

# Stz'uminus First Nation



Chief and Council Meeting Minutes  
September 2, 2009 4:45 – 7:45 p.m.

## ATTENDEES

Chief: John Elliott

Council: Harvey Seymour Sr., Charlotte Elliott, Herb Seymour, Edward Seymour Sr., Terry Sampson, Peter Seymour, John Vincent, Tim Harris, Kevin Frenchy

Stephen Olson – Administrator

Teoni Jameson – Executive Assistant

Guests: Wil Vandergrift – Five Star Cultural Connections

Janine Cornett – Five Star Cultural Connections

Meeting called to order at 4:45 p.m.

### 1. Adoption of the Agenda

- Add letter from Nancy James to administration, 4j
- Add discussion re: conference on aboriginal cemeteries in Saskatchewan to administration, 4k
- Add John Vincent re: housing issues to other, 6a

**It was moved and seconded to adopt the agenda as amended.**

**Motion carried.**

### 2. Adoption of the Chief and Council minutes

a. August 11, 2009 minutes

**Motion to approve the August 11, 2009 Chief and Council meeting minutes as presented**

**Motion carried.**

### 3. Councillor Kevin Frenchy

a. Report on Elder's lunches – August 19 & 26, 2009

- Included in the package is a written report regarding the concerns that the elders have.
- Council requests that Stephen go through the report and address the issues that he can.
- Terry provides some information on First Nation designed headstones that he got from Calgary. He passed it on to Stephen. He also has another contact who knows of headstones available in Surrey.
- The Elders Bus – there are restrictions on the Elders for the use of the bus, i.e. the manager wants it back at a certain time. The elders want to know what the purpose of the bus is.
- Maybe they could have a key drop at the health centre. Or the driver could drop the keys off the next day.
- Roads – Jane cleans the roads of garbage but people throw garbage out right away. She is wondering if she could get paid for doing this work.
- Elders would like wood since the winter season is coming fast. The big house also needs wood.
- The elders are buying their own equipment to clean their chimneys because they are tired of requesting housing to do it and getting no response.
- Stephen will go through the report and provide an update to council with the actions that have been taken on each item.

### 4. Administration

a. All Nations Trust – renewal of CMHC loan # 22-095-145/001

- This is the renewal of the CMHC loan for phase 12.

**It was moved and seconded to approve the renewal of the CMHC loan agreement #22-095-145/001**

**Motion carried.**

b. All Nations Trust – renewal of CMHC loan # 15-327-158/008

**It was moved and seconded to approve the renewal of the CMHC loan agreement # 15-327-158/008**

**Motion carried.**

c. Letter from HTG re: Border crossing committee

- HTG Board of Directors have approved the establishment of a border crossing committee and have requested that each nation appoint a member to sit on the board.
- There have been issues for years with our people crossing the border especially during big house season and canoe races.

**It was moved and seconded to appoint Kevin Frenchy to the HTG border crossing committee  
Motion carried.**

d. Memo from Woodward & Company re: Ladysmith Harbour MOU

- At the last joint council meeting, Ladysmith presented a MOU that they wished council to sign. Council asked for a legal opinion before they considered signing it. Included in the package is the legal opinion from Woodward & Company, a revised MOU and a one-page summary of discussion points that council may want to raise with the Town and the Province. This MOU has gone back and forth a few times and the lawyers have made recommendations in the past but Ladysmith and the Province have ignored them.
- Should see if Heath has time to review this.
- Should this revised MOU be brought to the next joint council meeting?
- Yes it should be on the agenda.
- With the revised MOU council would also like a formal letter presented to the Town that addresses the points in the speaking notes.
- Council would like to have a one hour strategy session before the meeting. The joint council meeting is scheduled for September 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m., so council will meet at 3:00 p.m. Stephen will have the revised MOU and letter ready for that meeting.

e. Letter from Snuneymuxw First Nation re: Shared Territory

- Stephen reads the letter out loud.
- This came about at the Cable Bay site when the Chief, Ed and Willie went to the site; A Snuneymuxw representative was there as well. We have a disagreement of views. Our view is that the remains stay where they are, left undisturbed in their natural state. Snuneymuxw believes the remains should be reburied at a different location. We want the developers to make this a heritage sites and put boundaries around the area, but the developers don't want to do this. Council met with Snuneymuxw before regarding this.
- I think Snuneymuxw is also wondering why we are there and where our traditional territory is.
- We need to hire someone to look into our history. (Dan Marshall or UBC).
- Does HTG have this information?
- We should be asking for Snuneymuxw's territory map too?
- Snuneymuxw thinks we are over the boundary line because if you look at the BCTC map we are over the line but the elders say there are place names there that are CFN.
- It is important to note that this letter is from staff. If we are going to move forward it should be leadership to leadership. Send a letter back that we want to start discussions, leadership to leadership. It is important that we bring representation to the meeting. I have never seen a map that has been submitted to BCTC. So we need to get that information as well. We could wait to meet with them after they have their elections in November.

f. Nautsamawt Tribal Council Economic Development Workshop

- Nautsamawt Tribal Council will be holding a two day economic development workshop at Tigh Na Mara Resort September 28 & 29<sup>th</sup>. The Tribal council is covering all costs. Who would like to attend?
- Terry, Tim, John Vincent, Ed, Kevin, Charlotte, Herb, and Harvey. Check with Dean to see if he would be interested in attending.

g. First Nation Summit September 23-25, 2009

- Who would like to go? Charlotte and Kevin will attend.
- Proxy – Charlotte.

**It was moved and seconded to approve that Charlotte Elliott and Kevin Frenchy attend the First Nation Summit September 23-24, 2009 and that Charlotte be given proxy for the meeting.  
Motion carried.**

h. Tour of the RCMP detachment

- When the RCMP met with Council they extended an invitation to council to tour the new RCMP detachment. The RCMP are wondering what day and time would work for Council.
- Sometime during the second week of October at 4:00 p.m.
- Stephen will let council know the date once it is confirmed.

i. Set date for Economic Development meeting

- Ray has completed an Economic Development plan that he would like to present to council. Council would like to scheduled this meeting with the review of the planning session meeting, which is scheduled for September 9<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. Would council be willing to move the September 9<sup>th</sup> council meeting to an all day meeting?
- Yes, Council set the meeting date for September 14<sup>th</sup> 9:00 – 4:00 p.m.

j. Letter from Nancy James

- What is the business name? Deer Point clothing and she is looking at selling big and tall clothes.

**It was moved and seconded to support Nancy James in the creation on her e-commerce business on reserve. Motion carried.**

k. Conference on Aboriginal Cemeteries in Saskatchewan on September 20-21.

- There is a conference on aboriginal cemeteries in Saskatchewan coming up and council was wondering if there are any similar conferences that are closer to our area. Or if we could get more information about that program.
- We need to look at opening another cemetery or expanding our cemeteries. We also need to do better planning so we have more room for our families. And we need to take better care of the cemeteries.

5. Five Star Cultural Connections Presentation – Wil and Janine

- The Five Star Cultural Connections team came together in September 2008 with a vision to deepen the connection between the Town of Ladysmith and the Chemainus First Nation. They chose to have a canoe built as a symbolic connector bridging the two communities. The group provided council with a DVD to watch and also a pamphlet that provides some basic information about each community. This pamphlet was given out at the dinner.
- Council thanked the group for all of their work on this project. This event helped build the relationship between the two communities.

6. Others

a. John Vincent – Housing issues

- There were some issues brought up at the housing committee meeting that he would like to bring to council's attention. Repairs are being done on houses that are not paying rent; why is that happening when others who are paying rent aren't getting repairs? The money social development pays for band rentals is not in the trust. That money has been spent on housing deficits. A lot of people don't want to pay rent because their houses are not getting fixed.
- We need control over the money. We are not dealing with the issue of the deficit. We should be maintaining the houses of the people that are paying rent, not rewarding the ones who aren't paying. We need to stop spending because if we have no money, we can't spend it. We can't just let deficits go until there is nothing left. There are no controls or accountability for the spending of that money.
- The Housing board will be set up again. On September 17<sup>th</sup> there is an information meeting and any member who is interested in sitting on this board needs to attend the meeting. Council needs to support the board 100% if we are going to get everyone on board to pay rent.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.**