



Oneida Nation of the Thames
Regular Council Meeting
OPO Boardroom
Tuesday, November 1, 2022
9:00 am – 4:15 pm

Original Document
APPROVED December 6, 2022

Present: Acting Chief Charity Doxtator

Councillors: Rosalind Antone, Misty Deleary (ZOOM), Brandon Doxtator, Gloria Doxtator, Tekatenyes Doxtator, Holly Elijah, Ursula Doxtator, Alizabeth George-Antone, Joel Kennedy

Regrets: Councillor Deborah Hill

Absent:

Staff: Pam Tobin-CEO, Kailey Thomson-CAO, Erin White-Finance Administrator

Guests: Tim Ruffilli, BMO, Gary Maracle, OFNPA

Recorder: Galah Antone

1. Call to Order at 9:00am.

Opening Prayer: Councillor Alizabeth George-Antone

2. Approval of Additional Items & Agenda:

Council consensus to approve agenda for November 1, 2022, with one additional item.

3. Oneida Language Session - Introductions

4. Acting Chief Monthly Updates

It's hard to believe that October has come and gone, and we are already into the final 2 months of the year.

I always look forward to sharing these updates with you and I'm always looking for ways to better understand your needs and challenges.

With Council and Community

October 11, 19 and 25 Council meetings

October 14 – Workplan and Budget meeting

October 20 Iroquois Caucus

With our Partners

October 17 – AIAI Meeting Tobacco Task Force

Metis Assertion

October 18 & 19 – Summit on Creating Systemic Change

October 21 – Meeting with Grand Chief Joel Abram

October 28 – Iroquois Caucus Meeting

Week of October 31-November 4 – The Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians (AIAI) Chief's

Council Lobby Meeting

Council acknowledges Chief's monthly update.

BREAK

5. Council Updates – Round Table

Councillor Holly Elijah – No updates

Councillor Ursula Doxtator

Language – Met with James Antone – still in progress.

Councillor Alizabeth George-Antone

Preparing for Special Events – Halloween.

Working on Remembrance Day Events.

Iroquois Caucus – Next meeting in December.

Education – Joel & Alizabeth met with Bette, LLL to review tuition agreement.

Greenlane –

Councillor Gloria Doxtator

Zoom meeting with Nimkee Board. Board dealing with a lot of issues.

Southwest Middlesex Health Centre Meeting – Looking at gaps in dealing with Oneida First Nation.

MNAASGED Board - Meeting in November 2022.

Councillor Tekatenyes Doxtator

Special Events – Working on Remembrance Day Event. Oneida Marching Band will work with Rosalind. Reading of Flanders Field. Oneida Language? Contact Mary Elijah at Language Building
Met with Staff. Meet once per month.

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| Council consensus to approve \$5000.00 (Five Thousand Dollars) donation to cover costs of the Remembrance Day Event. Funds to come from OLG. |
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Councillor Rosalind Antone

Attended Land Trust Summit in Ottawa. Land Trust with Land presentation. Networking. Will meet with Martin Powless regarding Chabre.

Councillor Brandon Doxtator

Working with Public Works on infrastructure and Fibre Optics.

Met with Sandra Doxtator, Ron Elijah & Kailey Thomson. Will be purchasing 500 recyclable bins for Oneida.

Economic Development Commission meeting next week. Still looking for Oneida members to sit on the commission.

Research Ethics Commission & Healthy Foods – More update at next Council meeting.

Hydro One Re-engaging- Tracks Property.

Hydro One – Will be doing work on Oneida. November 7 & 8, 2022. Railroad tracks (arsenic)

Hydro One will meet with Oneida members regarding cleaning up the area.

Women's Group (Clan Mothers) on environmental issues. Meet at the Cook house. Next meeting on Saturday, November 12, 2022.

Councillor Charity Doxtator

Housing – Housing policy being reviewed. Meeting on Friday, November 4, 2022.

LTC – Service agreement is with Robert Berg under Assured Care. He is retiring in late December.

Robert Berg recommended a company. New company submitted a proposal which is under review. This has been sent to Mathews Dinsdale (Band Lawyer) for their review. There are a few issues in the proposal that is very different from Assured Care agreement. If proposal is not

successful, the lawyer at Mathews Dinsdale (Jennifer) has worked with LTC who are familiar with First Nations.

Councillor Joel Kennedy

Education – Met with Bette Summers Life Long Learning Administrator, on tuition agreement.

Create relationships that go beyond agreement. Meet monthly. Joint Technical Table – reviewing Terms of Reference (Indigenous Services Canada) funding.

Health – John Brown (Resident at Sr's Complex) complained of people driving behind Seniors on grass (drugs involved?).

E&T – Meeting on November 23, 24 & 25, 2022, at Four Points in London to review Employment & Training Policies.

Councillor Misty Deleary

No Updates. Social Services need to get updates. Youth need updates as well.

6. CEO Updates

i) Tobacco & Law Making

The Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians has received funding from Indigenous Affairs Ontario to support the continuation of the AIAI Tobacco & Law-Making Initiative for the 2022-23 fiscal year in the amount of \$50,000.00 (Fifty Thousand Dollars) to each member nation. This phase of the initiative is focused on community capacity building for law-making, governance, and trade and commerce.

Each community will determine their own processes and activities for this work with support provided by AIAI upon request. Community initiatives may include but are not limited to initiatives that strengthen community communication, dialogue, information flow, and decision-making pertaining to:

- Approaches to developing solutions to tobacco, trade, and commerce
- Indigenous law-making and associated capacity requirements
- Positions regarding tobacco and future potential negotiations processes with Ontario
- Engaging and relationship building with community businesses, entrepreneurs, & other community members
- Community-based decision making & governance processes

Contact Angela Antone as she is in tobacco trades and have her do this for community input and information.

Council consensus to approve to accept the \$50,000.00 (Fifty Thousand Dollars) from AIAI to complete the feasibility study on Tobacco & Law Making. Pam Tobin, CEO will follow up and contact Angela Antone (Mother Earth Farm) to assist with this program.

7. CAO Updates

- i) *BN ISC Amending Agreement Comprehensive Funding Arrangement #2021-ON-000073 Amendment No. 0063*

Oneida Nation's multiyear Indigenous Service Canada Agreement No. 2021-ON-00073 provides for changes to the Agreement by way of "Notice of Budget Adjustment" or an "Amending Agreement". The former where funding for a service or activity is changed in accordance with an adjustment factor and the latter for new funds.

Council consensus to approve and accept Amending Agreement #0063 which is an amendment to provide fixed funding to Oneida's Ontario Works Department in the amount of \$931,829.29 (Nine Hundred and Thirty-One Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty-Nine Dollars and Twenty-Nine Cents) for the 2022/2023 fiscal year.

ii) *Opt in to ISC Education Interim Funding Formula 2022-2023 Update & BCR #2435*
Education Funding Transformation (ISC) has been underway since 2016. Former set contributions changed to fixed contributions, reporting has been streamlined and proposal-based competition is having less impact.

Regional Education Agreements in aggregate form are ideally what ISC would like communities to negotiate. In the meantime, an Interim Funding Formula intended to offer parity with the province in funding can be opted into. Oneida would currently receive education funding as part of the block arrangement of \$6,612,299.00 (Six Million Six Hundred and Twelve Thousand Two Hundred and Ninety-Nine Dollars). Nominal Roll numbers have been consistent resulting in \$7,971,128.61 (Seven Million Nine Hundred and Seventy-One One Hundred and Twenty-Eight Dollars and Sixty-One Cents) under 2022-2023 IFF.

Council consensus to approve opting into the ISC elementary/secondary Interim Funding Formula for 2022-2023 fiscal year and signing BCR #2435. Council agrees to sign based on Life Long Learning Administrators recommendation.

iii) *New Thames Valley District School Board Trustee Appointment*

Council consensus to appoint Carol Antone, to the position of Thames Valley District School Board Trustee representing Oneida Nation of the Thames, Chippewa of the Thames, and Munsee Delaware Nation at the Thames Valley District School Board for the 2022-2026 term.

iv) *Christmas Closure Activity Update*

In 2017 Chief and Council directed that all departments would host an event during the 2-week Christmas closure. These events were held at the OCC. Each department would pick a day to host a family event, meals and different activities would be offered to members.

This direction was not implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic.

During the pandemic, departments have been offering activity kits or off-site activities for families to participate in during the Christmas closure.

Kailey Thomson, CAO met with the Special Events Committee to discuss resuming in-person activities over this years Christmas closure (December 26, 2022-January 9, 2023).

It was determined that due to the COVID-19 virus still being prevalent and impacting staff and community members it would be best to continue with activity kits or off-site activities for the 2022-2023 closure.

Recommendation: The Oneida Nation of the Thames Elected Chief and Council acknowledge the recommendation of Administration and the Special Events Committee to proceed with providing activity kits or off-site programming to community members in lieu of in-person programming for the 2022-2023 Christmas closure

Council consensus to approve Oneida offices to close for the Christmas holidays December 26, 2022-January 9, 2023.

Turkeys – Gift cards will be given in the amount of \$25.00 (Twenty-Five Dollars). Pickup only.
Christmas Staff Dinner – Each department to organize dinner for their staff. Pay out of program budget.
Christmas Bonus – Finance to review department budgets.

Council consensus to approve \$25.00 Gift cards in lieu of turkey. Pickup only.

LUNCH

8. Guest Speakers/Presenters

i) *Kevin Hille – Fires on Reserve, BCR #2437 – ZOOM*

Purpose is request that Oneida Nation of the Thames agree to become an Applicant in the upcoming Federal Court Application concerning funding for fire services on reserve.

OKT has secured \$200,000.00 (Two Hundred Thousand Dollars) in funding from Court Challenges Program to bring a court challenge about this situation and how it violates the rights of people living on reserve. In November 2021, Oneida Nation of the Thames passed BCR #2409 authorizing leadership and administration to work with OKT to develop a court challenge about fire risk on reserve. We would now like Oneida to consider joining as a party to the case when it goes ahead.

OKT proposes to bring an Application before the Federal Court.

OKT does not propose seeking damages or compensation for past fatal fires. The focus of this application will be to achieve higher levels of funding in the future. For that reason, we only expect to ask the Court for a declaration that Canada's policies violate the rights of people living on reserve.

Council consensus to sign BCR #2437 in support of Federal Court Application.

ii) Water Class Action Update

1.9 billion for 250 First Nations. Deadline of December 2, 2022, for First Nation's to accept settlement agreement. Oneida member can file individual claims. Infrastructure costs, no deadline, costs are over and above. Settlement Agreement (Article 9 Schedule).

iii) Gary Maracle – Ontario First Nations Policing Agreement (OFNPA)

On March 29, 2022, Council reached consensus not to sign the 2021 Ontario First Nations Policing Agreement. In previous years, the agreement has been signed "under duress" with the hopes that negotiations would take place with the province and Canada to address the concerns in the existing agreement. This fiscal year, Council agreed not to sign in order to push the province and Canada to immediately negotiate better terms that support the health and safety of Oneida officers and the community.

Since the letter refusing to sign was submitted to Canada on March 30, 2022, the province, in collaboration with Canada, have come back to us with the following commitments:

1. Capacity funding for a policing needs assessment to identify Oneida's needs (e.g., officers, equipment, etc.) to transition to a stand-alone self-administered police service. This needs assessment could take place within this fiscal year. Canada and Ontario will require a proposal from the community, which can be prepared by your vendor of choice, in order to draft a contribution agreement.
2. Funding to support a new police facility, starting in 2023-24.
3. Funding, beginning in 2022-23, to implement a Community Consultative Group (CCG), which is a police board/governance body.
4. Opportunities for new officers as part of the federal government's Budget 2021 investments in First Nations policing. There will be opportunities for FNIPP recipients to receive additional officers in two rounds of funding. One funding will commence in 2022-23 to address immediate needs. We will put forward Oneida's request for additional officers as part of this process.

In return for these commitments, Oneida would sign the agreement dated April 1, 2021, to March 31, 2023, to continue to provide services to the community while leaving the door open to further address our gaps in service.

9. Council Requests*i) Councillor Holly Elijah – Election Code Update*

CEO reported on the Draft Election Code. This was returned to Indigenous Service Canada (ISC). Pam Tobin, CEO is receiving piecemeal sections each week/month. Once all received (2-3 weeks), Pam will update Council.

ii) Councillor Holly Elijah – 6 Month Financial Update on Organization

Erin White, Finance Administrator gave update.

iii) *Rosalind Antone – In Camera – Job Descriptions for CEO & CAO - Tabled*

10. Martin Powless, Policy Analyst – FYI – Support for OKT Law To Appeal Decision

During the COVID shutdown, the Ontario Government passed an extensive Omnibus Bill (197) which contained important and substantive changes to the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act and the process the Government must undertake to approve projects.

In effect, the changes eliminate the need for the Government to conduct Proper Environmental Assessments before approving projects.

Support is needed for OKT Law to appeal the decision of the Divisional Court to dismiss the legal challenge to Ontario Bill 197.

Recommendation: That Oneida Nation of the Thames support the decision of the AIAI Chiefs Council in this matter.

Consultation Policy – Councillor Brandon Doxtator stated he is working on this.

Martin stated he sent email to Chief Todd Cornelius. Chief is in Ottawa attending Chief’s of Ontario meeting November 1-4, 2022, lobbying and hopes the Ontario Bill 197 is discussed. Oneida is not being governed by Ontario Bill 197. Martin will provide a written letter.

11. In Camera

i) *Kailey Thomas, CAO – Lands & Estates – Deferred*

ii) *Pam Tobin, CEO – YD Update & ED Update*

12. Acting Chief – Christmas Dinner, Gift Exchange Discussion

Dinner will be held at the Mandarin on December 15, 2022, at 6:00 pm. Names will be drawn for a gift exchange with a limit of \$25-\$30. Galah and Angie to organize.

13. Closing – Councillor Ursula Doxtator

Meeting adjourned – 4:15pm

A/C Ursula Doxtator

Chief

December 6, 2022.

Date

Galahst Ant

Recorder

December 6, 2022

Date