



MINUTES

Thessalon First Nation's General Membership Meeting

Date | time September 15th, 2018 | 10:00 a.m.

Minute Reference Number: 14-09.15.18

Location: Thessalon First Nation's Community Centre

Attendance Required

Thessalon First Nation's Chief and Council:

- Chief Edward Boulrice
- Mary Ann Giguere, Councillor/Finance
- Bobbi-Jo McColman, Councillor/Membership Coordinator
- Hank Boulrice, Councillor
- Roxanne Boulrice, Councillor
- Megan Wabigwan, Councillor

Administration/Guests:

- Mary Jane Wardell, Band Manager/ Minute Taker
- George Trevisan, BDO Dunwoody.
- Tamara Ashawasega, Economic Development and Employment & Training
- Darlene Monette, Education Coordinator
- Lorne Keatley, Energy Liaison
- Brandie Ferneyhough, Health Director
- Darrin Bellerose, Greenhouse Manager

Regrets:

- Lisa Bisailon, Executive Assistant
- Kathleen Naponse, Lands and Resource Coordinator
- Doug Bisailon, Public Works / Infrastructure Manager



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Agenda

1. **Opening prayer, smudge and song**
2. **Thessalon First Nation Consolidated Financial Audit. Review of the 2017/2018 financial statements to the members was completed by George Trevisan, BDO Dunwoody.**
3. **Questions and Answer Period.**
4. **Boundary Claim Update – Paul Williams**
5. **Adjourned**
6. **Approved By**



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1. Opening prayer, smudge and song conducted by Victor Wabigwan and Jeanine Aubrey.
2. Thessalon First Nation Consolidated Financial Audit. Review of the 2017/2018 financial statements to the members was completed by George Trevisan, BDO Dunwoody.

Questions arising from the above review are as follows:

- *The amount due from band members for 2017.*
Mary Ann explained they were from advance and all advances are now paid in full.
- *How do you come up with the formulas and who determines the formulas?*
George explained the formulas are determined from INAC during the review of the First Nation's audit review.
- *It was asked if George questions any discrepancies when doing the audit?*
George indicated yes.
- *What happened to the honorarium after the prior Chief's passing?*
2017 – Head Councillor – Mary Ann Giguere indicated the dollars were not distributed to any one councillor.
- *Does Chief and Council see every cheque going out?*
Yes, two signers are required.
- *It was asked to have the financial policy and procedures posted on the website?*
This can be done.
- *Is the money based on population?*
Thessalon First Nation's funding is based on-reserve population. Post Secondary and Casino dollars are based on total population on and off.
- *Who decides on where the funding goes?*
Chief and Council as per funding requirements.

The agenda was changed at this time due to the First Nation's legal counsel flight delay.





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3. Questions and Answer Period.

Floor was open for members to address any questions and/or concerns;

- *When elections happen, why can't we get information as far as addresses?*
Information such as addresses are not given out due to confidentiality. Members need to provide permission to the First Nation to release names & addresses.
- *Request from the floor to have regular band meetings every 6 months.*
- *Is it possible to have the membership meetings live on-line?*
- *Will all the questions be posted on-line?*
- *Do Chief and Council have evening meeting? Requesting evening meetings and allow members sit in on Council meeting to address their concerns?*
- *Constitution Working group presently meet twice per month.*
Paul Wabigwan is more than welcome to attend the working group meetings. Lesley Ann Whiteside also indicated interest as well.
- *Can we have off reserve members run for councillor, to represent off reserve members?*
- *Desmond expressed that a Business Development Group be established.*
TFN already has this committee in place (Lands & Economic Committee) which addresses present & future businesses. Some discussion around a business development corporation separate from Chief & Council.
- *Some discussion regarding the Electoral Officer concerning the mail in ballots – only certain people can have access to ballots.*
- *It was expressed and requested to change election code due to conflict of TFN employee and holding a seat on council?*
- *How soon will we have another membership meeting?*
- *Desmond Barry expressed his concern in regards to child care/custody – he tried to get a restraining order on a non-status but was turned down.*
- *Desmond also questioned about the dispensary indicating an increase in addiction use up by 14%. Expressed more programming should be available.*
- *Treaty payment of \$4.00?*
This is the annuity claim that TFN is part of and we are now in the courts for settlement.
- *Requesting all managers be mandated to be present at all General Membership meetings.*
- *Will the number of councillors increase due to the increase of membership?*
- *Request to have election campaign night for all candidates running for office?*
- *Is there going to be action to change some of the policy?*
- *Housing committee, will there be a new committee or existing committee?*





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- *Housing/community development, what were these dollars spent on?*
- *It was asked what portfolio each councillor held*
Roxanne Boulrice, Lands & Resources – Megan Wabigwan, Education – Bobbi-Jo McColman, Economic Development – Mary Ann Giguere, Health – Henry Boulrice, Public Works/Infrastructure.
- *What about finance portfolio?*
Roxanne Boulrice indicated she wanted this portfolio. Mary Jane Wardell, Band Manager indicated all of council hold this as their role.
- *What about a senior's building in the community?*
This initiative is being worked on as it was addressed in the Community Comprehensive Plan. Also updated the industrial park is still underway, just waiting on funding.

Lunch Break

4. Boundary Claim update – Paul Williams:

It was addressed before proceeding with the boundary claim that only TFN band members be present and all others to leave during this discussion.

Paul Williams, Thessalon First Nation Lawyer, gave a brief history on the TFN Boundary Claim. Canada doesn't pay for the land but pays for the loss of use of the land.

