

Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin

“east side of the lake governance”

East Side Planning Initiative

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Broad Area Planning**Minutes****Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin Council Meeting****Wednesday, September 26, 2007****Radisson Hotel**

Name	Representation	AM	PM
Chief George Kemp	Berens River	X	0
Henry McKay	Berens River (Designate)	X	X
Jonas Peebles	Black River (Designate)	X	X
Stacey Henry	Black River (Observer)	X	0
Chief Craig Cook	Bloodvein	X	X
Oswald Turtle	Bloodvein (Observer)	X	X
Harold Cook	Bloodvein (Observer)	X	0
Paul Weenusk	Bunibonibee (Designate)	X	X
Stewart Hill	God's Lake (Observer)	X	0
Rene Barker	Hollow Water (Observer)	X	0
Chief Martin Owens	Little Grand Rapids	X	X
Wendy Keeper	Little Grand Rapids (Observer)	0	X
J.R. Yellowback	Manto Sipi (Designate)	0	X
Loretta Mowatt	Norway House (Observer)	X	X
Robert Owens	Pauingassi (Designate)	X	X
Chief Donovan Fontaine	Sagkeeng	X	X
Myles Courchene	Sagkeeng (Observer)	X	X
Joe Daniels	Sagkeeng (Observer)		
Chief Robert Flett	St. Theresa Point	X	X
Jason Mason	St. Theresa Point (Observer)	X	X
Peter Miller		X	X
Vince Keenan		X	X
David Markham		X	X
Jim Ticknor		X	X

Regrets: Chief Dino Flett, Chief Russell Lambert, Clifford Harper, Ambrose Wood

Staff: Hon. Stan Struthers (AM only), Ron Missyabit, Bernie Wood, Bill Anderson, Bruce Bruyere, Thomas Beaudry, Brooke Penner (PM only)

1. Opening prayer – Ed Wood

Mr. Wood indicated that a quorum is present and named individual representatives. (See list) He also acknowledged and welcomed various First Nation observers to the meeting.

2. Review of November 29, 2006 WNO Meeting Minutes

Minutes of November 29, 2006 were reviewed. First item was the provision of the transportation working group was made available to the WNO Council. The W5 and the PCC were to meet the Minister. Dr. Miller prepared notes of the meeting and distributed and will be made available. At the last meeting, it was suggested that vacancies need to be filled.

Mr. Ticknor requested a reported on fund raising. Response was that there will be a report presented as well as a full WNO Inc. report.

Chair requested if there were any objections to accepting the November 29, 2006 approval of the minutes. Seeing that there are no objections, minutes are approved.

3. Co-Chair's Report to WNO – Ed Wood

First of all I would like to report on the Minister's visit yesterday. Ron Missyabit chaired the meeting to allow me to take some notes. The Minister is impressed that the WNO Accord was signed by 11 First Nations and he said it is a good document. As well the Transfer Payment Agreement for TALUP provides \$500.0k to the First Nations. In addition once reports are submitted or an action plan an additional \$500.0k will be released for this fiscal year. This will be reported by WNO Inc. later. The Minister also reported the Hollow Water situation. They are having serious problems coming to a resolution regarding this matter. At this point there have been no requests by the chiefs for WNO to lend support to the First Nation. WNO works for the communities and WNO has no authority to speak about the issue.

An announcement was made by Hydro to abandon the east side route and instead build the Hydro transmission line on the west side of the province.

What we heard from the what we heard document did not object to the line. What they asked for consideration for benefits to the communities.

Vince Keenan said that time is of the essence and my suspicion is that Hydro has instructed their engineers to start the planning going along. I think it may be too late for the WNO.

Mr. Miller commented on a couple of things. Pressure from the environmentalists may have been an influence on the decision. There is not unanimous agreement among the 16 First Nations that it should go there. As far as I know Poplar River is against it and the second thing about the notion of leasing the line, hydro basically feels that it would not allow them to use the line the way they need to use it in an absolute sense. (Ownership of the line) At Wuskwatim, Hydro made arrangements for some income flow by committing to a trust fund that would yield a flow of income to the First Nations where the line would go through.

As you know there are 5 members on the Executive Committee of Chiefs, two of them have been replaced by two of the new chiefs. Chief Owen is replacing Nelson Keeper and Robert Flett is replacing David McDougall. As you know, Nelson Keeper was on the Executive and served as Chair for WNO Inc. The Chair status is still open. The five Chiefs appoint a chair themselves. This will take place at the next Executive Committee meeting. I will be talking to the new members and one of the things to discuss is

that the Métis want to meet with Executive Committee of Chiefs. Previous members have agree to meet with them and the Métis position is that they have common rights under sec 35 (1). They want to talk about treaty rights on hunting etc. I have invited Reg Mead, president of NACC. He was unable to attend.

David Markham will be leaving WNO and taking a position with Inco in Thompson. He will still be available to provide advice to the process if requested to do so. Mr. Markham gave a description of his experience with working with WNO during the past years. This concludes Ed Wood's report.

Bernie Wood provided a list of Planning Coordination Committee members. We have three members who are on the committee. Peter Miller, Jim Campbell, and Myles Courchene; We need five other members on the committee if we want to keep the committee at eight members. We talked about reducing the number to five members. We should have a discussion to decide on this matter.

Peter Miller indicated the membership composed of different geographic areas of the area and the primary mandate was to address the many issues involved in the development of the Broad Area Plan. Bernie suggested another two members be appointed to work on the principles of the Broad Area Plan.

Rene Barker and Chief Robert Flett were appointed to the PCC.

4. Project Manager's Report to the WNO – Bernie Wood

Traditional Area Land Use Plans

Bernie provided an update on the Traditional Area Land Use Planning process. Mr. Wood gave some background information on the process, including the Transfer Payment Agreement, its purpose, administration process, audit provisions and the audit report. There was little TALUP activity to report in the audit. One of the requirements under the agreement is to provide to the Province and approved workplan and cash flow to trigger the second payment. He provided an update on the TALUP call letter and the contribution agreement process. We will have ten First Nations that will have their funding in place to start their land planning. The Secretariat assisted in the fund raising campaign to ask for funds from various funding sources. The First nations Forestry program committed 20.0k. INAC proposal requires a meeting with one of their funding officers. The CBI will be considering our proposal next fiscal year. Manitoba Hydro did not provide a positive response. The SDIF will consider funding the capacity building component and purchasing of equipment. Also on the agenda are discussions between the chiefs and Ministers on a joint effort and meetings in Ottawa and approaching the larger foundations to develop a strategy to complete the budget.

Regional Resource Management Boards

There has been some progress regarding RRMBS, particularly in the Island Lake area as well as the three Cree First Nations. Sagkeeng is interested in the process as well as Black River and in the central area. Bloodvein has expressed an interest. The province has named three people to sit on their negotiation committee, Ron Missyabit, Steve Kearny and Tammy Gibson.

Chief Donovan Fontaine was appointed to the board of WNO Inc.

Broad Area Plan

Work on the BAP will continue. Bill Anderson reported that there are principles to be worked on and completed under the BAP. These principles are almost complete now.