



# WOLF LAKE FIRST NATION

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## BAND MEETING AGENDA

Lands and Resources Office

Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019

7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Chief Lisa Robinson  
Councillor Sonia Young  
Councillor Gerald Robinson

**Guest:** Walter Manitowabi, Three Fires Solutions

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Tamara King	Jessie Bond Goulet (Skype)
Laurie Robinson	Blake Goulet (Online)
Daughter	Mary Honen (Online)
Son?	Carl St-Denis (Online)
Melissa Robinson	Gerald Young (Online)
Joey-Lynn Wabie	Roseanne Wabie (Online)
Julia Wabie Coleman	Terry Zulkowski (Online)
Martha Polson	Theresa Young (Online)

**1) Opening – Elder**

An opening prayer was recited by Councillor Sonia Young

**2) Opening Remarks from Chief**

Chief Lisa welcomes all members present and online to this evening's meeting, acknowledges the times of change we are in, the work done on the territory by our elders and our ancestors, that being an elder is to be respected in the community for your knowledge and experience and the willingness to share. We must use this knowledge for our future generations, for our future.

**3) Adoption of Agenda – October 8, 2019**

The agenda was presented and read to members present. During this review, an items is added:

- Update of Governance Work – Walter Manitowabie of Three Fires Solutions.

With this amendment the agenda is adopted for this meeting of October 8, 2019 by all those in attendance.

**4) Adoption of Band Meeting Minutes of July 9, 2019**

The minutes of the meeting of July 9, 2019 were presented for review and approval. After a time of review there were no amendments, so the minutes of July 9, 2019 were accepted and approved.

Proposed by: Laurie Robinson

Seconded by: Julia Wabie

**5) Follow up of Items from Band Meeting July 9, 2019**

- Properties for Auction at Hunters Point

A letter was issued to the MRC to remove the properties from the auction list. One was removed but two others will be transferred back to Quebec and they wish to demolish these buildings. The church will not be torn down but we are working on a plan with Chief Haymond of Kebaowek to preserve this building.

- Letter to Grand Chief Polson re: 100 Wellington

It was mentioned during our last meeting to have a letter sent on behalf of our First Nation to Grand Chief Polson for her work at 100 Wellington. The letter was not formulated because at the time there were plans to have a feast in her honor and Chief Robinson was planning to gift her at this feast on behalf of WLFN. With the busy schedules and many taking summer vacations the feast did not happen to honour Grand Chief Verna from the Algonquin Nation level. When the feast happens there will be a gift offered on behalf of WLFN for the work that Grand Chief Polson in regards to the Indigenous Peoples space.

**6) Update from Chief and Council**

**Administration**

- **Summer Students:** The summer students have returned to classes and their work was much appreciated. Wolf Lake & Council extends best wishes to them in their studies.

**-Band Manager Position:** We have been working with an HR Policy Analyst from the Anishinabek Tribal Council to help with the hiring procedure for the band manager position. The AANTC were able to formulate a job description and the job posting for the position and also getting a hiring committee. This is key to having the best candidate possible working for WLFN.

**-The annual financial audit** is completed and chief and council announce plans for the first annual general meeting of WLFN. We will be sharing information on our financial audit and the policies and procedures. We will also be providing a forecast of the programming for our operations in the coming year. For the date the room is surveyed and to accommodate the most people it is decided that the first annual general meeting of WLFN will take place on Tuesday November 26, 2019 at 5:00 pm. A meal will be provided at this time.

### **Political**

#### **- Update on Wolf Lake Specific Land Claim:**

There was a meeting in June which provided a background and an information session on the land claim process and the work done by our legal counsel and our research team. Before the hearing process, we travelled 400+ kms to special places around our territory with representatives of Canada lawyers and members of the tribunal. We gave them a first-hand view of Grassy Lake, Wolf Lake, Hunters Point and Kipawa Lake to better understand the history of WL and the hardships of being displaced that our elders have been through. Preparation work with each of our elders took place before the actual hearing for the oral testimonies took place.

Testimonies were collected and Canada will make its recommendation. Based on the evidence and knowledge shared there are indications that the crown may be willing to settle but in the meantime we are committed to being prepared to see it through the possible tribunal process. A recent update will be sent out to members and made available online.

### **Information:**

**- Miaja Language Conference:** The year 2019 has been declared the Year of Indigenous Language by the United Nations. At the community level the Miaja language conference was held and co-hosted by WLFN AND KFN. There were workshops centered on education, sharing the language and keeping it alive for our future generations.

**-TDRP:** Time was spent on securing positions for our members on the work being done at the Timiskaming Quebec dam. Not many members have the required health and safety training for construction sites in Quebec nevertheless the training did take place in the last week of August. The contractor provided the English instructor and WLFN provided the office space however only one member from Wolf Lake completed the course and obtained the certificate.

**- Completion of the Maniwaki Road:** The MRC from the Outaouais regions reached out to the local MRCs, Wolf Lake and Kebaowek regarding the completion of the Maniwaki road. There was a

meeting and concerns were that this would benefit open up our territory to different users from the south and this would be in an area where we can't monitor the activities. Then direction was given to the MRC to respond to the MRC of Outaouais with a resounding answer to not complete the Maniwaki road

- **Tourism Kipawa:** An initiative based on promoting tourism in our region. Kipawa, Temiscaming, Kebaowek and Wolf Lake will be partnering in promoting our businesses.

- Locally, some members participated in the climate change event in the park in Temiscaming. This was in support of our youth promoting climate change for our future generations.

### **Political update**

- **General Assembly of the Algonquin Nation Tribal Council:** the annual general assembly was held on Tuesday August 27, 2019 where the financial reports, the audit and annual work plan was presented to the members of Wolf Lake, Temiskaming and Barriere Lake First Nations. The ANS also shared the work plan for the research being completed on behalf of our communities. The ANS is looking to provide better programs and services to members by revising the structure of our tribal council, the board and its goals. More meetings on this subject are planned.

- **City of Ottawa Protocol:** Since 2013 the ANS tribal council are working with the city of Ottawa, the AANTC, Kitigan Zibi and Pikwakanagan (communities close to Ottawa) to establish a working protocol. The protocol would provide employment opportunities for the Algonquin Nation and more Algonquin presence around the city of Ottawa, like the installations of arts display at the LRT light rail train system in Ottawa and at other different locations.

- **Moose Moratorium:** This is an initiative of the Algonquin of Barriere Lake. In recent years they have noticed a decline in the moose population in their territory which is in the La Verandrye Park. Their concerns led them to issue a moratorium on moose and have created a camp at the entrance of the park to provide information on the decline of the moose population. The MFFP have not conducted any survey of the moose population since 1994 and the Algonquins of ABL are requesting the MFFP to perform this survey. Our First Nation will be involved with this survey on the moose and training for the survey will be available.

- **Gazoduc:** There is no recent development for our nation on the proposed natural gas pipeline. For this file we are considering taking a stance as a nation and will be meeting with CEAA to better understand the recent changes to the environmental legislation process for projects subject to environmental assessment.

- **Procurement Specialist:** As mentioned in our last meeting we were working on a proposal for a procurement specialist, a person who will work for Algonquin nation. His role would be to look for opportunities and develop a network connection to our communities. The person has been hired and we will be meeting to ensure WL is on their radar in terms of different procurements that are available in and around the Ottawa area.

- **Algonquin Nation Canoe Procession on Rideau Canada:** On September 11, 2019 a trip to

Ottawa consisted in taking part in the Algonquin Canoe Procession on the Rideau Canal in Ottawa. This is an event that officially opened the Moshkamo first season of Indigenous Arts Theatre at the National Arts Center. This was a powerful statement as this is how our people travelled, by canoe. Jason Chevrier was very proud to participate and also carry our WLFN flag. There were canoes from each Algonquin Nation paddling into the National Arts Center. The festival ran from September 11 - 29, 2019.

- **Meeting with Assembly of First Nations of Quebec & Labrador:** This was a continuation of the last meeting to discuss key issues: defining the role of the AFNQL, its structure and the secretariat, the supports such as the portfolio of the chiefs. Also discussed is the role and accountability of the different commissions: the FNEC programming (education), HRD training programs, the Health Commission, the SDI (Sustainable Development Institute). There were discussions on the federal election and the relationship with the Quebec government and another issue is the fiscal files point of sales exemption for Quebec.

- **Assembly of First Nations:** The 40th annual general assembly for July 2019 was held in Fredericton, New Brunswick. Work concentrated on policies of United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and having it enforced as part of the federal government's policies (UNDRIP), with inherent and treaty rights, equitable & financial relations, governance and relationship building.

A highlight was the honouring of three women with the blanket ceremony. 1) Anne Pelletier for her work on the Water Protectors 2) Denise Stonefish for her work on Child Welfare 3) Grand Chief Verna Polson for her work in Ottawa regarding the Indigenous Peoples space. Most interesting was the follow-up work on Specific Claims Policy where an engagement session will happen around the reform of the Specific Claims Policy. Chief Robinson will be attending to share the experience and challenges that Wolf Lake First Nation has encountered as part of our specific claims process. Other policies discussed were additions to claims policy, comprehensive claims policy reform and the inherent right to self-governance.

### **Other Information:**

Indian Day School Class Action Settlement. The settlement has been approved and this information was shared in a bulletin with our members who attended the days schools at Wolf lake, Brennen Lake and Hunters Point. We are now in the 90 day opt-out period and another announcement is forthcoming in November on the compensation for the claimants.

Residential School Records: A decision was made that records on residential school will be destroyed. Students who attended these schools have the option that their records be preserved and not destroyed but kept. Information on who to contact to make a request to keep these records or even request a copy is available at the WL band office.

### **Upcoming Meetings:**

- Anishinabek Lands Forum
- ANPSS Board Meeting
- The Unveiling of the "Words for Women" Artwork by Karl Chevrier

- The meeting of AFNQL
- Meeting for the Specific Claims Policy Reform Engagement
- AFN Special Chiefs Assembly

**Governance Work:**

Walter Manitowabie of Three Fire Solutions presents an overview of the work to be done in the coming months. He has titled this work: Enhancing our governance administrative structures. To be more effective and accountable to membership Wolf Lake must continue building the programs and services as demands are growing in the community. To better provide these services Wolf Lake First Nation will target key areas. (See attached handout for more details on the following areas.

1. First Nation Governance Structure
  - 1) Financial Management Systems
  - 2) Operational Management.

He continues with explanation on these key areas and then presents a forecast of the next steps to be taken in the coming months by membership and Chief and Council:

- 1) Membership to provide direction to Chief and Council to proceed with the development work on each of the above priorities.
- 2) Chief and Council to draft Structures to present at upcoming membership meetings.
- 3) Chief and Council to pass band council resolutions to approve and adopt specific policies, procedures and regulations as they are completed and vetted by membership

Target completion of these three key areas is March 31, 2019 and it is recommended that WL proceed step by step and begin with governance structure. To give effective direction to WL council, membership must have procedures and regulations with regular meetings and have an order of business at those meetings with a proper agenda. Each meeting will have a process to follow and discussions at band membership meetings will be recorded. Members are to be given notice of the band meeting to give time for members to plan their attendance and participation. An explanatory handout is provided to members. See attached.

**Program Updates**

**Health – Sonia Young & Jessie Bond Goulet**

Cultural Update:

Culture Nights every Monday night from 5-8pm we are having a variety of beading techniques, work on earrings, to continue every Monday till the end of march.

Traditional Healing: As part of a culture activity we had a traditional healer come into our community. A meet and greet Kim Meisel was arranged on Oct 4, 2019. While in Temiscaming, she has had one on one sessions with members from Friday to Monday. She will return if members are interested in meeting with her again.

Water Walk: Carole Cloutier from TFN is organizing a Water Walk and is requesting a representative of the Wolf Lake community to sit on the organizing committee to plan the Water Walk. Meetings are bi-monthly and on weekends. Projected date for the walk is 2020 or 2021.

### **Consultation – Martha**

Bill C-69 deals with the enactment of the Impact Assessment Act and Canadian Energy Regulator Act. When these came into effect changes were required to the Navigation Protection Act. The CEAA had two public consultations. 1. Discussion Paper on Information Requirements and Time Management Regulatory Proposal 2. Discussion Paper on the Proposed Project List - The Minor Works by Transport Canada. Wolf Lake submitted comments on each of these discussion papers.

Lake Trout management plan: was previously planned for 2014 to 2020. It is now is extended to 2024

Bear Management Plan: Our community submitted additional comments referring to our historic existence, cultural connections, the fact that bear is not only used as sustenance but also our rights to trap and hunt are rights that are constitutionally protected.

Regular local consultations continue and are documented. Those of the Outaouais and Ontario regions are filed for future use. More work for the Ontario ones are required to assert our rights on the Ontario side.

### **7) Varia & Questions**

From live stream:

Q: Should all elders be treated with respect no matter what your opinion is?

A: Yes, the teaching is part of our learning as Anishinabe people and respect works both ways. We carry this with each of us, to give respect and to also receive it.

Q: Why aren't the minutes read out loud? & asking about a forensic audit.

A: Minutes are fairly long but will be posted and shared in a meaningful time frame.

The forensic audit itself has a huge cost factor involved. Each year an audit is performed on our programming structures and we are accountable to the governmental agencies we receive funding from. Our band resources are limited and the work to put governance structures in place is a step towards transparency in reporting to our membership.

Comments from Naomi Robinson: I recognize the proceedings for tribunal is a lot of work. I was happy to attend some of the hearings where the elders testified. I learned a lot about our elders and

our families and their survival. It is one thing to read about the land claims reports but it is quite another to listen to it first-hand. This is all about reclaiming our story and finally being recognized.

Q: Is there funding for post-secondary education?

A: Yes, applications procedures and forms are available in the WLFN band office Deadline is May 2019

**Notice for Saturday December 14, 2019:**

A special invitation to all the members of WLFN to our Christmas party at the Royal Canadian Legion in Temiscaming. Bring our youth, our children and family members to come enjoy a meal together and listen to our music at this special time of year.

**8) Next Meeting Date**

Next meeting date is December 10, 2010 at 7p.m.

DRAFT