



KITSELAS BAND COUNCIL

Regularly Scheduled Meeting: February 13, 2024 Minutes

Present: Chief Councillor Glenn Bennett, Councillors Cyril Bennett-Nabess, Victor Wright, Geneva Mason (virtual), Ken McDames Jr. (virtual), CAO Linda Morven, ED Cheryl Campbell, Dr. David Try, Chris Apps, Darrin McCormack, Travis Freeland
Regrets: Judy Gerow, Gerald Nyce, Jericho Collison

1. Call Meeting to Order & Opening Prayer – Meeting called to order at 3:14 pm.
Opening prayer, Cyril.

2. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION 2024-02-13 (ONE)

THAT Kitselas Band Council approves the agenda for February 13, 2024.

Moved by: Victor Wright

Seconded by: Geneva Mason

Carried

3. Minutes, January 9, 2024

MOTION 2023-02-13 (TWO)

That Kitselas Band Council approves the minutes of January 24, 2024 as presented.

Moved by: Cyril Bennett-Nabess

Seconded by: Victor Wright

Carried

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

Audit is signed off, and getting distributed as required. Will schedule audit presentation on Thursday, February 29, 2024. Invite the auditors. Ensure the date is widely communicated. Dinner at 5:00 pm, and book at Kitselas Hall. Make entire audit available to members. Have to disclose the salary/honoraria of Council members, and ensure transparency between Council, Administration, and membership. KDC to present their audit as well. Want to ensure transparency.

Under the FAL, have until February 15 to submit notice.

Director of Finance posting – We're taking it on, and is posted again. Direction: After first round of interviews, and if make it to second round, have a face to face at our expense.

5. Council Portfolios – Geneva Mason

Geneva provided an overview of the recommended portfolios. It aligns with the strategic plan framework. Defer to next scheduled meeting when all Council is present.

North Coast Transmission Line Project

6. North Coast Transmission Line Project & K'uul Power

Chris summarized where we're at now with this project. We're going to lay out some options. No decision needed today, but your input is needed as to how we move forward.

K'uul Power – Ownership is fundamental to this consideration. This line will be built.

Victor – We've been promised so many things, and we step aside. If we miss the boat, that's the boat we're going to miss. If we're in the boat, and something goes wrong, what are we going to do then. We've lost a lot of our territory over the years. We have to start reserving what we can and can't do with the government. Literally, this is what we're missing out.

David – If we go into Treaty, we'll own the lands, and will charge BC Hydro the fees. Building and owning the infrastructure, we will get benefits through the Treaty that we're not getting right now.

Geneva – Inquiring about the kilometers. Want to look at community growth and infrastructure needs. We are a Land Code FN and protected by BC and Canada for environment. References NFNA and how it can work, benefits, and talk to our elders.

Glenn – Strongly encourage Council to attend these meetings. Thankful Linda was in attendance to speak up. 76 kms is pretty significant, and several years down the road, and our interests are going to be taken into consideration. It can't happen unless we buy into it. We can send a letter to them that Kitselas territory is impacted. Remind people we do have a voice. If we don't, they will think we don't have any concerns.

Cyril – Thank you for attending and voicing concerns of our community. In most cases, this isn't a bad thing as provides for greater economy, however, impacts the activity that our uncles and grandfathers did. What I see is a strategy that is starting to be formed and the potential around the transmission line and K'uul Power may be part of that. I'm very cautious and optimistic. If we need support at sessions, canvas Council. I'm happy to sit in on the meetings.

Linda – Very cognizant of our infrastructure requirements for growth, the challenges, and the potential. BC is going to draft a map in terms of the impacted Nations and # of kilometres for the proposed line. Framework Agreement – clear from BC that it's not binding, so I don't know what kind of leverage that gives K'uul Power.

Council agrees on cautiously optimistic in terms of how we move forward. Ken – Is interested in attending meetings as well.

Lands and Resources

7. Renewal of Forest & Range Consultation Revenue Sharing Agreement

Chris provided an overview of his briefing.

MOTION 2023-02-13 (FOUR)

THAT Kitselas Band Council authorizes signing BCR 2024-01-08-01 approving of agreement and authorizes Chief Councillor Glenn Bennett and Councillors Cyril Bennett-Nabess and Victor Wright to execute the Forest & Range Consultation & Revenue Sharing Agreement.

Moved by: Ken McDames

Seconded by: Victor Wright

Carried

Cheryl is authorized to use e-signatures on motions.

Gitselasu Stewardship Society

8. Tourism Growth Program — Grant application, request for Council support

Travis provided an overview of his briefing. Also including kid size bikes for children to use.

Victor – The 3 areas look good. Is it too late to include an outhouse?

Travis – It's not too late to include in this application.

Glenn – Curator program in Ottawa, can we get involved?

Travis – Working with Sierra on getting into the program. Intake is in June to get in, in September – 6 month internship, and fly to Ottawa for 3 months.

Geneva – Strategic Planning with Kitselas Canyon to look at what other departments and entities may be able to provide. Health or community services may be able to provide support.

MOTION 2023-02-13 (FOUR)

That Kitselas Band Council supports the Gitselasu Stewardship Society in their application to the PacifiCan Tourism Growth Program Fund for their project, "Adventure Tourism Development in Kitselas First Nation Territory".

Moved by: Cyril Nabess-Bennett

Seconded by: Ken McDames Jr.

Carried

Treaty

9. IR 4 & IR 5 – Dr. David Try

IR 4 – Is something that we've been working on to get the acres back.

IR 5 – Asking to give us the land back. Total of 61 acres. Reach out to our lawyer, Stan Ashcroft.

10. Youth Investment Update – Cyril Bennett-Nabess

MOTION 2023-02-13 (FIVE)

THAT Kitselas Band Council approves the allocation of up to \$400,000.00 for the purchase and installation of a wood floor at the Kitselas Community Centre & Gymnasium from the two million dollar (\$2,000,000.00) Youth Investment Fund approved by community as a visible positive change as a result of the Treaty.

Moved by: Ken McDames Jr.

Seconded by: Cyril Nabess-Bennett

Carried

Other

11. 22-198 Langley Skull Notification Letter – Set up a meeting to gather more information.

12. Nation to Nation Discussion, March 13 & 14, 2024, Prince Rupert

13. CAO Report

a. Strategic Planning Update – We didn't finish the Strategic Planning, and need a half day session to complete the in-person. Council agrees with March 4, 2024 for the session.

b. Emergency Management + Climate Readiness Funding – The Ministry granted KFN \$45,500.00. The Contribution Agreement was signed and sent back.

c. Minister Gary Anandasangaree, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations – On request, we're meeting with the Minister on Friday, February 23, 2024 at 6:00 pm in Vancouver. Chief Bennett will be signing the Consultation Protocol for publicity purposes/announcing the Protocol even though it was signed previously.

d. Revenue Gaming Funding – KFN received an email that funding is suspended as a result of the outstanding 22/23 report that's required. I'll be checking into it.

14. Next Meeting Date & Adjournment – February 27, 2024 (re-set meeting dates every 2 weeks after this date)

MOTION 2024-02-13 (SIX)

THAT Kitselas Band Council adjourns the meeting.

Moved by: Cyril Bennett-Nabess

Seconded by: Victor Wright

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 6:13 pm.