

**Qalipu First Nation
Council Meeting
March 11, 2023**

Qalipu Community Room & Microsoft Teams

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Attendance

The following members of Council and Staff attended the meeting:

Name:	Position:
Mr. Brendan Mitchell	Chief
Ms. Jennifer (Jenny) Brake	Western Vice-Chief
Mr. Andrew (Andy) Barker	Central Vice-Chief
Mr. Jasen Benwah (joined via Teams)	Councillor Port Au Port
Ms. Charlene Combdon (joined via Teams)	Councillor Exploits
Ms. Sharren (Sherry) Dean	Councillor Corner Brook
Mr. Calvin Francis (joined via Teams)	Councillor Gander Bay
Ms. Terri Greene	Councillor Benoit's Cove
Mr. Ivan J. White	Councillor St. George's
Mr. Francis (Frank) Skeard (joined via Teams)	Councillor Glenwood
Mr. Robert (Bobby) White (joined via Teams)	Councillor Flat Bay
Mr. Hayward Young	Councillor Stephenville
Mr. Charles Pender (Staff)	Band Manager
Ms. Paulette Brinston (Staff)	Executive Assistant
Mr. Andrew Simmons (Staff)	Director of Finance

The council meeting began at approximately 10:30 a.m.

Acceptance of the Agenda- Motion 36-2022-2023

Moved by:	Ivan J. White	Seconded by:	Terri Greene
Motion Carried	All in favour	Nine (9)	Zero (0) Against

Edits to the Agenda

Chief Mitchell requested one addition to the agenda, Calvin Francis will provide an update on Charlie's Place.

Frank Skeard- Requested adding an update on general by-law review.

Acceptance of Minutes of February 12, 2023- Motion 37-2022-2023

Moved by:	Ivan J. White	Seconded by:	Calvin Francis
Motion Carried	All in favour	Nine (9)	Zero (0) Against

Chief Mitchell noted a spelling error to be corrected.

Business Arising- There had been some email correspondence among council regarding the Communications Request for proposals. Finance Director Andrew Simmons stated that proposals received were over the anticipated budget.

Chief Mitchell discussed a meeting with local Chiefs which was requested during the previous meeting of council, he stated he was still open to holding the meeting.

AOPs Discussion

Health and Wellness

Focus on increasing capacity in the department, improving wait times for medical transportation claims.

Frank Skeard brought up the issue with late supply of council materials. He suggested that council vote on whether to move forward with the budgets due to time constraints.

Councillor Charlene Combdon stated that she did not have sufficient time to review the AOPs and therefore, could not approve them.

Director Andrew Simmons explained that budgets must be approved by the end of March and council agreed to proceed with an email vote for approval of AOPs.

Member Questions Received

No questions were received by email. Several members were present and brought forward comments and questions regarding services.

Member #1- There was a discussion around healthcare and the approach being reactive. It should start with a proactive approach by helping with purchasing healthy foods aiming at preventing illness.

Council engaged in a conversation about hunting and fishing rights, discussing how to improve issues of food insecurity for membership.

Member #2- There was a conversation around housing and homelessness and the need to improve access to affordable housing options.

Member #3- Works as a physiotherapy assistant and occupational therapists, interested in offering wellness classes to membership.

Chief Mitchell formally welcomed new Band Manager, Charles Pender.

Charles Pender- Appreciate the opportunities to get to know everyone. Adjusting to new role. Impressed by employees. Pleased to be a part of the organization to advance our members. There are some huge

opportunities for our members. Some of the discussion brought up today including food insecurity, housing and other issues are common themes. Qalipu has an opportunity to learn.

Committee Updates

Health and Wellness- Housing, Health, and Wellness Committee Chair, Sherry Dean discussed the challenges faced by both the department and membership when it comes to arranging transportation for medical travel.

There was some discussion among councillors about medical transportation and non-prescription drug coverage.

Environment and Natural Resources- Andy Barker, Standing Committee Chair brought forth the committee update. Currently have vacancies in both the Director and Manager of Fisheries and Enforcement, if positions are not filled internally, they will be posted externally soon.

Frank Skeard discussed need for site visit of Marathon Gold to understand their processes.

Education and Training- Ivan J. White, committee chair provided the update. Some recent new hires to the department including new Client Service Officers and Canada Learning Bond Coordinator. PSSSP local guidelines were circulated to council for feedback to pass along to Director Monique Carroll, nothing has been received.

Charlene Combdon requested the meeting be suspended so council could enter into an in-camera meeting. Chief Mitchell suggested the meeting break for lunch and enter into an in-camera following the break.

The council meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:00 pm.

In- camera started at 12:30.

Committee Updates Resume

The committee updates began following the break for lunch and in-camera session which ended at 12:45 pm.

Culture, Tourism, and Community Development

Committee Member, Charlene Combdon, presented the report. The first land camp was held at the Max Simms camp, hoping to expand the youth program.

Corner Brook ward councillor Sherry Dean inquired about the status of Killdevil Camp program, she was informed that the camp was cancelled, Charlene Combdon stated she would follow-up with Director Kellie Kerpan.

Council remarks

Andy Barker- Had a meeting with TradesNL, they procure jobs for labourers, mentioned that he felt like the organization name implied it specifically worked with tradespeople only. Wanted to put it out to the Education department that it is not a restriction.

Calvin Francis- Provided an update on Charlie's place, currently being labeled as an emergency reserve, on a temporary basis. Requesting a letter expressing Chief and council's support of Charlie's place as an Indigenous protected area.

Ivan J. White- Wanted to acknowledge Beau Callahan, member who is an accomplished figure skater.

Hayward Young- Having held only a few ward meetings. Recommend the Band consider taking on responsibility for managing registration process on their own. Discussed the need for support in his area to navigate services.

Wanted to acknowledge the passing of Terry Downey, community elder, former Mayor of Stephenville.

Terri Greene- Held another virtual combined ward meeting with Sherry Dean. Hoping to provide different information for membership. Offer open to ward councillors to join and connect with membership.

Sherry Dean- Assisting schools in learning the Honour Song. Was joined by Kathryn White of the Marine Biomass project to present on the project, attendees also received a tour of the Innovation Center. There are many resources in the Center available. CC Loughlin School is planning a Pow Wow soon, Elmastukwek Mawio'mi planning is moving forward.

Frank Skeard- APC is continuing to support members in learning about culminative environmental effects. Membership's expectation of the organization council is growing and is becoming more challenging to meet the demands.

Chief Mitchell- Congratulations to your (Frank Skeard's) daughter, Jordan (Pottle) who recently received the Indigenous Culture Impact Award. Happy to see membership's contribution to their communities.

Jasen Benwah- Planning a ward council meeting on the 18th (March), doing a virtual meeting. Plenty of events, happening, will be holding a Mawio'mi on the 3rd weekend in July, it will take place the weekend after the Flat Bay Pow Wow. Helping membership with their SCIS card renewals. Hoping the department of Tourism, Culture, and Community Development will host an event in the area this summer. Would like to see a workshop on mental health supports that are available.

Charlene Combdon- Having members reaching out with concerns about Wigwam Point and Qalipu's development plans for the land. Also concerned about the condition of the Community Room in Grand Falls-Windsor, have discussed this issue with Rod Bennett (Director of Operations). Some concerns about poor video quality during live streamed council meetings. Membership have asked why meetings cannot be held outside Corner Brook. Members in Central only see Chief and Council for the Central AGA.

Two members Isaac Sharpe and Brian Jones Jr. participated in the Special Olympics in the snowshoe category, both received medals. Wind energy engagement sessions held in the community, very well received.

Jenny Brake- Regarding Andy Barker's concerns related to TradesNL, sits on the steering committee, can help facilitate a discussion. Working with CRI to set up welding and carpentry equipment, also working on an art project as well.

Chief Mitchell- Acknowledges the need to employ someone dedicated to seeking revenue streams as a grant-writer.

Frank Skeard- There are opportunities to purchase land, there are plenty of parcels of land that were previously Indigenous land, that reconciliation conversation needs to happen.

Chief Mitchell- What question do you have regarding by-law?

Frank Skeard- Conversations have been brought up several times that elements of the by-laws may be outdated.

Andrew Simmons- There are items in the by-law that (may) conflict with sections of the Indian Act. We can have a legal review conducted of the existing by-laws.

Approval of Cost for Legal Review of General By-Laws- Motion 38-2022-2023


Moved by:	Andy Barker	Seconded by:	Calvin Francis
Motion Carried	All in favour	Nine (9)	Zero (0) Against

Council engaged in some discussion regarding a request to have a Qalipu representative for Canada Games 2025, Charlene Combdon and Hayward Young both requested to get involved.

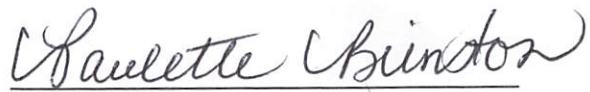
Adjournment- Terri Greene made a motion to adjourn the council meeting.

The council meeting ended at approximately 2:00 pm.

Minutes Submitted By: Paulette Brinston



Approved By: Chief Brendan Mitchell



Certified By: Paulette Brinston