

Waskesiu Community Association Inc.
Annual General Meeting
Terrace Gardens, Waskesiu, SK
Sunday, August 11, 2013 - 10:00 am

MINUTES
(subject to ratification)

Brian Morgan, Chairman
Cabin Owners Representative

Janice MacKinnon
Member at Large

Randy Kershaw
Member at Large

Jim Kerby
Cottage Owners Representative

Nancy Wood-Archer, Secretary - Treasurer.
Commercial Lessees' Representative

Present: 50 members; Parks Canada Agency-Alan Fehr, Dustin Guedo, RCMP-Staff Sergeant Alen Pressler, Fire Chief- Paul See, SaskPower - Brian Allen, Frank Banwell - Davey Tree

Community Council Chairman 2012/13 and Chair of the meeting – Brian Morgan

1. Opening Remarks:

- Adoption of 2013 Agenda

Rob Phillips / Bert Jackson

Carried

- Adoption of 2012 AGM minutes

Grit McCreath/Gerry Gilchrist

Carried

- Introduction of 2012/13 Council Members

2. Fiscal and Financial Report - Janice MacKinnon

- Waiver of Appointment of Auditor and Reviewer's Report for the 2012/13 Fiscal Year:

Moved by **Bert Jackson** and seconded by **Bob Head** **Carried**

"That the Waskesiu Community Council dispense with the appointment of an auditor and reviewer's report for the 2012/13 fiscal year of the Corporation."

- Presentation and Adoption of 2012/13 Financial Statements:

Moved by **Donna Pearson and** seconded by **Mona Finlyason** **Carried**

"That the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the last fiscal year of the Corporation, in the form presented to this Annual General Meeting, be and the same are hereby approved and adopted."

- Community Budget Report

**Waskesiu Community Association Inc.
April 1, 2012 – March 31, 2013
Statement of Assets & Liabilities**

Credit Union Bank Account		
Opening Balance April 1, 2012	\$ 6,993.57	
Deposits	\$24,371.10	
Expenditures	(20,722.91)	
Reconciled bank balance, March 31, 2013	<u>\$10,641.76</u>	
Accounts Receivable – Parks Canada	\$9,316.29	
Credit Union Term Deposit:		
April 1, 2012 balance	\$ 15,210.00	
Interest @ March 31, 2012	304.20	
March 31, 2013 Balance	<u>\$ 15,514.20</u>	
Total Assets March 31, 2013		<u>\$ 35,472.25</u>
No Liabilities		

**Waskesiu Community Association Inc.
April 1, 2012 – March 31, 2013
Operating Statement**

Revenues:		
Parks Canada Grant	\$ 24,273.43	
Parks Canada Admin Fee	1,525.32	
Waskesiu.org advertising	5,899.59	
Interest Income	<u>304.20</u>	
Total Revenue		\$ 32,002.54
Expenses:		
Administrator Wages	\$ 8,358.00	
Council Meeting Expenses	11,711.35	
Minister of Finance	10.00	
Post Office Box	142.80	
Bank Charges	131.60	
Web Site Maintenance	899.59	
Printing Expenses - Election	483.07	
Memorial Donation	500.00	
Total Expenses		<u>\$ 22,236.41</u>
Surplus (deficit) for the year March 31, 2013		<u>\$ 9,687.38</u>

3. Chairman's Year End Report

On behalf of the Waskesiu Community Council, welcome to the 2012-2013 Waskesiu Community Association Annual General Membership meeting. As always, Council has been fully involved and engaged in dealing with a whole host of diverse issues relating to the townsite and immediate surrounding area with Parks Canada and other stakeholders, in our collective efforts to enhance and sustain the beauty, security, and economic and environmental viability of our wilderness community.

It has been a distinct pleasure to work with my fellow councilors: Bryan Matheson, Janice MacKinnon, Nancy Wood-Archer, Brent Hamel, Randy Kershaw, and Jim Kerby, all ably assisted by our Administrator, Noreen Matthews.

Following the decision in 2012 to spray for the spruce budworm, as well as the completion of the requisite fund raising, successful sprays took place on June 7 and June 12, 2012 followed by two more sprays on June 4 and June 7, 2013. We were advised in October that spruce defoliation levels had decreased by 30% from 2011. This is welcome information and while the spray program cannot be singled out as the sole source of this positive result, it was a major contributing factor. We are pleased to have Dustin Guedo here today who, later in the meeting, will provide us with a detailed and updated report of the state of the health of our trees. Dustin is the Ecosystem specialist for Prince Albert National Park.

Thanks to the efforts of our local Parks Canada staff, a lot of work was put into grooming the beaches at South Bay, Trippes Beach, Paignton and Birch Bay as well as at Namekus Lake. Regrettably, due to the unprecedented precipitation in June, followed by a very wet July, as conditions allow, the beaches will require a lot more work to restore them to their 2012 state.

Significant upgrades to our camp kitchens in the townsite and at Paignton have also been much appreciated. The Waskesiu Foundation has provided a good deal of funding to enable these upgrades and accordingly, deserves both our thanks and our continued support.

At the initiation of Council, we are participating with the Parks Administration in a visioning process entitled "VISION 2020", the purpose of which is to collaborate on what we want to have the Waskesiu townsite look like and feel like and be like by the year 2020. Following initial meetings we will be rolling out to the various stakeholders priority issues to solicit their input and reaction prior to engaging in the next step which would be ACTION PLANNING. Those stakeholders will include seasonal residents, permanent residents, visitors and the Waskesiu business community as well as the Waskesiu Foundation.

For example discussions to date have explored the prospective redevelopment of the Nature Centre and the Red Deer Trail Interpretive Plan. More information will follow as plans gel and the process evolves.

Our Vegetation Management Committee has engaged fully with officials of SaskPower and Parks Canada in the need to cull dead and threatening trees in the proximity of power lines in the townsite. As a result, work has already begun in this regard. We have been most impressed with both the thoroughness of SaskPower's review process as well as their action strategy. We are pleased to have officials from SaskPower here today to better acquaint everyone with this issue.

As well, given the depth of concerns expressed by residents and visitors regarding the quality of wireless communications in the townsite and area, Council approached SaskTel about measures they could take to remedy the situation. Discussions were productive and we expect to see a new stealth tower erected in the Red Deer campground in the near future, subject to finalization of a pending agreement with Parks Canada.

Regrettably a most contentious issue arose this winter between your Council and Parks Canada when at their national office a decision was made to curtail, and effectively eliminate, the offering of winter services in Prince Albert National Park (and in fact in the majority of other national parks). Despite many efforts by Council and other interested parties, we were unable to have Parks Canada reverse, suspend or even delay its decision. Through the efforts of our Council member, Nancy Wood-Archer, the owners of Lost Creek and the Waskesiu Chamber of Commerce an agreement was reached with the Superintendent to allow the Chamber the use of ski trail grooming equipment such that at least some of the trails could be groomed. They then proceeded to groom the trails for the rest of the winter, in addition to establishing a ski club which will, hopefully, carry on these efforts in the future. Mere thanks are not sufficient to express our appreciation to Nancy, Dave Archer, Gord Bueckert (Lost Creek) and George Wilson(Waskesiu Chamber of Commerce).

Council continues to be pleased with the winter season security measures that have been put in place. We have experienced no break and enter activity over the past three winters (to our knowledge).The RCMP and Park Warden presence on long weekends in the summer continues to have a positive impact in decreasing the level of unacceptable behavior in the summer.

Our waskesiu.org website continues to be widely used by those seeking information on Waskesiu. Please visit the site and find out what is happening in Waskesiu and PANP at www.waskesiu.org.

These have been some of the highlights of the past and current year and in the balance of today's meeting ,more information will be shared with you on activities and issues in the Waskesiu townsite.

We continue to encourage you and all Waskesiu residents and business operators to share your views with respective members of Council on how to improve and enhance the Waskesiu experience. Your commitment to this community of ours is appreciated.

Motion to accept Year End Report

Rick Barber/Herb Pinder *Carried*

4. Law Enforcement – RCMP – Sgt. Alen Pressler

**COMMUNITY POLICING REPORT FOR August 2012 to August 2013
OFFENCES REPORTED AND/OR COMMITTED IN COMMUNITY**

A) Criminal Code

1. Sexual Assaults	0
2. Assaults- Spousal/Other	4
3. Willful Damage/Vandalism	7
4. Break and Enter and Theft	1
5. Thefts	4
6. Impaired Driving/Over 0.08%	6
7. Disturbing the Peace	10
8. Other Criminal Code Offences	4

B) Drugs

1. Possession of Drugs	1
2. Trafficking	3

C) Liquor

1. Liquor Offences	17
2. By-law Related	N/A

D) Traffic

1. Accidents	0
2. Charges	23

E) Assistance/Services

1. Missing Persons	0
2. Sudden Deaths	0
3. Assistance- General Public	9
4. First Nations By-laws	N/A
5. Other	110

COMMUNITY POLICING REPORT

Significant issues: (infrastructure, resources, change of administration)

- Manpower up to strength. 4 Members in Waskesiu Lake and 4 in Montreal Lake
- Increase in members for May, July and August long weekends. (5 on day shift and 5 on night shift).
- Annual Performance Plan
 - Increase of traffic enforcement
 - Increase in cabin patrols (winter months).
- Detachment renovations to be started this fall on exterior.

There were a total of 199 calls for service / occurrences for the period of August 2012 to 2013. The Waskesiu Lake Detachment responded to all calls for service in a timely manner, and investigated each complaint using all available resources.

Total calls for Waskesiu Lake Detachment for this period 2093 calls.

As always the Waskesiu Lake Detachment is dedicated to providing the best possible service to all of our detachment area. Please feel free to drop in and discuss any concerns, or questions from within the community. My door is always open and I look forward to hearing from you.

Member Question - is drug use a problem.
Activities are up.

5. Fire Department – Fire Chief Paul See

The Waskesiu Fire Department currently has 1 Fire Chief, 1 Deputy Chief, 2 Captains and 18 Firefighters. Since April 1, 2013 we have had 4 calls for service. Two fire alarms ringing, 1 public assistance call for flooding and one call to land STARS air ambulance helicopter. The fire department has regular training drills and has completed 333 hours of training since April 1.

Since starting in the position of Fire Chief in April and with the assistance of Parks Canada, I have purchased some much needed new fire equipment. Those items include hose, turnout gear, firefighting foam, foam eductor, nozzle, portable command radio and portable scene lighting. I would also like to thank the Waskesiu Foundation for their support in purchasing a turbo draft unit, which is used to draft water in areas that are not protected by fire hydrants.

The following equipment has been serviced by trained technicians and is now certified: Self-contained breathing apparatus (scba), scba air tanks, air compressor fill station at the fire hall and ground ladders. The fire truck pump will be serviced and tested/certified this month.

Parks Canada is also working on maintenance at the fire hall. A new entry and bay door will be installed in the fall.

The firefighters have held two fundraisers this summer in order to assist Parks in purchasing new fire equipment.

The Waskesiu Fire Department has a mutual aid agreement with the Lakeland Fire Department to assist in fire and rescue incidents.

The Saskatchewan emergency management and fire safety (Prince Albert office) will also respond to Prince Albert National Park to assist.

We are also in the final stages of signing a service agreement with the Prince Albert Fire Department for specialized rescue and hazardous materials response.

Firefighter recruitment, training, and updating fire equipment will be a key component moving forward in the future to keep the fire department viable.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our firefighters employers for permitting their employee's to leave their regular work duties on a moment's notice to respond to emergency calls. Without your support and commitment we could not sustain a fire department in Waskesiu.

Member question - There are 451 cabins and 4 fire hydrants – is that up to code?
Yes, plus we have access to lakeside hydrants.

Member question - Is the fire hose long enough to reach the full length of a street?
Yes.

Member question – What is the state of response time to a 911 call?
Ideally there should be a 10 minute response time.

Member question – If there were a structure fire in the Townsite, what is the biggest risk?
Heating in the winter, and cooking, and electrical kitchen fires.

Member question - When was last time there was a structure fire in a cabin?
I am not aware of when the last one occurred.

Member question - Should local residents get involved with a local fire and assist using our own hoses?
I do not recommend that you do, due to lack of experience on how to fight a fire.

Member question - What should cabin owners have for a fire extinguisher?
The Fire Chief's personal choice is a 20 lb ABC fire extinguisher.
Parks Canada standard size is 5 lb.

Member question - Is there a charge for a 911 call for a fire?
There is no charge for a call.

6. Parks Canada – Superintendent Alan Fehr

Introduction

- a. Generally pleased with the state of Waskesiu. Many millions of dollars have been spent on infrastructure over the last five years and it shows.
- b. Two big projects we're working on will enhance the Park experience for all: Nature Centre/Lakefront Activity trail recapitalization and an enhanced Waskesiu Trail Network.
- c. The visioning exercise proposed by the Waskesiu Community Council will assist us with planning Parks Canada investments.
- d. Infrastructure continues to be the biggest challenge for the Park. The high rainfall coupled with high water tables is causing major issues for roads, trails, day use areas and campgrounds. It

is forcing us to be constantly reactive and makes it difficult to develop and implement asset improvement plans.

Swales

The swales are working very well and we're considering extending one at Jay/Kingfisher and creating one at Bluebird/Chickadee. If we get agreement from lessees we will attempt to get the work done this fall.

SaskPower

Presentation made by SaskPower regarding right of way tree maintenance.

Fire Protection

Presentation made by Fire Chief Paul See.

SaskTel Cell Tower

Parks Canada and SaskTel are currently negotiating a licence of occupation for a cell tower to be placed in Red Deer Campground.

Cottage Regulations

These regulations are being rewritten, but have been on hold during the reorganization of Parks Canada. Recently, they have been assigned to someone to begin advancing once again.

Cabin Area Guidelines

They are at a state that Parks Canada is prepared to approve. They currently sit with the Council and the Waskesiu Seasonal Residents Association.

Spruce Bud Worm Control Program

Second year of a two year program completed and deemed a success. Presentation made by the Park.

Recycling

This region of Saskatchewan has adopted a co-mingling approach to recycling, meaning that most recycled items will be mixed together. The Park is assessing what changes have to be made to infrastructure and operations to implement this very positive change.

Two New National Programs

First, oTENTiks, a 'shack tent' style form of accommodation will be opening to the public later in August. They are located in Loop R of Beaver Glen Campground and will be operated by the Park. Second, Learn to Camp is a relatively new program for Parks Canada and is aimed at introducing new Canadians, urban Canadians and families to camping and National Parks. This year 52 new Canadians participated in the inaugural program.

Winter Services

There are no changes planned for the winter season this year. The Park and Waskesiu are open year round, a winter brochure will be developed, we will work with the Waskesiu Ski Club to provide track-set cross-country ski trails, and the camp kitchen across from the Visitor Centre will be winterized.

Visitation

In general, camping rates are up this year while entries are flat.

Westside

The visitor node on the Westside of the Park has been completed, and is now comprised of a picnic area, outhouse, horse hitching rails, new signage, refurbished bridge and cattle guard, and a 200 m accessible trail to the Valleyview Lookout. Other trails will be developed or upgraded over the next two years.

Member question – Does Park Canada pay for the gas to transport employees living in Prince Albert to Waskesiu?

All employees pay a fee.

Member question – Is the Lakeshore Drive ground slump behind the Nature Centre soon to be addressed?

Engineers are looking at what we need to do if it does need to be stabilized.

Member question - What is the gross number of employees working for PCA in the summer and winter?

Approx. 100 in the summer and approx. 40 in the winter.

Member comment – I agree with the fact that the number of visitations are flat (not up or down) and I agree with Parks plan to focus on ways of increasing visitation. One suggestion is to change the gate line ups by providing a PANP pass holder lane/ card reader to make assess easier and could be a good way to keep track of visitation numbers.

Discussion was held and another suggested solution was to allow everyone in the Park for free every Friday to Sunday.

Member question –The riffle dam is plugged with sedge mat that have broken free due to the high water on the shores - does it have some effect on the riffle weir?

We will look at it in September, we are watching it for now.

Member question – Was that the design of the riffle dam not to have the debris/trees? If the debris is removed, would it increase the flow and the lake would go down?

This is not affecting flow of the water and it will eventually be removed.

Member question – The marina, usage is dramatically up. The road is in terrible shape. The road is becoming a liability to the Park. Does Parks Canada have plan to repair marina road?

This is not a high priority and there are no money/resources available for a major reconstruction project. It will continue to be patched as needed.

Member question – The fees go up every year for launching and no funds are spent on the road. Those funds have nothing to do with the road.

Member question – Where does the Marina road begin?

It begins at the turnoff. The Marina manager has done a lot on the road this summer as well as has Parks Canada.

Member question – Inspections according to the Cabin Guidelines – what necessitates the need for an inspection if a cabin owner wants to add one of their children onto their lease? According to the Guidelines, they have to undergo a complete cabin inspection and pay for it. Legal work must be done before a name can be added to the lease. Could something be put on the website in regards?

Following the original question, there were numerous questions regarding the draft Updated Cabin Guidelines. They have not yet been approved by the Waskesiu Seasonal Residents Association and the Waskesiu Community Council.

A lengthy discussion ensued.

7. Waskesiu Foundation – Chair Jim Kerby

Since it was established in 1999, the Waskesiu Foundation has been raising funds to invest them in our community. You can see and enjoy the results of that investment as you walk through our beautiful townsite. The work of the Foundation includes the popular new Disc Golf Course, a hundred Memorial Benches, Community Hall upgrades, Terrace Gardens upgrades, tennis court resurfacing, camp kitchen renovations, walking trail improvements, former bandstand site landscaping, and so much more.

One Million Reasons to Love Waskesiu Campaign

Many thanks to those who donated to our "One Million Reasons to Love Waskesiu" campaign – as our Foundation worked hard to bring our aggregate fundraising total, since 1999, over the \$1,000,000 mark. We achieved that exciting milestone, and reaching it has helped the Waskesiu Foundation to keep moving forward with even more great projects for Waskesiu. Our Foundation's continuing success is a testament to the generosity, commitment, and deeply rooted sense of community of Waskesiu residents, businesses and visitors.

Restoring Waskesiu's Iconic Camp Kitchens

The Waskesiu Foundation, in collaboration with our donors and Parks Canada Agency, is working to renovate all of the camp kitchens throughout our townsite (including, in time, helping to fund a multi-season camp kitchen near the main beach). We expect to have all of the townsite camp kitchens upgraded by the summer of 2014. Sponsorship opportunities are still available.

The Foundation has also completed the renovation of both of the camp kitchens at Paignton Beach – and, by next summer, we plan to renovate the Birch Bay (Seven Mile) camp kitchen as well. Work has also started on a brand new camp kitchen at South Bay. Special thanks to the Forbes Foundation, the Gloria Stevenson family and friends, the McCreath family, and the Phillips family for your generosity in helping us complete our 2013 camp kitchen renovation projects. Our donors for our 2014 projects will be listed and recognized next year.

Beating the Spruce Budworm

In response to a severe spruce budworm infestation affecting the Waskesiu townsite, Parks Canada Agency agreed to spray townsite trees if our community raised \$64,000 within two years. Thanks to the leadership of the WSRA, the Waskesiu Community Council, and the Lobstick Golf Course, residents raised the necessary funds in less than half that time via the Waskesiu Foundation. This meant that townsite trees were sprayed in 2012 and again in 2013. The results are in – the program has been a real success.

But spraying is just one prong of a two-pronged attack – ongoing reforestation and tree planting is the other. The Waskesiu Foundation has been actively funding the planting of young spruce trees (to replace our aging spruce tree population) and we proudly support Arbour Day and other ongoing tree planting programs in the townsite and at the Waskesiu Golf Course.

Lobstick Tree Renewal & Golf Course Reforestation

The Foundation is very pleased to partner with the Lobstick Golf Club Inc. in relation to the Lobstick Tree Renewal program. A wonderful community event is planned for **Sunday, September 1st** at the Waskesiu Golf Course – full details are posted around Waskesiu and at the golf course pro shop. Please join your friends and neighbours to be part of an historic Waskesiu "heritage moment" (and community photo) on September 1st, and see the last golf shot taken with the old Lobstick tree still in place (and, thereafter, the first tee shot with the new Lobstick tree planted). Please also consider making a donation to the Lobstick Tree Renewal Fund (via the Waskesiu Foundation at www.waskesiu.org) to support this worthy cause - and receive a charitable receipt.

Waskesiu Foundation Annual Donor Recognition & Fundraising Dinner – July 13th

The 9th Annual Donor Recognition and Fundraising Dinner was held on Saturday, July 13th, 2013. This year's event was a sell-out and the theme was "Fiddle & Fly" – a lively celebration of Métis fiddlers, the Louis Lavallee family, and the protected pelican nesting area in the Park that bears the Lavallee name.

The 2013 event was a tremendous success – and is expected to again raise a record amount in support of the Foundation's ongoing work.

On Line and Other Donations

The Foundation established a new and secure online donation option at www.waskesiu.org. As always, donations can also be made by writing to The Waskesiu Foundation Inc. at Box 242, Saskatoon, SK, S7K 3K4.

Enhancing the Waskesiu experience is an ongoing effort, and we hope to keep earning your continued support. Thanks again to everyone who has donated funds or supported the work of the Foundation.

8. Vegetation Management – Brian Morgan

- Spruce Bud Worm Spraying Program Update – Dustin Guedo - PCA Ecosystem Specialist

The Prince Albert National Park Spruce Budworm Spray program has now been completed. The spray program was a two year program, with two sprays in June of 2012 and two sprays in June of 2013, for a total of four individual sprays of Btk over the townsite. Parks Canada and the Waskesiu Community Council worked in cooperation to bring the project to completion. Aerial spraying was contracted to Battleford Airspray, and monitoring for larval/host development and spray efficacy was contracted to BioForest Technologies Ltd.

The spray in 2012 went well, with very good deposition throughout the park, a decrease in defoliation levels from 2011, and low levels of L2 overwintering larva (Average L2 was Moderate to Light). In 2013, the second and final year in a two year spray program, we had extremely good spraying conditions (low winds, moderate RH, and good temperatures) with the optimal larval and tree host development for both spray applications. As commented by the contractors for spray timing “We were spot on for tree and budworm larval development this year”. ADAM Kit testing performed on foliage within the townsite for the spray applications indicated good to excellent coverage in 2012, and in 2013 the spray achieved 100% coverage on all plots through the spray block for both sprays.

PANP will continue to perform the Spruce Budworm monitoring to determine defoliation rates in and around the Waskesiu townsite. The results will be presented to the WCC this fall with the report posted on the WCC website. BioForest will do one more round of L2 surveys this spring to assess overwintering population estimates which are expected to be low.

Overall the spray program was a success in meeting the objective of reducing white spruce defoliation in the townsite. PANP will continue to deliver other townsite vegetation management programs such as Arbour Day and the tree spading program in order to continue our goal to provide a continuing existence of mixed wood forest within the urban setting of the Waskesiu townsite.

Member comment – Thank you to Dustin and everyone involved for supporting this program.

Member question – Will Bioforest provide a report?

PANP will continue to perform the Spruce Budworm monitoring to determine defoliation rates in and around the Waskesiu townsite. The results will be presented to the WCC this fall

- SaskPower Right-of-Way Vegetation Maintenance - Brian Allen - SaskPower and Frank Banwell - Davey Tree

Plan is 4 to 5 years to gradually get this project completed. – plan is to remove trees so they can't fall on lines and maintain clearance of trees so they can't reach the lines.

Member question - A member on Owl Street would like someone to see his tree as he is very concerned about the health of it and that it could come down anytime.
Brian Allen from SaskPower offered to personally inspect it after the meeting.

9. Question and Answer Session

Member question to Alan Fehr – The new oTENTiks, are they open?
They will be later this fall.

Member question to Alan Fehr - Are the oTENTiks open in the winter?
No, not through the winter.

Member question to Alan Fehr – Will the Park suggest what trees owners should plant?
The Park will provide suggestions for lease holders. A handout is available at the Townsite office.

Member question to Paul See – Is it true cabin owners will be billed for the fire dept. to fight a fire at a cabin/cottage?
It will be billed to the owners insurance at a cost to a maximum of \$1000.

Member question to Alan Fehr – Will I be able to get this information in writing because previously we had to have additional insurance for this.
You needed extra fire insurance when you signed your lease.

Member question to Paul See - Who is paying for extra cost if insurance only pays \$1000?
The normal charge is \$900 per hour .

Member question to Alan Fehr – What is the time frame for the new swale for Jay/Kingfisher?
We hope to do this fall if it is dry enough.

Member question to Alan Fehr – Is this the only option to fix the problem?
A second option is being considered.

Member question to Alan Fehr – The rain comes half way down the street and then through my yard on Finch.
Please contact Terry Schneider, Townsite Manager.

10. Adjournment

12:30 pm

Herve Langlois/Ian Innes

Carried