



**McLeod Lake Indian Band  
Regular Chief and Council Meeting  
Fraser Conference Room, Marriott Hotel, Prince George, BC  
September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Chief: Harley Chingee</b> <b>Elder Councillor: Jane Inyallie</b> <b>Youth Councillor: Shelby Mitchell</b> <b>On Reserve Councillor: Anita Vallee</b> <b>Off Reserve Councillor: Jodie Ware</b> <b>On Reserve Councillor: Sonya Solonas</b> <b>Off Reserve Councillor: Hugh Tweed</b>  Adele Chingee, Band Administrator Bob Inkpen, Special Projects, via Zoom Dora Chingee, Sr. Acct/Finance Support Stephanie Rocheleau, Land Stewardship Director/Tech Assistant Mariah Curry, Land Referral Officer/Minute Taker	<b>Minutes: Mariah Curry</b> <b>Call to Order: 09:03 a.m.</b> <b>Adjournment: 01:48 p.m.</b>
<b>Absent:</b>	Geraldine Solonas, Executive Assistant Dawn Bursary, Controller Jayde Chingee, Chief's Assistant	
<b>Visitors:</b>		
<b>Observers:</b>		

TOPIC	DISCUSSION, MOTIONS AND BCR'S	ACTION ITEMS
<b>1. Call to Order</b>	<b>9:03 a.m.</b>	
<b>2. Prayer</b>	Jane Inyallie	
<b>3. Opening Meeting</b>	<b>Motion: 20230925#1:</b> Chief and Council hereby moves to open the meeting at 9:03 a.m. <b>Moved:</b> Sonya Solonas <b>Seconded:</b> Jodie Ware <b>All in Favour: 7</b> <b>Opposed: 0</b> <b>Abstention: 0</b>	



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<p><b>4. Agenda</b></p>	<p><b>Motion 20230925#2:</b> Chief and Council hereby moves to accept the agenda with additions of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) BCR – Duz Cho Board</li> <li>2) Discussion re Closed Meetings - Sonya Solonas</li> <li>3) Request for in-camera session - Jodie Ware</li> </ol> <p><b>Moved:</b> Shelby Mitchell  <b>Seconded:</b> Jane Inyallie  <b>All in Favour:</b> 7                      <b>Opposed:</b> 0                      <b>Abstention:</b> 0</p>	
<p><b>5. Council Reports</b></p>	<p><b>A. Chief Harley Chingee:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chief Harley attended the BC Natural Resource Forum.</li> <li>• Working on Vitreo Proposal, met with Sr. Manager from Vitreo as they wish to expedite the project.</li> <li>• Defense Metals wants Council to do a tour but couldn't access a helicopter for September.</li> <li>• Doug Arnell, CEO of the Cedar LNG Project, is now the CEO of MIXT Energy for the Hydrogen Project</li> <li>• In the next two weeks, Chief Harley will meet with Enbridge regarding the Straddle Plant.</li> <li>• AltaGas is on board for the Hydrogen Project, Mitsubishi wishes to expedite the Hydrogen Project process and declare their Financial Investment Decision (F.I.D.)</li> <li>• Chief Harley met with the Provincial Government regarding oil and gas payouts from North Eastern B.C.; Restoration budget of 40 million dollars will allow McLeod Lake to funnel their restoration payment towards forest restoration.</li> <li>• Industrial Forest Service (IFS) is looking at timber north of Prince George, as part of the Province of BC's hydrogen buy-in.</li> <li>• Chief Harley spoke with BC Hydro and they will begin filling the reservoir from Site C on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023; MLIB asked for 10% of what other contractors were receiving for this final phase; Chief Harley will be attending their board meeting called their Financial Exit Strategy this month to finalize this request.</li> </ul> <p><b>B. Off Reserve Councillor, Hugh Tweed:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• August 2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> attended meetings at the Marriott in Prince George.</li> <li>• Attended DCGC BoD Strategy meeting with Board of Directors in Kelowna, Sept. 11-13.</li> <li>• Attended UBCIC Chief's meeting in Williams Lake to represent the Chief, Oct. 4-6.</li> </ul>	



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- Attended the G2G meeting to discuss Caribou and Moose habitat.

**C. Youth Councillor, Shelby Mitchell:**

- Attended Education Day for AGA.
- Reviewing items on her own from home.
- Attended the MLIB culture camp on September 24 at Tudyah Lake.

**D. On Reserve Councillor, Anita Vallee:**

- Attended her granddaughter's wedding.
- Attended the AGA.
- Attended the Caribou and G2G orientation.
- Attended Duz Cho Fishing derby.
- Attended the Mt. Milligan Mine Tour.
- Was on bereavement for brother's passing.

**E. Elder's Councillor, Jane Inyallie:**

- Attended two community dinners at the Marriott in Prince George.
- Participated in a two-day governance training.
- Attended the AGA.
- Worked through August on contacting Elders from the community.
- Worked on AGA photos.
- Worked out of the Elder's Kitchen for a couple of days.
- Attended the back-to-school barbeque.
- Attended the Mt. Milligan Tour.

**F. On Reserve Councillor, Sonya Solonas:**

- Attended governance training at the beginning of August.
- Attended AGA and participated in the opening ceremony of the new cemetery.
- Attended planning meeting for the Whe'keghe Family Camp.
- Helped organize a community fire following a loss in the community.
- Attended a Land Management meeting.
- Attended the Fibre Optics Meeting.
- Attended the Mt. Milligan Mine Tour.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attended back to school BBQ in the community.</li> <li>• Assisted Land Management with dog training.</li> </ul> <p><b>G. Off Reserve Councillor, Jodie Ware:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attended Governance Workshop.</li> <li>• Attended the AGA.</li> <li>• Attended Duz Cho Fishing Derby.</li> <li>• Assisted with the Member Give Away in the rink.</li> <li>• Attended the Mt. Milligan Mine tour.</li> <li>• Attended the back-to-school BBQ.</li> <li>• Had a Zoom meeting with HR Lawyer and Council.</li> <li>• Attended community dinner for Wicheeda Project.</li> <li>• Was on bereavement for the passing of uncle.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>6. Staff Reports</b></p>	<p><b>Adele Chingee, Band Administrator, provides an overview of her written report in the package:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executive Assistant is on bereavement.- Mariah Curry is taking minutes.</li> <li>• Whole beef was donated to the Band by Zane Pickering, it is cut and wrapped and will be divided up between Band members. Any suggestions are welcome for how the meat will be divided up.</li> <li>• Mt. Milligan has sent out on updated meeting date for October 12th, 2023.</li> <li>• Straddle Plant proposal update is on the agenda later.</li> <li>• Vitreo had proposed a tour for Chief and Council - Nathan will organize. Chief had asked for 2-3 dates to be thrown around in order to plan the tour.</li> <li>• Elders Coordinator position is still open, person who had previously intended to move to that position has resigned.</li> <li>• Elders Gathering arrangements being made for Edmonton. Dates are October 30th-November 3rd 2023.</li> <li>• Education Director waiting for information from the IELT (Indigenous Education Table); Jodie put the portfolio review request online. Jodie and Jayde Chingee are still the designated two for this area. Rachel has secured the Conservative Party Electoral Candidate Riding for MLA. Campaign will not interfere with duties at MLIB.</li> <li>• Councillor Sonya has asked about Band member who lives on reserve who has applied for the Elder Coordinator position and whether or not there was a policy preventing them from being</li> </ul>	



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	<p>hired. Adele responded that applications are being reviewed for the position-there is no policy that would prevent them from being considered as a candidate; Hugh asked if Jane can be involved with the hiring process; Chief responded that it is Jane's portfolio so yes, she will be involved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wants the Council to hear the Public Works Manager's recommendation in regards to the Cultural Centre project sooner than later - Jayde has stepped away.</li> <li>• Issue regarding racist comments within the office had come up and MLIB could be responsible for compensation should these things continue. Councillor Sonya asked whether or not an external training person could come in for these Bullying and Harassment seminars so that it is neutral; Increase in incident and harassment reports within the Administrative Department.</li> <li>• Possibility of changing the training room downstairs in the NRC into a quiet room for staff - could include various methods for stress relief.</li> <li>• BC Hydro Meetings should have a Councillor representative to attend their meetings.</li> <li>• Decision in regards to holiday for National Day of Truth and Reconciliation; it was suggested that the October 2nd holiday be moved to Christmas holiday Break; Adele suggested that it be kept on October 2nd as a way to honor and commemorate this day and Council agreed.</li> <li>• McLeod Lake Mackenzie Community Forest cheque of \$250,000: Councillor Jodie had asks about the expenditure of these funds; she is advised that these funds are general and there are no stipulations around where this money is allocated. Adele responded that this money usually goes into the general account and is used for distribution cheques.</li> <li>• Councillor Jodie asked about the Employment and Training Coordinator position and addressed the HR report being out of date; there is a perceived conflict of interest in the email and how this position came to be; the report should address why the previous person in that position left.</li> <li>• Councillor Sonya advises she sent an email regarding a housing issue with an on-reserve member; she is still learning the process and wants to have open lines of communication and be able to talk to each other about things.</li> <li>• Councillor Jodie brought up that respect has to go in every direction; things are being said in regards to Council members that are disrespectful and suggests that perhaps there be a conversation or seminar to address this.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>7. Financial Reports of MLIB</b></p>	<p><b>Adele Chingee, Band Administrator, advises that Dawn Bursary, Controllor, is not able to attend the meeting and Dora Chingee is here representing the Finance Department if Council has any questions.</b></p>	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget Process Review: Dawn will set a 2-day meeting with Council for a thorough review of the MLIB financials. Discussion. Councillors agree to this meeting; and, agree on the dates of October 26<sup>th</sup> &amp; 27<sup>th</sup> for this; and this review process will take place in Prince George</li> <li>• Delegation Table of Finance Governance Policy for Approval – Bob Inkpen advises Council that this document needs to also be approved for the 10-Year Funding process; after discussion, the Council agrees to a two-hour meeting – Bob will email possible dates to Council for this. This is deferred to a special meeting</li> <li>• Audit Request by a Councillor – deferred to the special meeting also.</li> </ul>	<p>Controller is to set a 2-day meeting with Council to thoroughly review financial reports.</p> <p>Bob Inkpen to set up a special zoom meeting with Councillors to review the Delegation Table.</p>
<p><b>8. BCR 055 Silviculture Trust</b></p> <p>Break: 10:04 am to 10:14 am</p>	<p><b>Adele Chingee, Band Administrator, advises Council that this BCR was missed when the Budget BCRs were being passed.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This BCR was part of the budget package, was missed and requires Council signatures</li> <li>• 2 Billion Tree Program offset the cost for silviculture operations</li> <li>• \$200,000 spent on silviculture operations</li> <li>• Dean Marshall Appointed as MLIB Forestry Consultant</li> <li>• Exact number spent on reforestation is \$298,797</li> <li>• The costs were lowered because of the 2 Billion Tree Program</li> <li>• Money came from a general account for silviculture costs and will be replaced from the silviculture trust account</li> </ul> <p>BCR 055 read by Adele:  <b>WHEREAS:</b> The Chief and Council of the McLeod Lake Indian Band is in power to act for and on behalf of the members of the McLeod Lake Indian Band as provided by and set out under Section 74 of the <i>Indian Act</i> and other such Sections as are applicable;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS:</b> Funding is requested from the Silviculture Trust for the 2023/2024 Fiscal Year to cover silviculture obligations through fiscal 2024, with an application as follows:</p> <p><b>Band Project Code #505 Reforestation and Silviculture \$298,797</b></p>	



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	<p><b>WHEREAS:</b> The Chief and Council of the McLeod Lake Indian Band hereby confirm under section 6.1 of the McLeod Lake Indian Band Silviculture Trust Agreement that Dean Marshall of Spectrum Resource Group Inc. is a Registered Professional Forester and meets the requirement of a Forester under the Trust;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS:</b> The Chief and Council of the McLeod Lake Indian Band hereby confirm that under section 6.1 of the McLeod Lake Indian Band Silviculture Trust Agreement, under the Supervision of Dean Marshall, Spectrum Resource Group and Dawn Bursey, Controller, the Budget for the Silviculture Trust 2023-24 in the amount of \$298,797.</p> <p><b>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:</b> That the Chief and Council of the McLeod Lake Indian Band hereby appoint Dean Marshall as the McLeod Lake Indian Band Forestry Consultant, and approve the Silviculture Trust Budget for 2023-24 in the amount of <b>\$298,797</b>. and direct the Silviculture Trust to transfer <b>\$298,797</b> to the McLeod Lake Indian Band General Bank Account. The details of which are follows:</p> <p>Financial Institution: 003          Address of Financial Institution: Royal Bank, 550 Victoria St, 2<sup>nd</sup> FL, Prince George, BC          Transit Number: 04530          Account Number: 1001015</p> <p>Dated and signed by a quorum of Chief and Council this 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2023.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Sonya Solonas  <b>Seconded:</b> Anita Vallee  <b>Discussion:</b> Jodie asks if the Chief and Council can involve all Councillors of these operations so they may make decisions together prior to contract completion.  <b>All in Favour: 7    Opposed: 0    Abstention: 0</b></p>	
<p><b>9. BCR 058 Transfer of Diezeh Camp to DCLL</b></p>	<p><b>Adele Chingee, Band Administrator, advises Council that this matter was initially put onto the agenda by the Economic Development Manager, Kandy.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duz Cho logging has the resources to operate the camp TDLP does not</li> <li>• Capital asset with remain under the ownership of the MLIB</li> <li>• Considerable discussion on the determination of what was practical on a day-to-day basis</li> <li>• Councillor Jodie has asks for discussion on what are the ramifications if Council decides not want to transfer this asset; Adele responded that TDLP has no capacity to manage the camp and the running of the camp would need to be contracted out</li> </ul>	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councillor Jodie asked for an overall budget for the transfer and what the camp would cost annually to run; she is advised that the camp is still an asset of the Band and that their revenue source via Canfor could be increased potential revenue for DCLL</li> <li>• Final cost was \$2.4 million on the asset list</li> <li>• The camp was never on the books for TDLP so it was not released to Duz Cho in this manner</li> <li>• Duz Cho is already running two camps - one is roving and is usually near Omineca - one is near Mt. Milligan</li> <li>• Hugh and Jodie have asked for more information regarding the budget and operations for the camp prior to a decision being made</li> <li>• This matter is deferred to the next Council meeting.</li> </ul>	<p>Councillors request additional information regarding the budget and operations prior to making their decision, administration to forward this information to Council.</p>
<p><b>10. Duz Cho Logging Reports</b></p>	<p><b>Adele Chingee, Band Administrator, advises Council this is Bernie Chingee's report regarding DCLL.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion: Council members request a Zoom presentation for Duz Cho Logging as DCLL report was not done at the AGA reporting day</li> <li>• Administration to set this up after speaking with Duz Cho Logging</li> <li>• The Zoom presentation/meeting will take roughly two hours</li> </ul>	<p>Meeting to be booked with Duz Cho Logging to update Council and members on their reports through a Zoom presentation.</p>
<p><b>11. Chief and Council Meeting Minutes</b></p>	<p><b>Adele Chingee, Band Administrator, advises Council that the Executive Assistant, Geraldine, has been sending out these minutes and received feedback from Councillors and Administration.</b></p> <p><b>Motion 20230925#3:</b> Chief and Council hereby move to accept the minutes of June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023 as presented.  <b>Moved:</b> Sonya Solonas  <b>Seconded:</b> Hugh Tweed  <b>All in Favour:</b> 7      <b>Opposed:</b> 0      <b>Abstention:</b> 0</p> <p><b>Motion 20230925#4:</b> Chief and Council hereby move to accept the minutes of July 24, 2023 as presented.  <b>Moved:</b> Sonya Solonas  <b>Seconded:</b> Hugh Tweed  <b>All in Favour:</b> 7      <b>Opposed:</b> 0      <b>Abstention:</b> 0</p>	





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	<p><b>Motion 20230925#5:</b> Chief and Council hereby move to accept the minutes of July 27, 2023 as presented.  <b>Moved:</b> Hugh Tweed  <b>Seconded:</b> Anita Vallee  <b>All in Favour:</b> 7      <b>Opposed:</b> 0      <b>Abstention:</b> 0</p>	
<p><b>BUSINESS FROM PAST MINUTES AND OLD BUSINESS</b></p>		
<p><b>12. BCR 056 Financial Governance Policy and Procedures, 2023</b></p>	<p><b>Bob Inkpen, Special Projects, advises Council that this is part of the process for MLIB to apply for the 10-Year Funding Agreement with Indigenous Services Canada.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The following is information provided in the briefing note to Council.</li> <li>• The Financial Governance Policy is a companion policy for the MLIB Financial Policy and Procedures, Information Policy and Procedures, and Human Resources Policy and Procedures. All these policies originate from the MLIB Financial Administration Law and their adoption is necessary to gain financial certification from First Nations Financial Management Board and approval for Indigenous Service Canada’s 10-year grant.</li> <li>• The Financial Government Policy addresses the following topics: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Delegated and assigned responsibilities</li> <li>2. Conflict of Interest and Code of Conduct</li> <li>3. Standing committees of Council</li> <li>4. Finance and Audit Committee</li> <li>5. Officer Appointment</li> <li>6. External Audit</li> <li>7. Reporting of Compensation</li> <li>8. Whistleblower policy</li> </ol> </li> <li>• The ratification of this policy was deferred for review by the new Council. Zoom meetings were held July 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> to review this policy by Council with some minor changes which have been incorporated into version 3.12.</li> <li>• Brendon Anatole of FN Finance Management Board has reviewed the policy.</li> <li>• <b>NEXT STEPS:</b> After the policy is accepted, arrange an orientation with MLIB Administration Staff and implement the provisions of the policy.</li> </ul>	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>RECOMMENDATION:</b> It is recommended that the policy version 3.12 be accepted at 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading through BCR 056 which is attached for consideration of Council.</li> <li>• The Policy will then be put forward to First Nations Finance Management</li> </ul> <p>BCR 056 read by Adele:</p> <p><b>WHEREAS:</b> The Chief and Council of the McLeod Lake Indian Band is in power to act for and on behalf of the members of the McLeod Lake Indian Band (MLIB) as provided by and set out under Section 74 of the <i>Indian Act</i> and other such Sections as are applicable;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS:</b> MLIB has approved the MLIB Financial Administration Law to govern the financial administration of MLIB;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS:</b> MLIB has prepared a new McLeod Lake Indian Band Financial Governance Policy and Procedures which assigns responsibilities and provides direction to Council and Administration in the governance of the Band consistent with the MLIB Financial Administration Law; and,</p> <p><b>WHEREAS:</b> A copy of the McLeod Lake Indian Band Financial Governance Policy and Procedures is attached hereto as Schedule “A”.</p> <p><b>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:</b> That the Chief and Council of the McLeod Lake Indian Band hereby approves the McLeod Lake Indian Band Financial Governance Policy and Procedures for third and final reading, which shall come into force and effect on the date of this resolution.</p> <p>This resolution is supported by the undersigned and passed this 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2023.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Sonya Solonas <b>Seconded:</b> Hugh Tweed <b>Discussion:</b> Councillor Jodie Ware asks how does this go into effect; she is advised there will be a meeting of managers in late September or early October to introduces the new procedures that administrators must be aware of and Bob can provide a report on how this will roll out. <b>All in Favour:</b> 7    <b>Opposed:</b> 0    <b>Abstention:</b> 0</p>	
<p><b>13. BCR 057 10-Year ISC Funding Arrangement</b></p>	<p><b>Bob Inkpen, Special Projects, advises Council that this is also part of the process for MLIB to apply for the 10-Year Funding Agreement with Indigenous Services Canada.</b></p>	



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- Indigenous Services Canada is offering a change in our contribution arrangement that will replace MLIB's current 5-year block funding contribution to a *New Funding Relationship, commonly known as a 10-year grant*. The difference between a grant and a contribution is that a grant is provided with no conditions whereas a contribution is conditional upon accepting a comprehensive and lengthy funding agreement.
- The new funding arrangement was co-developed by Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and authorized by Chiefs-in-Assembly through Resolution #66/2017, AFN-Canada Joint Report on Fiscal Relations. First Nations Financial Management Board was created to assist First Nations to achieve financial competence.
- The 10-Year Grant will provide important benefits including:
  - Greater opportunities for long-term planning (most contribution agreements have much shorter terms);
  - Flexibility in allocating, managing, and using funding to better accommodate local needs and changing circumstances and priorities – funds provided by ISC may be reallocated to other needs
  - Ability to retain unexpended funds rather than return the funds to ISC; and,
  - Reduced administrative and reporting burden of McLeod Lake to Indigenous Services Canada. (Note, increased reporting required by MLIB to Members.
- For McLeod Lake Indian Band to be considered for the New Funding Arrangement 10 Year Grant for fiscal year 2024-2025, MLIB must:
  - Provide a request to Indigenous Services Canada before September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023 as attached
  - Have a Financial Administration Law (FAL) in place – the MLIB FAL was accepted by the First Nations Financial Management Board in June 2021;
  - Provide audited financial statements for the past five years;
  - Meet financial performance standards set forth by ISC and the AFN.
- Further, MLIB has embarked on a process to upgrade its financial and governance policies to attain First Nations Financial Management Board certification. Requirements includes:
  - Human Resources Governance Policy – approved
  - Financial Information Management Policy and Procedures – approved
  - Finance Policy and Procedures – awaiting approval by Council
  - Governance Policy and Procedures – awaiting Council approval
  - Organization Chart – completed
  - Strategic Planning - pending



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- The previous Council had indicated a desire to enter the new funding relationship with Indigenous Services Canada but first wished to upgrade the band's finance and governance policies and to retain a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA).
  - First Nations Financial Management Board has offered to meet with Council in person or by zoom to explain the ISC New Funding Relationship and outline next steps.
  - NEXT STEPS/ DECISION REQUIRED:
    - 1) Review, amend, and ultimately have approved remaining MLIB finance and governance policies and procedures
    - 2) Notify Indigenous Services Canada through BCR before the end of September of the Band's interest to proceed by BCR.
  - RECOMMENDATION: That Council approve Band Council Resolution 057.
- Discussion:**
- Indian Affairs (ISC) funding arrangements with MLIB, for decades ISC has offered funding arrangements and requires reporting; MLIB is considered a low-risk band and ISC is focusing on Bands that require more support; New funding arrangement is referred to as 10-year grant which provides a budget for 10 years, with room for a few changes over that period; there is decreased reporting responsibilities for MLIB with this route; this is leading to self-government and a withdrawal from ISC.
  - Block funding may be cancelled and Bands who are independent would have heightened responsibility to report to members
  - Strategic planning would need to take place and ISC has asked for advanced notice for bands applying for the 10-year grant so they may have the grant in place by fiscal year 2024- decision needs to be made by the end of September
  - Bob offered an orientation on the 10-year grant provided by the First Nations Management Board
  - Bob has suggested that they could inform ISC that council is considering which would allow for MLIB to be considered an applicant for the 10-year grant and if council decides otherwise, ISC can be informed
  - Reporting to Band members will be higher with the 10-year grant rather than the block funding - this is more beneficial for Band members
  - Chief suggests that the resolution be deferred until Council can do the orientation
  - Councillor Jodie asks if there are consequences if Council does not sign the BCR today, the deadline to advise ISC is the end of September if MLIB wishes to be considered for the



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new funding in April. ISC and FMB need time to review and consider if MLIB is ready for the grant.

- Bob suggested that Council sign the BCR today and he will follow up with more information

BCR 057 read by Adele:

**WHEREAS:** The Chief and Council of the McLeod Lake Indian Band is in power to act for and on behalf of the members of the McLeod Lake Indian Band (MLIB) as provided by and set out under Section 74 of the Indian Act and other such Sections as are applicable;

**WHEREAS:** Indigenous Services Canada is offering a new funding system wherein an agreement will be concluded for a 10-year budget term; reporting requirements will be reduced; and surplus funds can be readily deferred to following fiscal years or reassigned to other band budgets;

**WHEREAS:** The level of funding provided by Indigenous Services Canada will not be reduced for those bands that participate in the program;

**WHEARAS:** McLeod Lake Indian Band has enacted the MLIB Finance Law, is working on a Finance Policy and Procedures, can provide audited financial statements for 2023 and the past five years, and will meet performance standards of the Financial Management Board; and

**WHEREAS:** A Committee of Council and the Band Administrator recommend that the Band apply for the 10-year grant.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Chief and Council of the McLeod Lake Indian Band hereby formally applies to Indigenous Services Canada for consideration to enter the New Funding Arrangement 10-year Budget Grant.

This resolution is supported by the undersigned and passed this 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2023.

**Moved:** Jodie Ware

**Seconded:** Hugh Tweed

**All in Favour:** 7      **Opposed:** 0      **Abstention:** 0



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<p><b>14. BCR 060 DCGC Board of Directors</b></p>	<p><b>Adele Chingee, Band Administrator, advises Council this is put on the agenda by Bob Inkpen, Special Projects, who will speak to this matter.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since 2002, MLIB has had a Board of Directors for its companies consisting of 5 directors, three business people independent of the Band and 2 members representative of MLIB membership who are appointed for an approximate on year term ending at the next (2024) companies' Annual General Meeting.</li> <li>• The companies share directors to save cost and time, but each company could have different directors.</li> <li>• Chief Harley Chingee, as Entities Portfolio holder, has recommended the following people for the three companies:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Jayde Chingee, Executive Assistant and Community Member</li> <li>○ Hugh Tweed, MLIB Councillor, former Duz Cho director, and Businessman</li> <li>○ Keinan Carty, Fire Chief and Community Member</li> <li>○ Laura Chernowski, CPA and accountant for Duz Cho Logging</li> <li>○ Zane Pickering, Businessman</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Grant Zimmerman suggests that with a Limited Partnership, Band Council and Administration representatives should be in the minority.</li> <li>• <b>RECOMMENDATION:</b> That the Chief and Council appoint the following: Jayde Chingee, Hugh Tweed, Keinan Carty, Laura Chernowski and Zane Pickering as the Board of Directors for Duz Cho Construction GP Ltd., Duz Cho Forest Products GP Ltd., and Duz Cho Group of Companies GP Ltd. with a term ending at the 2024 Annual General Meeting as per BCR 060.</li> <li>• <b>Discussion:</b></li> <li>• Question put forward by Hugh Tweed regarding his name being removed from Board of Directors, if and when this is presented is there a conflict with him being on Council; Bob Inkpen advises no.</li> <li>• Councillor Jodie asks that Jayde Chingee to be removed from the list</li> <li>• Adele mentioned there are many risks if a board of Directors is not appointed soon, including losing the tax benefits and exposing MLIB to tax liabilities</li> <li>• Councillor Sonya asks for discussion to take place now and the BCR to be passed</li> <li>• Bob advises that the old board expired at the AGA- therefore there is currently no board of directors</li> <li>• If three board members could be decided upon today and the other two could be decided upon at a later date</li> </ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarification made that Council members are able to sit on the board of directors.</li> <li>• Council agree they support Hugh Tweed’s appointment to the board of directors</li> <li>• Chief suggests Laura Chernowski to be an advisor to the board</li> <li>• Duz Cho Logging GP Limited is not listed as the beneficiaries</li> <li>• Jodie suggested Jayde Chingee be an advisor of the board rather than a director</li> <li>• Chief asked that Jayde and Laura to be stricken from the list from the board of directors</li> </ul> <p><b>N.B. BCR 060 read by Adele; and, later deleted as this needs to be done at a Shareholders meeting.</b></p>	<p><b>BCR 060 to be rescinded and redone at Shareholders meeting in October, 2023.</b></p>
<p><b>15. EDF Taylor Wind Update</b></p>	<p><b>Adele Chingee, Band Administrator, advises Council that Bob Inkpen, Special Projects, will speak to this matter.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2014, Council signed a benefits agreement with EDF regarding the construction of a wind farm on private property south of the Peace River and in the MLIB Traditional Territory that would have allowed for an equity participation, and potential work for Duz Cho Construction.</li> <li>• EDF is a French company with wind assets around the world, and based in Toronto.</li> <li>• The Taylor project was too late for BC Hydro to purchase for more alternative electricity; and, our Agreement dissolved.</li> <li>• Under different government, BC recently announced that they wish to purchase more wind and non-hydro energy and that there must be significant Aboriginal involvement.</li> <li>• EDF has reached out to MLIB (see attached letter) to re-engage. With improvements in wind technology, the Taylor project will produce more electricity at less cost per kilowatt than the 2014 project; MLIB Land Stewardship was in favour of the project previously, but will now have to review a new request for the development of the Taylor project when EDF seeks a permit.</li> <li>• MLIB has benefit agreements with Dokie Wind, Quality Wind, and Merkle Wind, all located in the north-east; these agreements provide a royalty to MLIB based on the volume of electricity produced; during the construction phase, Duz Cho Construction Ltd was active on two of the wind projects.</li> <li>• NEXT STEPS/ DECISION REQUIRED: Mr. John Olsen of EDF Renewables has requested a meeting with Council and suggested a meeting in Prince George or McLeod Lake during</li> </ul>	



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	<p>the week of October 2<sup>nd</sup>; in addition to Council, Land Stewardship and Economic Development should be invited to the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommended Motion: The Chief and Council agrees to meet with EDF Renewables on October ___ at ___AM/PM_ in Prince George/McLeod Lake.</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project is to be located in the South Peace ;</li> <li>• Initially, it was too late for their application - BC Hydro decided to not accept their project regarding alternate energy;</li> <li>• EDF would like to meet with the LRO staff and Council to start from the beginning with this process;</li> <li>• Environmental Assessment needs to take place as well;</li> <li>• If Council is agreeable, EDF will meet in McLeod Lake or in Prince George with Land Referral Office staff in attendance; Meeting is set for October 11th with EDF at 10:00 AM at the Prince George Office.</li> </ul>	<p>Administration is to inform Nathan Prince and the LRO about the EDF meeting date so he can be in attendance.</p>
<p><b>16. Strategic Planning with Tapestry Advisory Group</b></p>	<p><b>Adele Chingee, Band Administrator, advises Council that Ashley Whitworth of the Tapestry Advisory Group is doing the Strategic Planning for Council and Managers.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adele advised Council that Ashley Whitworth suggested the dates of October 23<sup>rd</sup> &amp; 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023; possibly at the Marriott with start time each day at 9:00 a.m.</li> <li>• The MLIB Council and administration is continuing building an effective governance structure and is committed to leading strategic agenda on-behalf of the community. To provide effective oversight, an updated Strategic Plan is required.</li> <li>• The process for strategic planning will take multiple sessions with Council and staff; at times together, and other times as separate workshop discussions. Successful strategic plans will include understanding the current context, creating overarching directional statements and Council priorities, including the intended outcomes for members and other interested partners.</li> <li>• Strategic Plans require participation, contribution, and commitment from each Council Member as well as the management team and staff within Administration. It is the recommendation to schedule October 22 &amp; 23 to conduct an in-person workshop, facilitated by Ashley Whitworth, of Tapestry Advisory Group.</li> <li>• NEXT STEPS/ DECISION REQUIRED: This commits Council schedules to the proposed dates, and allows for planning and time to invite managers and staff.</li> </ul>	





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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MOTION (if required): Chief and Council hereby approve the dates of October 23<sup>rd</sup> &amp; 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 as dates for strategic planning for the Council to be facilitated by Ashley Whitworth of Tapestry Advisory Group.</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion 20230925#6:</b> Chief and Council hereby approve the dates of October 23<sup>rd</sup> &amp; 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 as dates for strategic planning for the Council to be facilitated by Ashley Whitworth of Tapestry Advisory Group.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Jodie Ware <b>Seconded:</b> Shelby Mitchell</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b> Councillor Sonya requests that regarding the location in Prince George, as there will be limited staff in the Band Office, can Band members be present at the strategic planning to be involved in the process: Chair/Chief Harley says that the voting process of the Councillors ensure that the Councillors are able to make decisions on behalf of the Band members, and, to get Band members involved would be time consuming. Councillor Sonya says she believes that for this particular event that would be worthwhile.</p> <p><b>All in Favour:</b> 7    <b>Opposed:</b> 0    <b>Abstention:</b> 0</p>	
<p><b>17. BCR 059 COVID-19 Vaccine</b></p>	<p><b>Adele Chingee, Band Administrator, advises Council that the Council requested this be put back onto the agenda for this meeting.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Federal policy on COVID-19 vaccination came into effect on October 6, 2021, at a time when vaccination provided an effective occupational health and safety measure by limiting the spread of COVID-19. On June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Chief and Council approved Motion 20220527#3 requiring that all employees of the McLeod Lake Indian Band be vaccinated with the COVID-19 vaccine in order to be employed by the Band.</li> <li>• The Federal <a href="#">Policy on COVID-19 Vaccination for the Core Public Administration (CPA) Including the Royal Canadian Mounted Police</a> was suspended as of June 20, 2022. Federal employees are no longer required to be vaccinated as a condition of employment. This follows a review of the current public health situation, notably the evolution of the virus and vaccination rates in Canada.</li> <li>• As of June 20, 2022:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Federal public servants who were subject to administrative leave without pay (LWOP) as a result of the vaccination policy, may resume regular work duties with pay.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Accommodation measures that were put in place as a result of the vaccination policy will end.</li> <li>○ Consideration of outstanding accommodation requests will end.</li> <li>● <b>RECOMMENDATION:</b> That Council support the attached BCR 059</li> </ul> <p>BCR 059 read by Adele:</p> <p><b>WHEREAS:</b> The Chief and Council of the McLeod Lake Indian Band is in power to act for and on behalf of the members of the McLeod Lake Indian Band as provided by and set out under Section 74 of the Indian Act and other such Sections as are applicable;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS:</b> The Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, Government of Canada suspended mandatory vaccinations for federally regulated employees, effective June 20, 2022;</p> <p><b>WHEREAS:</b> On June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Chief and Council approved <b>Motion 20220527#3</b> requiring that all employees of the McLeod Lake Indian Band be vaccinated with the COVID-19 vaccine in order to be employed by the Band; and,</p> <p><b>WHEREAS:</b> The Band Administration is now requesting that Chief and Council rescind the above-noted motion to allow the hiring of non-vaccinated qualified employees for all positions.</p> <p><b>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:</b> That the Chief and Council of the McLeod Lake Indian Band hereby agrees to rescind Motion 20220527#3; and, approve that all employees of the Band will no longer be required to be vaccinated with the COVID-19 vaccine in order to be employed with the Band.</p> <p>This resolution is supported by the undersigned and passed this 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2023.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Jodie Ware <b>Seconded:</b> Shelby Mitchell <b>All in Favour:</b> 7    <b>Opposed:</b> 0    <b>Abstention:</b> 0</p>	
<p><b>18. BCR 061 G2G Agreement re: Term Sheet</b></p>	<p><b>Adele Chingee, Band Administrator, advises Council that MLIB representatives wish to reopen the G2G and renegotiate the terms of the Agreement.</b></p>	



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BCR 061 read by Adele:

**WHEREAS:** The Chief and Council of the McLeod Lake Indian Band is in power to act for and on behalf of the members of the McLeod Lake Indian Band as provided by and set out under Section 74 of the *Indian Act* and other such Sections as are applicable;

**WHEREAS:**

- A. McLeod Lake Indian Band (MLIB) and the Province of British Columbia (BC) entered into a Government to Government (G2G) Agreement in or around 2017, which existing Agreement is set to expire on March 30, 2024;
- B. MLIB and BC have agreed to continue with the G2G work with a renewed and amended G2G Agreement that includes new tools and modernized approaches that help advance reconciliation between these governments, and extends the term of the G2G Agreement for 3 more years;
- C. To date, negotiations have centered around a term sheet that seeks to modernize and enhance the current G2G Agreement – including by:
  - i. establishing a process to replace the 2010 Procedures with a shared decision-making process that enhances collaboration between the Parties, respects each Parties' governance responsibilities and advances the implementation of United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) as the framework for reconciliation;
  - ii. collaboratively working to identify and implement measures to enhance management of wildlife populations and habitat within MLIB's Territory, including to address site specific, regional and cumulative impacts thereon, and in accordance with MLIB Indigenous laws and BC laws;
  - iii. collaboratively exploring a land use planning process;
  - iv. collaboratively exploring means to support and jointly develop actions to enhance the role and authority of the MLIB Guardian / Lands Stewards Program; and
  - v. collaboratively seeking to advance measures to improve the social and economic wellbeing of the MLIB community and its members); and
- D. While negotiations have advanced to a near final form of the term sheet, as enclosed with this Band Council Resolution, BC representatives at the G2G working group table recently informed the MLIB representatives that BC has denied MLIB's request for funding to negotiate the G2G Agreement amendment.



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	<p><b>NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:</b> That at a duly called meeting of Chief and Council, with a quorum of Council present, Chief and Council hereby resolve as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The MLIB representatives at the G2G Working Group table are hereby instructed to:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. advance negotiations of the G2G Agreement amendment based on the current term sheet, as appended to this resolution;</li> <li>b. express to BC's G2G working group representatives MLIB Chief and Council's significant disappointment with BC's refusal to provide funding for such agreement amendment negotiations, which refusal fails to uphold BC's commitment to advance reconciliation with MLIB, uphold the rights recognition under the UNDRIP, and recognize the substantive benefits to BC that the G2G relationship with MLIB provides; and</li> <li>c. on a without prejudice basis to MLIB's ongoing disagreement to and disappointment with BC's denial of funding, advance the negotiations of the G2G agreement amendment while continuing to actively seek sufficient funding to cover MLIB's costs incurred in advancing such negotiations with BC.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p>This resolution is supported by the undersigned and passed this 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2023.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Sonya Solonas  <b>Seconded:</b> Hugh Tweed  <b>Discussion:</b> Councillor Jodie requests that Elders be present at the G2G meetings and can Elders be added to the G2G portfolio?  <b>All in Favour:</b> 7    <b>Opposed:</b> 0    <b>Abstention:</b> 0</p>	
<p><b>19. Council Portfolio List Discussion</b></p>	<p><b>Adele Chingee, Band Administrator, advises Council that Councillor Jodie requested this be brought back to the table for further discussion.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councillor Jodie recommends taking out staff to further Council involvement, not that administration cannot be involved but further the engagement of Council members;</li> <li>• Councillor Sonya suggested that Council tries a new approach and if it doesn't work, it can be amended at a later date;</li> <li>• Sonya put forward the suggestion of adding Restorative Justice to Child and Families.</li> <li>• Councillor Anita Vallee is added to land management portfolio;</li> <li>• Councillor Anita Vallee added to Elders portfolio;</li> <li>• Entire Council added to AGA portfolio;</li> </ul>	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councillor Jodie Ware added to Education and Youth;</li> <li>• Entire Council added to Election Code and Membership</li> <li>• Councillor Sonya Solonas added to Finance and Audit;</li> <li>• Councillor Anita Vallee added to Housing Committee;</li> <li>• Councillor Sonya Solonas added to FNHA and Health and Safety;</li> <li>• Councillor Hugh Tweed added to Forestry;</li> <li>• Entire Council added to Legal;</li> <li>• Entire Council added to Policies;</li> <li>• Councillor Jodie Ware added to Human Resources - Band Administrator removed;</li> <li>• Councillor Sonya Solonas added to Emergency Management;</li> <li>• Councillor Hugh Tweed added to G2G;</li> <li>• Entire Council added to Major Projects;</li> <li>• Councillors Jodie Ware and Hugh Tweed added to Communication;</li> <li>• Councillor Hugh Tweed added to BCAFN;</li> <li>• Councillor Jane Inyallie added to MLIB Trusts with Jodie Ware as an alternate;</li> <li>• Councillor Hugh Tweed added to MLIB Community Forests; and</li> <li>• Councillor Jane Inyallie added to Child and Families.</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion 20200228#7:</b> Chief and Council hereby moves to approve the Portfolio Updates as discussed today.  <b>Moved:</b> Hugh Tweed  <b>Seconded:</b> Jane Inyallie  <b>All in Favour: 7    Opposed: 0    Abstention: 0</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Administration is to update the Council Portfolio Listing as discussed today.</p>
12:16 - 12:25 Break		
20. Deputy Chief Appointment	Deferred to next meeting	
21. Chief and Council Policy Amendments/Review	<p><b>Adele Chingee, Band Administrator, advises Council this is put onto the agenda at the request of Councillor Jodie.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councillor Jodie says for example the appointment of a Deputy Chief, ongoing review of Chief and Council Policy; and, review of media release statements;</li> </ul>	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councillor Sonya asks for confirmation that Bob Inkpen suggested that Council meet in order to make changes to the policies; Bob suggested that most of the policy is sound, but the new Council should review to understand what is in the policy;</li> <li>• Councillor Jodie agrees and says this is not to contest the policy, but simply to review and make any updates/changes as needed/required; and</li> <li>• Sonya suggests looking at this along with the Strategic Plan Review.</li> <li>• Chief and Council Policy Review dates will be looked at along with the Strategic Plan.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>22. BCR 062 Council Honoraria</b></p>	<p><b>Adele Chingee, Band Administrator, advises Council that she was advised to bring this back to the Council table for their reconsideration. Bob Inkpen, Special Projects, provided the following information.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The MLIB Chief and Council remuneration requires review to adjust for current roles, responsibilities, and market alignment. Year-over-year inflation has been more than three percent and as high as seven percent monthly. The cost of living and market alignment of the current Chief and Council remuneration is out of market alignment.</li> <li>• MLIB recommends approving an interim increase to Chief and Councillor remuneration and conducting a Chief and Council remuneration review to align with the market accurately. The average salary across Canada for Councillors in 2014 was \$65,791, excluding outliers. McLeod Lake adjustment should increase from \$60,000 to \$80,000<sup>1</sup> for Councillors and \$132,000 to \$152,000 for the Chief.</li> <li>• MLIB recommends conducting a complete market alignment to the updated roles and responsibilities and recommendations for salaries and all benefits.</li> <li>• NEXT STEPS/ DECISION REQUIRED:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Salary adjustments may be made with the effective date of Council appointments.</li> <li>2) Administration to manage a comprehensive remuneration study to be conducted by a professional consultant or HR firm and request recommendations for the Council.</li> </ol> </li> <li>• RECOMMENDATION:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Approve the interim increase of \$20,000 per Councillor effective June 7, 2023;</li> <li>2) Approve a comprehensive remuneration market assessment and bring recommendations to the Council for decision; and</li> <li>3) Council to approve BCR 063 in support of this.</li> </ol> </li> <li>• <b>Discussion:</b></li> </ul>	

<sup>1</sup> Talent.com reports the average First Nations salary in Canada in 2023 is \$78,094.



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- Honoraria has remained constant since 2014;
- Work of Chief and Council has grown substantially since this honorarium was set; and
- Wealth and annual revenue of MLIB has increased greatly since 2014.
- Bob advises Council that he could have an analysis done by the November Council meeting (November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023)

BCR 062 read by Adele:

**WHEREAS:** The Chief and Council of the McLeod Lake Indian Band is in power to act for and on behalf of the members of the McLeod Lake Indian Band as provided by and set out under Section 74 of the *Indian Act* and other such sections as are applicable;

**WHEREAS:** The Council honouraria has remained constant since June 2014 while the Canada Consumer Price Index has increased by 22% over the nine-year period;

**WHEREAS:** The work of Chief and Council has grown greatly since 2014 with numerous Council and committee meetings, major investments to review, and difficult agreements to conclude thus requiring Chief and Council to work full time or more; and,

**WHEREAS:** The wealth and annual revenue of MLIB has increased greatly since 2014 such that the position of Council is full time.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** That the honouraria of Chief and Council be increased to reflect the cost of living and increased workload as follows:

1. Council Honouraria, \$80,000 per year; and
2. Chief Honouraria, \$152,000 per year.

With the Chief and Council honoraria rates to be effective from June 7, 2022.

This resolution is supported by the undersigned and passed this 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2023.

**Moved:** Sonya Solonas

**Seconded:** Shelby Mitchell

Bob says that he could have analysis done by the November council meeting (November 23rd, 2023)



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	<p><b>Discussion:</b> Councillor Jodie asks if the briefing note should be modified so it isn't just an interim increase. Councillor Sonya asks if this could be added to the Strategic Plan Review to ensure that it not only benefits current council but future councils.  <b>All in Favour: 7    Opposed: 0    Abstention: 0</b></p>	
<p><b>23. Housing Committee 2023</b></p>	<p><b>Adele Chingee, Band Administrator, advises Council that this item comes from the Band's Housing department.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The housing department has received applications from a posting put out in July, 2023 for the required Housing Committee members for Council's review and selection;</li> <li>• <b>The applicants are:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Doris LeClair,</li> <li>2) Linda Inyallie,</li> <li>3) Jolene Solonas,</li> <li>4) Ricky Roen,</li> <li>5) Deborah Prince,</li> <li>6) Margaret Solonas,</li> <li>7) Tristen Solonas,</li> <li>8) Geraldine Solonas, and</li> <li>9) Marion Jackson.</li> </ol> </li> <li>• NEXT STEPS/ DECISION REQUIRED: Council to confirm members for the Housing Committee. There is a Housing committee meeting tentatively scheduled for tomorrow;</li> <li>• Suggestion for administration not to be on the housing committee;</li> <li>• Chair/Chief Harley advises that the 2021-2023 Housing Committee be dissolved effective immediately and appoint: Doris LeClair, Linda Inyallie, Jolene Solonas, Deborah Prince, Margaret Solonas, Geraldine Solonas, Marion Jackson and Ricky Roen to a new committee. Meeting honoraria will be \$100 per meeting; with the quorum could be shifted from 5 members to 3.</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion 20230925#8:</b> Chief and Council hereby accept and approve the new Housing Committee effective immediately as: Doris LeClair, Linda Inyallie, Jolene Solonas, Ricky Roen, Deborah Prince, Margaret Solonas, Tristen Solonas, Geraldine Solonas and Marion Jackson with meeting honoraria set at \$100 per meeting; and, the quorum may be 3 to 5 depending on availability of members for each meeting.  <b>Moved:</b> Anita Vallee</p>	





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	<p><b>Seconded:</b> Jane Inyallie  <b>Discussion:</b> Councillor Sonya asks about the exclusion of administration staff on the housing committee; discussion follows and Council agrees to allow administration on housing committee  <b>All in Favour: 7    Opposed: 0    Abstention: 0</b></p>	
<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>		
<p><b>24. Triplex Names</b></p>	<p><b>Bob Inkpen, Special Projects, advises Council that now that the two tri-plexes are completed, these buildings should be named, so far, the buildings have Tse'khene names, which we are suggesting.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The triplexes are complete and tenants are moving in.</li> <li>• It has been the recent policy of the Band to name major buildings rather than use generic names, such as             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Multipurpose Building became the Ah'da Centre</li> <li>2) The independent living apartments was named Golden Eagle Nest in Tse'khene</li> <li>3) The duplex is still the duplex</li> <li>4) The triplex lots 11 and 28 will remain as Triplex if it not given its name.</li> </ol> </li> <li>• We called our CMHC Rapid House project Welcome Home. Meaghan Van Somer recommends <i>Da nu ch'e-a koh</i> or Welcome Home House 11 and 28. Council may have a different name. Once a name is chosen, a sign will be prepared. There could be a dedication at the fall quarterly meeting.</li> <li>• NEXT STEPS:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Decide on a name or names</li> <li>2) Prepare and attach all weather signage and number apartments/units</li> </ol> </li> <li>• RECOMMENDATION:              Motion: Chief and Council hereby approves to rename the one-bedroom triplex on Lot 11 _____, and the two-bedroom triplex on lot 28, _____, and have signs prepared and installed with dedication at the AGA.              Discussion: deferred to a future meeting.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Deferred to a future meeting.</b></p>
<p><b>25. Election and Membership Codes Amendments</b></p>	<p><b>Bob Inkpen, Special Projects, advises Council that he has prepared the following information in a briefing to Council.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MLIB Custom Election Code (2013)</b></li> </ul>	



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- For the most part, the 2013 Custom Election Code provides all the key elements and direction to provide an Electoral Officer to complete an election for the mandated offices of Council.
- The 2013 election code does have conflicting timeline requirements and is unclear on some matters that could lead to appeals. There are some ambiguities and missing elements such as how and where to appeal, the Candidate Newsletter and Candidate Forum, and ill-defined terms such as residency. Also elected were officials for Trustees and Land Management Committee but no provisions for the differences of these offices from that of Council. The mandated date for the election being the first Friday in June is fine but the three-year term of office should be approximate as after some elections, we have the old and newly elected candidates both with authority for a few days and, in other elections, the formerly elected officials retire days before the newly elected officials are granted power. Finally, the use of electronic voting has been popular and should be defined, procedures detailed, and included in a revised election code.
- In the recent election, candidates and voters encountered some frustrations and difficulties in voting that should be reduced or eliminated for the June 2026 MLIB General Election.

**MLIB Custom Membership Code (2004)**

- The 2004 Membership Code was designed to be non-political with administration following prescribed criteria to determine whether a person can become a member of the McLeod Lake Indian Band. There is no role for Council or Membership other than to ensure that the criteria of accepting a new member was followed as outlined in the code.
- Bitterness arose as some new members that were joined to the Band seemed to be more interested in financial compensation than being an active member of the Tse'khene community. A moratorium on accepting new members was enacted pending a revision the 2004 Membership Code. Unfortunately, the children of Members were caught by the moratorium and cannot be added to Band membership until the Code is amended.
- In 2013, 2015, and 2019, Council called for a referendum to amend the Membership Code. The Code did not meet its obligation to have 50% of eligible voters vote, although a majority of those that did vote voted in favour of the proposed amendment.
- A referendum to amend the 2004 Custom Election Code was held jointly with the Membership referenda in 2015. The Election Code, which only required a simple majority, was passed.



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- Referenda can be difficult for all governments, whether a First Nation or a country. Some of the issues regarding low voter turnout are:
  - 1) Some people are apathetic and do not wish to be involved in politics or Band affairs.
  - 2) Some people are uninformed or confused regarding the issues and leave the decision of yes or no to others who may be more knowledgeable.
  - 3) Some people do not think that the issues are important.
- For those that vote no:
  - 1) There may be items in the amendment that they firmly disagree with.
  - 2) There may be disinformation.
  - 3) There may be a lack of trust in the government and its officials.
- Successful referenda are characterized by extensive public consultation, and educated discussion of the amendments. It may be necessary to reward people who vote either “yes” or “no” to achieve a 50% +1% community vote.
- Referenda

As the 2013 Election Code is also used as a guide to conduct referenda, there is insufficient direction for the Electoral Officer or Administration. Voter eligibility and timing are guided by the Code, the requirement for an electoral officer followed, etc. Ninety days notice before the vote is provided with the day of the referendum chosen by Council. Amendment to the Membership Code must be at an Annual General Meeting. A specific chapter on referenda should be included in a revised election code.
- Cost

The most recent election cost for a certified electoral officer was \$35,000 with total election costs exceeding \$40,000. As there is less work for the election officer to do a referendum than in a general election, the cost should be less.
- Timing

For the Election Code, the date of the referendum can be any day with 90 days notice to the electors. For the Membership Code, however, the referendum must be during an Annual General Assembly. If combined, the date of the referenda would be the 2024 or 2025 AGA.
- Thresholds

The 2013 Election Code requires a simple majority in favour of the amendment. The 2004 Membership Code requires a double majority – 50% plus one vote of the eligible voters must vote for or against the amendment, and of those votes, 50% plus one vote in favour of the amendment is required to pass.



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- Committees were formed by the 2020 Council to pursue amendments for both codes. The Membership Committee could not arrive at a consensus so the process was abandoned. The election reform awaited a decision to proceed with the membership referendum to achieve economies. There was no vote during the term.
- Lists of recommended amendments is available for both codes for future reference.
- NEXT STEPS:
  - 1) Two Chief and Council committees be established, one for each Code
  - 2) Seek a facilitator to assist the committees in consultation with members, preparing a clear referendum question, selection of an electoral officer, and administrating the referendum. A Request for Proposals will be prepared.
  - 3) Legal council be retained to review the proposed codes
- RECOMMENDATION:

Council moves that two committees reporting to Council be formed to pursue amendments to the 2013 MLIB Custom Election Code and 2004 MLIB Custom Membership Code, each with the following basic structure:

  - Council Members – two
  - Membership – two
  - Administration – two
  - Other, as required
- Establish a budget for each committee
- Contract a facilitator to work with both committees
- Council Committees working together are to set time lines, for example:
  - Referenda, AGA Friday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024
    - Polls open McLeod Lake August 8 and 9; Prince George, August 7
    - Mail-in ballots and Electronic Voting deadline, 4 PM Friday, August 7
  - Notice of Referenda – before May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024
  - Community Information Meetings
  - Referenda questions, approved by Council before April 1, 2024
  - Selection of Electoral officer by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023
  - Committee Consultations with Membership Winter Quarterlies 2023
  - Review of work of past committees
  - Committee organization – October 2023
- **Discussion:**
  - 2004 membership code needs amendments;



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moratorium put on around 2012-2014 - this includes some children of the Band that are not members;</li> <li>• Membership Code must have a double majority for an amendment to proceed, requires 205 voters voting for or against the amendment, more than 205 you move to a referendum; the vote must be during an AGA;</li> <li>• Election code has flaws but not many, though there are present ambiguities with the codes;</li> <li>• Comment from membership committee is that the Council could have been more engaged with the advocacy for amendments;</li> <li>• Recommendation is to establish two committees, target the Friday of the AGM (AGA?) in 2024 for amendments;</li> <li>• 2019 membership code not passed, 2020 membership committee reviewed the code and made recommendations for changes;</li> <li>• Facilitators need to be suggested by December in order to meet the August deadline for a referendum;</li> <li>• Bob Inkpen states that elections are not cheap, a referendum is slightly more affordable; and</li> <li>• Adele suggests that the 2019 Code be reviewed and amended from there.</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion 20230925#9:</b> Chief and Council hereby moves to create two committees which report to Council to pursue amendments to the 2013 MLIB Custom Election Code and 2004 MLIB Custom Membership Code, each with the following basic structure: two Council members, two Band members, two administration staff, and other, as required; establish a budget for each committee; contract a facilitator to work with both committees; and, Council Committees working together are to set time lines.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Sonya Solonas  <b>Seconded:</b> Jane Inyallie  <b>Discussion:</b> Councillor Jodie asks if there would be an opportunity for Tanya (Solonas?) to advise on this?  <b>All in Favour:</b> 7     <b>Opposed:</b> 0     <b>Abstention:</b> 0</p>	<p>Administration is to assist by setting up two committees as discussed.</p>
<p><b>26. PRRD Site C Work Camp Facility</b></p>	<p><b>Adele Chingee, Band Administrator, advises Council that a letter came from the Peace River Regional District, wishing Council's input as follows:</b></p>	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At its July 20, 2023, Board Meeting, the Regional Board discussed the possibility of utilizing BC Hydro land located at the Site C Work Camp or some of the decommissioned buildings following the completion of the Site C dam for a regional Treatment Centre and the Regional Board resolved: MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED To authorize staff to contact BC Hydro, Local First Nations, North Wind Wellness Centre, Northern Health, the First Nations Health Authority, and the Province to determine their interest in a regional treatment centre utilizing BC Hydro land located at the Site C Work Camp or some of the decommissioned buildings following the completion of the Site C dam.</li> <li>• The Peace River Regional District would like to facilitate a meeting to discuss your interest in the matter further; please send your response by September 25, 2023, to prrd.dc@prrd.bc.ca.</li> <li>• BC Hydro had plan to decommission the camp and engaged with First Nations in order to determine if there was an interest in using the facility for other purposes.</li> <li>• Another idea was making use of their dining room chairs.</li> <li>• A tour could take place to look at the modular buildings and the items they would be selling. Jodie suggested that the Education Director be in attendance for this tour.</li> <li>• Should be closing end of 2024-beginning of 2025.</li> <li>• Adele had suggested buying some of the facilities to be used for a learning center.</li> <li>• Sonya suggested that a trailer could be designated for a youth drop-in center.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>27. MLIB Elders Strategy</b></p>	<p><b>Adele Chingee, Band Administrator, advises Council that this is Councillor Jane Inyallie’s agenda item where she provided a briefing as follows:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The MLIB respects and acknowledges that Elders share their knowledge and guidance for the benefit of the community, continuation of our language, and access to traditional practices. To formalize this group, the Elders Councillor requests to establish an Elders Committee or Elders Circle to engage in critical discussions and recommend activities to promote wellness and culture for on and off-reserve Elders.</li> <li>• Our elders hold value and importance in the community; some have distinct gifts and traditional knowledge. Inviting elders into specific conversations can surface protocols and practices based on our community’s teachings and increase our understanding of the challenges elders face.</li> </ul>	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After inviting and meeting with elders through a series of engagement sessions, the Elder Councillor recommends to Council for the improvement the current Elders Program.</li> <li>• NEXT STEPS/ DECISION REQUIRED: The Council endorses the Elders Councillor to engage in direct communication and engagement with on and off-reserve elders with the support of the Elders Coordinator.</li> <li>• RECOMMENDATION: That Council approves the Elders Councillor to engage directly with the MLIB elders.</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating a department for the Elders, Jane believes community is not using the Elders knowledge well and could begin the process to have more administrative order;</li> <li>• Elders that Jane has spoken with are very much in support of this, wanting to do more and be more involved and more organized; and</li> <li>• Councillor Jane is seeking approval to get the Elders contact list as membership contact information normally not given out for confidentiality reasons</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion 20230925#10:</b> Chief and Council hereby moves to support that the Elders Contact List be released to Councillor Jane Inyallie to establish an Elders Committee or Elders Circle to engage in critical discussions and recommend activities to promote wellness and culture for on and off-reserve Elders.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Hugh Tweed  <b>Seconded:</b> Jodie Ware  <b>All in Favour:</b> 7      <b>Opposed:</b> 0      <b>Abstention:</b> 0</p>	
<p><b>28. Council Executive Assistant</b></p>	<p><b>Adele Chingee, Band Administrator, advises Council that Councillor Sonya requested this be put on the agenda who provided a briefing as follows:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The MLIB Council is building an effective governance structure and supports the governance best practice of separation of Administration and the Council. The Council currently shares the Administrative Executive Assistant with the Band Manager. Hiring a dedicated Council Executive Assistant will increase effectiveness for both the Administration and Council.</li> <li>• The work to build the new Council and support the strategic agenda will increase the support needed for Council activities and Councillors. In alignment with the Governance</li> </ul>	



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	<p>Policy section 3.3.2<sup>2</sup> Employees of Chief and Council, the Council can hire a dedicated administrative support employee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The roles and responsibilities of a Council Executive Assistant will be consistent with duties outlined in the Governance Policy, HR policies, and other applicable procedures. A job description would be developed in consultation with Councillors and the HR to describe this new role specifically.</li> <li>• <b>NEXT STEPS/ DECISION REQUIRED:</b> Council to endorse separating Administrative from Council duties and hire a new position for Council Executive Administration.</li> <li>• <b>RECOMMENDATION:</b> Council approves the role of a Council Executive Assistant; and, approve a Council delegate to work with the HR to develop the job description and recruitment process.</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adele, Band Administrator, advises Council that this request from Councillor Sonya may have potential legal implications in creating a Council Executive Assistant position.</li> <li>• Response is that the request is for an additional role to exist for an EA simply for Council, one that would not bridge administration.</li> <li>• Councillor Jodie suggests that this be moved to in-camera.</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion 20230925#11:</b> Chief and Council hereby move to go in-camera at 1:30 p.m.  <b>Moved:</b> Sonya Solonas  <b>Seconded:</b> Jane Inyallie  <b>All in Favour:</b> 7      <b>Opposed:</b> 0      <b>Abstention:</b> 0</p> <p><b>Motion 20230925#12:</b> Chief and Council hereby move to go out-of-camera at 1:48 p.m.  <b>Moved:</b> Hugh Tweed  <b>Seconded:</b> Sonya Solonas  <b>All in Favour:</b> 7      <b>Opposed:</b> 0      <b>Abstention:</b> 0</p>	
<p><b>29. Calendar</b></p>	<p>1) September 30, National Indigenous Day, MLIB Offices Closure Discussion</p>	

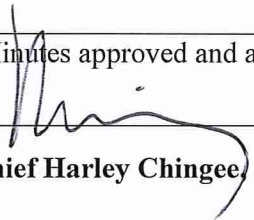


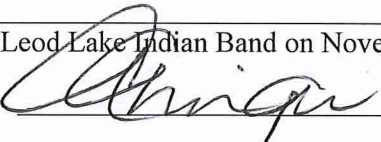


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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2) October 12, 2023 Council Meeting with Centerra Gold/Tompson Creek Metals</li> <li>3) October 17, 2023 Council Governance Training with J. Sterritt</li> <li>4) October 22-23, 2023 Council Governance Training with Tapestry</li> <li>5) October 29 - November 3, 2023 National Elders Gathering 2023, Edmonton</li> <li>6) December Quarterly Meetings Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Discussion</li> <li>7) Next Meeting Set for October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023</li> </ul>	
<p><b>30. For Reading Only</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) October 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting with Centerra Gold Agenda</li> <li>2) RCMP August 2023 Report</li> </ul>	
<p><b>31. Adjournment</b></p>	<p><b>Motion 20230925#13:</b> Chief and Council hereby move to adjourn this meeting at 1:48 p.m.  <b>Moved:</b> Jodie Ware  <b>Seconded:</b> Anita Vallee  <b>All in Favour: 7      Opposed: 0      Abstention: 0</b></p>	

Minutes approved and adopted by Chief and Council of the McLeod Lake Indian Band on November 24, 2023.

  
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**Chief Harley Chingee, Chair**

  
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**Adele Chingee, Band Administrator**