



East Side Planning Initiative

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Broad Area Planning

RECORD OF DECISIONS
FIRST NATIONS COUNCIL MEETING
Canad Inns Polo Park, December 03, 2003

Participants: Bloodvein First Nation
Bunibonibee Cree Nation
Garden Hill First Nation
God's Lake Narrows First Nation
Hollow Water First Nation
Little Black River First Nation
Little Grand Rapids First Nation
Manto Sipi Cree Nation
Norway House Cree Nation
Poplar River First Nation
Red Sucker Lake First Nation
Sagkeeng First Nation
St. Theresa Point First Nation

Frank Young
Chief Bailey Colon
Jack Fiddler
Chief Gilbert Andrews
Alternate – Rene Barker
Alternate – Don Clarke
Nelson Keeper
Chief Moses Okimaw
Jim Cromarty
Ed Hudson
Lawrence Harper
Joe Daniels
Roy A. Mason

Regrets: Berens River First Nation
Pauingassi First Nation
Wasagamack First Nation
Grand Council Treaty #3

Hilda Flett
Albert Pascal
Chief Cornelius Wood
Joe Kuhn

1. RECORD OF DECISIONS OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Manitoba Hydro representative responded to outstanding action items that included, Sagkeeng's outstanding issues have been addressed with an Accord signed on March 21, 1997 by both parties. Secondly, Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation Training Centre can be accessed by other First Nations for training and should be contacted directly for details.

Appendix B of the MOU and Advisory Committee list was provided to the members.

2. INAC FUNDING APPLICATION

Bruce Bruyere and Bernie Wood reviewed the Regional Partnership Program Funding Application, the purpose of the presentation was to seek approval to submit the application on behalf of the First Nations Council. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the funding proposal, resulting in the following decision:

"Amend the budget to include the cost of independent legal advice, interpreters and elders expenses."

Keewatin Tribal Council representative returned in the afternoon with requested changes to the proposal budget. In concluding the discussion, the First Nations Council members agreed to the terms of the application.

3. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

A request was made Chief Moses Okimaw to address the MOU. He responded the MOU was drafted to guide this process. However the MOU should not bind other First Nations. There was discussion regarding the original document and a request made to provide the FNC members with a copy of the original drafted document.

A motion was passed to have a letter drafted to the Minister requesting the province cover the cost of independent legal counsel to review the draft Memorandum of Understanding.

The Executive Coordinator, Peter Globensky, reminded the FNC of correspondence sent to them inviting the FNC to engage in a process of negotiations so that an Aboriginal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) could be incorporated into the Broad Area Plan itself.

The discussion concluded with the members agreeing to continue discussion of the MOU at future FNC meetings.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

There was discussion regarding the lengthy time expense claims take to be processed. The members were informed processing of payments would be reviewed & changes made to expedite payments.

A recommendation was made to cover the cost for Elders to attend meetings and Elders to be involved in the process. Discussion also included providing honorariums to the Elders and First Nations Council members. A motion was then passed that stated:

- a) The First Nations Council and Elders be provided an honorarium for their presence at meetings.
- b) That Elders be included in all future First Nations Council meetings.

5. SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

- a) Provide FNC with a copy of the original Memorandum of Understanding document drafted by Moses Okimaw while he was employed with East Side Planning Initiative.
- b) Amend the Regional Partnership Program Funding Application budget to include the cost of independent legal advice, interpreters and elders expenses.
- c) Draft a letter to the Minister requesting the province cover the cost of independent legal counsel to review the draft Memorandum of Understanding.
- d) Motion requesting an honorarium be paid to all First Nations Council members and Elders and inclusion of Elders to all FNC meetings.

Attachment – Letter from Executive Coordinator to First Nations Council.