

Draft Minutes of the Policy Advisory Committee Meeting

October 7th 2015, 08:55 Eastern Time

City Hall, Senate Chambers, Timmins

Board of Directors attendance:

Harley d'Entremont, Chair
Charles Cirtwill, Secretary
Brian Tucker, Member
George Macey, Member
Hal McGonigal, Member
Pierre Bélanger, Member
Ray Riley, Member
Ron Arnold, Member
Thérèse Bergeron-Hopson, Member

Board of Directors regrets:

Martin Bayer, Member
J.P. Gladu, Member
Dawn Madahbee, Member
Doug Murray, Member
Madge Richardson, Member

Members, staff and guests in attendance

Terry Bursey
Jamie lee Yawney, Operations Coordinator
Mike Commito, Policy Analyst
James Cuddy, Research Coordinator
Holly Dillabough, Policy Intern
Samantha Angell, General Manager
Heidi Focht, Operations Assistant
Doug Diaczuk, Communications Coordinator
Steven Black, Mayor of Timmins
Alan Spacek, Mayor of Kapuskasing
Allan Jolly, Chief of Mocrebec
Derek McLeod, Deputy-Chief Mocrebec
Jean-Pierre Chabot, Community Development Mocrebec

1. Call to order

Thérèse called the meeting to order at 8:55am Eastern time and declared that quorum existed.

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2. Nomination of an Acting Chair

PAC2015-005 *The Policy Advisory Committee hereby appoint Thérèse Bergeron-Hopson as acting Chair.*

Moved by: Pierre Bélanger.

Seconded by: Ray Riley.

Carried.

3. Approval of agenda

PAC2015-006 *The Policy Advisory Committee hereby approve the agenda.*

Moved by: Alex Freedman.

Seconded by: Ron Arnold.

Carried.

4. Presentation by MoCreebec

Charles introduced Chief Allan Joy. Chief Joy gave an overview of the MoCreebec history dating back to 1980 when their association was established. Chief Joy touched upon the current issues the association is facing. Thérèse asked how the community reaction has been since they implemented their constitution. Chief Joy explained that there has been an adjustment period for everyone, but since the process has matured the members of MoCreebec have really responded well. Charles asked if dealing with three governments has made things more complex (Ontario government, Quebec government and the federal government). Chief Joy explained that they only deal directly with the three governments when discussing land claims. He mentioned that they are still in negotiations and that they hope in the future they can all work together.

5. Presentation by Timmins Mayor, Steven Black

Thérèse introduced Mayor Black. Mayor Black gave a brief history on the city of Timmins and touched upon the following issues: the provincial government lack of consultation with Northern Ontario, the decline of the forestry and mining industry, high cost of energy, high cost of food for aboriginal communities and lack of funding for their regional hospital. Mayor Black also spoke about the successes they have achieved; caribou recovery plan, aboriginal partnerships, rail and environment regulations.

6. Presentation by President of the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Alan Spacek.

Thérèse introduced President Alan Spacek. President Spacek gave an overview of who the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) represents and how they were created. President Spacek also gave an overview of the issues that his organization presented at the recent annual Association of Municipalities Ontario conference. He mentioned that Bill 52, rate of electricity prices and sustainable funding

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for infrastructure were on the top of their list. President Spacek also spoke about the opportunities that could drive Northern Ontario economy forward. He mentioned the Ring of Fire, agriculture production, research hubs in Thunder Bay and Sudbury and First Nations labor force. Alex asked about FONOM communication strategy and how they get their messages heard in Southern Ontario. President Spacek explained that FONOM uses a public relations campaign that is targeted at the GTA area. Harley asked how the communities with a population of less than 10,000 people are doing with a smaller tax base. President Spacek explained that communities are really suffering but they have come up with solutions, such as sharing resources within one another. He mentioned how the Fire Chief of Kapusaking is also the Fire Chief of four other communities nearby.

The Policy Advisory Committee took a break at 10:49am Eastern time.

The Policy Advisory Committee resumed the meeting at 11:01am Eastern time. Harley d'Entremont arrived at 11:02 and assumed powers and responsibilities as Chair. ¹

7. Top 10 issues update from Policy Analyst, Mike Commito

Mike Commito gave an update on Northern Policy Institute top 10 issues. The committee questioned the process on how the Institute tabulates the list. Charles explained that the Institute is still working on finalizing the methodology.

8. Approve of the April 9th 2015 committee meeting minutes

George asked that "commons goods" could be changed to "common goals". No issues.

PAC2015-007 *The Policy Advisory Committee hereby approve the minutes of the April 9th 2015 meeting.*

Moved by: George Macey.

Seconded by: Pierre Bélanger.

Carried.

9. Open Floor

Committee spoke about the following issues; schools having more of focus on aboriginal history and culture, the need for more collaboration between Northern Ontario communities, lack of leadership in land development, lack of physicians in certain Northern communities, lack of support for junior mining companies, the need for making certain rules and regulations regional based, the need for looking at policy's from a Métis perspective and how they are impacted, lack of community data and lack of innovation in communities.

10. Adjourn

PAC2015-008 *The Policy Advisory Committee hereby adjourn the meeting.*

Moved by: Brian Tucker.

Seconded by: Ron Arnold.

Carried.