

Date: June 21st, 2006.

Location: Northern Frontier Visitor's Centre, Yellowknife NT

Members Present:

Behchokǫ : Joe Mackenzie

Gamèti: David Wedawin

Whati : Ted Nitsiza

Wekweeti: Noella Kodzin

Whati: Alfonz Nitsiza (chair)

Staff Present: Jim Martin (CEO); Lucy Lafferty, Director of Education; Kyle Kelly, Assistant Director of Education; Anna Beals, Director of H&SS; George Blandford, Director of Finance.

Alfonz Nitsiza welcomed the representatives to the meeting, called the meeting to order and said the opening prayer.

1. Approval of the Agenda: The Chairperson asked the CEO to introduce the meeting through a survey of the agenda.

Motion 06.06:01 to approve the agenda as presented with no change; Moved by Joe Mackenzie; Seconded by Ted Nitsiza; carried.

2. Review of Previous Minutes

2.1 Regular Meeting April 19-21, 2006 in YK

Motion 06.06:02 to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 19-21, 2006 in Yellowknife. Moved by Ted Nitsiza; Seconded by Joe Mackenzie; Carried.

3. Reports from Management:

3.1 Program Reports: Education & H&SS: Lucy Lafferty spoke about the 32 graduates this year from both CJBS and Mezi Community School. The Agency is sending a student to the Tundra Science Camp. Also some of our students from the Trades and Technology program will be working at the mines and one of them, Benjamin Zoe will be traveling to Botswana in Africa for training related to mining technology. Grande Prairie College in Alberta is recruiting 4 of our soccer players who helped to win a gold medal at a tournament in that community.

Tammy Steinwand received a NWTTA gold medal for outstanding teacher of the year. We have needed to staff 20 new teachers in the Agency this year. Lucy also spoke to the Board members about the security situation in Behchokǫ in regards to vandalism and break-ins at the schools. It has been a very serious problem this past year with grave concerns expressed by GNWT Insurance and Risk Management staff who were worried that the insurance companies would no longer cover the community of Behchokǫ if they cannot deal with the youth vandalism issues. Lucy has been in contact with the Chiefs

regarding the establishment of youth recreation programming in the summer to occupy the youth and hopefully help to calm the vandalism situation. Technology required to wire the schools to warn and deal with vandals will cost in excess of \$120,000. Sixteen students took the teacher preparation program this past winter. Participants built a bond with each other and all expressed appreciation for what they have learned the past few months especially for the skills they developed in learning how to read in Tłıchǫ. The Agency has been approved for the aboriginal language and teacher education access program next year. We also want these students to work as volunteers in the community with the children so they develop the bonds necessary to work well with the children in the schools.

Ted and Alfonz raised questions about the education report. There was a discussion of reasons why teachers are leaving especially in Whatì. Management and housing issues were discussed. Joe Mackenzie spoke about the importance of the teacher preparation and training programs and congratulated the Tłıchǫ Community Services Agency staff who are responsible for the programming. Jim said that Lucy Lafferty had been the spirit and moving force behind the program.

Anna Beals spoke about the H&SS programming in the region. She talked about the hiring of nurses from Agencies and keeping the health centres fully staffed. Danette Finlayson, a former long term social worker in the region came back to help us out in the Child and Family Services office. She has been acting manager while Nora Wedzin-Quitte has been active with the public education promotion of the sexual health strategy in the communities. Anna talked about the development work around the STI action plan and alternative schooling based on wellness principles and programming. Anna talked about the new resources of over \$400,000 promised by the GNWT for the renovation of the Mary Adele Bishop Health Centre.

Alfonz Nitsiza spoke about the approval by the Tłıchǫ Government of funds to help renovate the centre as well. The Tłıchǫ Government sees the improvements to the building which they own, as an investment in their own community and people. He said the Chiefs spoke to the use of the IBA funding from the Mines for community infrastructure and payouts as opposed.

4. Reports: Delegations...None at this time

5. Action Items

5.1 Approval of the 2006-2007 Education Budget

Kyle Kelly led the discussion on the Education budget. Members were referred to the principles that were used to develop the budget. He spoke about a variety of issues including funding for speech and language staff, library staff, a new alternative program and some other items.

David Wedawin raised an issue regarding the amount of funds the Gamètì janitor receives in comparison with the Wekweeti position. Kyle said that the janitor in Wekweeti is funded for 3 hours daily and the one in Gamètì is funded for 6.5 hours.

There was a discussion of how the GNWT allocates funding for janitorial work whether by square footage of a building or formula numbers of children. Issues were raised with the addition of a gym in Gamèti next year as well as existing problems in Wekweeti in getting a janitor for 3 hours daily. As well the public use of the gym in Wekweeti in the evenings creates additional pressures on the janitor. There was a discussion in regards to the loss of funding of an SNA position from Whati based on overfunding for the last few years. Funding was also increased to CJBS in Behchokò to deal with increased student numbers.

Motion 06.06:03 to approve the 2006-2007 Education Budget as presented. Moved by Joe Mackenzie; Seconded by Ted Nitsiza; Carried.

5.2 Approval of Sexual Health STI/HIV Aids Strategy

Jim and Anna spoke about the implementation of the Sexual Health strategy in the region. Jim spoke about the issue of high rates of sexually transmitted infections and the way people deal with them in the Tlicho communities. Jim talked about the consequences of an incurable infection such as HIV/AIDS presenting itself in the communities and spoke about what is currently happening in Africa. Anna spoke about the current strategy in the communities and what is planned for the next few months including a special conference on HIV/AIDS in aboriginal communities in Edmonton in early August, a traveling photographic exhibition which will tour the Tłı̨chǫ communities in the fall and other activities. Jim talked about CIET and their work in the northern Alberta. He explained the type of work they do with communities and said that they would be a good group to work with in our communities. He asked permission to contact the group and see if they would work with us in the Tłı̨chǫ region. Members asked some questions about working with the leadership and expressed approval for the efforts to date.

Motion 06.06:4 to approve the Sexual Health Strategy and working with CIET in the coming year to develop a comprehensive public education program for the Tłı̨chǫ Community Services Agency and the Tłı̨chǫ communities. Moved by Joe Mackenzie; Seconded by Ted Nitsiza; Carried.

5.3 Community Concerns:

a) Behchokò: Joe Mackenzie asked about the turnover at the Elder's Home and why it was so frequent. Anna spoke to a variety of issues including the rates of pay, cross-cultural issues related to care of elders and operating the home and strategies that the Agency is using to overcome these problems. Joe asked Jim about a five year plan; He also asked about teacher placements in the kindergarten programs at the schools...parents have made comments about teachers from outside who cannot speak Dogrib to the children being placed in kindergarten positions. Joe suggested the Board make a policy that kindergarten teachers be Tłı̨chǫ. Lucy and Jim spoke about the situation across the region and suggested it was a good idea and within the mandate of the Agency. Any statement by the Board should be tempered however with a statement about operational requirements because there may be times and places where it is simply not possible because of a lack of qualified or suitable staff.

b) Gamètì: David spoke about trades programming for the community in Gamètì. Importance of water safety has been highlighted with the recent drowning death in the lake of a man in the community. He asked that children in the school be told about water safety before they get out of school. Alfonz agreed that boat safety is an important issue and we need to do something in the communities. Perhaps the TG could work with the Tłıchǫ Community Services Agency on this issue.

Members discussed adult training in the communities. It was requested that Maurice Evans, the President of the College and Jane Arychuk, the new Campus Director in YK meet with the Board of Directors of the Agency.

c) Wekweetì: Noella Kodzin asked questions about the status of the Scholarship Committee and whether the early childhood program will remain in the school. Noella said that the DEA is in favour of the program staying in the school. She also discussed a variety of staffing problems with the program. Jim and Lucy said that it was management's position that the program should stay in the school too and that they would ask the program coordinator to discuss the issues with the staff in the program with the chairperson. There was a discussion of early childhood programming operated by the Tłıchǫ Government and the desire by the TG that this programming be turned over to the Tłıchǫ Community Services Agency. Noella also spoke about the difficulties in getting proper janitorial services for the school as no one would work for three hours a day. Also the casual payroll situation also hurts the community as no-one is willing to work and wait for weeks for a paycheque.

d) Whatì: Ted Nitsiza discussed the issues discussed by the DEA regarding elected members and the appointed member from the Tłıchǫ Community Government. There is confusion at different levels about the number of members that should be on the DEA, and their term of service. Members discussed the issue for some time looking at similar questions in Gamètì and Wekweetì. Jim said these problems and questions are to be expected with a new process and that it will all get worked out but the organizational issues should not distract DEA's from the real business at hand which is in the schools with the education of the children.

5.4 Other...No other agenda items have been identified at this meeting.

6. Information Items

6.1 Correspondence from Chair to Minister of ECE re: Whatì school addition

This item was noted by Agency Board Members.

6.2 Correspondence from Chair to Minister of ECE re: Return Casual Payroll

This item was noted by Agency Board Members. There was some discussion on this item and it was noted that there has been no movement from the GNWT on the issue.

6.3 Correspondence from Chair to Grand Chief re: Working Together Effectively

This item was noted by Agency Board Members.

6.4 DVD orientation to the TCSA: Strong Like Two People

This item was noted by Agency Board Members. Copies of the DVD were distributed to all members.

6.5 IPAC Award Nomination/ Letter from the Premier/Ministers

This item was noted by Agency Board Members. Jim Martin said that on Tuesday we were informed that the Tłıchǵ Community Services Agency has been shortlisted from over 70 nominations from across Canada to 7 submissions. Jim and Alfonz will be going to Toronto on Monday and Tuesday next week to speak to the selection jury. The final award will be given in August in Charlottetown.

6.6 Registrar’s Report 2004-2005/ Dept. of Transportation

This item was noted by Agency Board Members.

7. Next Regular Meeting/ Adjournment and closing prayer.

The members agreed that the next meeting will be held in the fall. A teleconference will be held in August after the Tlıcho Gathering to discuss a time and place.

Noella Kodzin said the closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

The minutes are approved as written by motion of the Board.

Chairperson

Date

Chief Executive Officer

Date

To Do Items arising from this meeting/ June 21st, 2006.

- Item 1 (5.2) Contact CIET to work with Tłıchǵ Community Services Agency on Sexual health strategy (CEO)
- Item 2 5.3 a) Discuss with principals about placement of kindergarten teachers and Tłıchǵ language abilities. (Director of Ed)
- Item 3 (5.3 b) Review janitorial funding for Gamètì and Wekweeti (Asst. Director of Ed; Director of Finance)
- Item 4 5.3 b) Discussion with principals about boat safety in any final messages to students. (Director of Ed, Asst Director of Ed)

Item 5 5.3 c) Coordinator of Early Childhood Programs to discuss staff issues
with Wekweeti DEA chairperson. (Director of Ed)