regarding Enrolment, when the exploratory conversations with Government on enrolment happen, encourage individuals to get out, to learn, and to contribute to the discussions.

Sabrina Muise: No Comments

Jasen Benwah: Have been answering calls from Qalipu members calls and referring calls to Qalipu staff. Also have been working on workshops such as: How to make drums and how to learn the

songs; Dancing; Bead Making; Traditional gaming such as Axe throwing. Also working on Food Security, Housing Repairs, and member support.

Brian Dicks: Helping members with all inquiries. Met with a family who was referred to our Indigenous Registration Administrator (IRA) and became a 6(2) under the father.

Calvin Francis: Regarding cell phone coverage along Gander River, would like the Chief to write a letter to upgrade cell phone services.

Odelle Pike: In Stephenville Ward, housing issues such as home repairs and painting are of concern. There is a lack of rentals. Food security and mental health issues are increasing.

Keith Cormier: Regarding enrolment files, letters are to be mailed from ISC. Bern White was a wealth of information and the family plans to write a book of Bern's life.

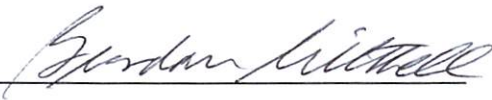
Next meeting

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, July 22nd, 2021.

Adjournment

Keith Cormier made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 4:35pm.

Minutes Submitted By: Tina Diamond



Approved By: Chief Brendan Mitchell



Certified By: Tina Diamond

