



KITSELAS BAND COUNCIL

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING – April 29, 2025 Minutes (Gitaus)

Present: Chief Councillor Glenn Bennett, Councillors Cyril Bennett-Nabess (virtual), Jericho Collison (virtual), Ken McDames Jr. (virtual), Gerald Nyce (virtual), Linda Morven, Jane Hauser, Darrin McCormack

Regrets: Judy Gerow

1. Call Meeting to Order & Opening Prayer – The meeting is called to order at 3:05 pm.
Opening prayer – David.

2. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION 2025-04-29 (ONE)

THAT Kitselas Band Council approves the agenda for April 29, 2025 as amended – Community Incidents Report and In-Camera (2 items).

Moved by: Jericho Collison

Seconded by: Ken McDames Jr.

Carried

3. Adoption of Minutes

MOTION 2025-04-29 (TWO)

THAT Kitselas Band Council approves the minutes of April 15, 2025 as presented.

Moved by: Cyril Bennett-Nabess

Seconded by: Jericho Collison

Carried

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

Outdoor Basketball Court – The CAO raised it with Ulyses, and he's aware of the work that needs to be done. On one end on the right closest to the road, it's sinking and needs to be addressed. The lights work, and will be getting a timer installed on it to stay off after a certain time.

North Coast Transmission Line, 3:15-5:15 pm – Cyril Bennett-Nabess, Darrin McCormack, Jane Hauser, Linda Morven

5. NCTL Update and Next Steps

Cyril reviews the power point presentation provided. Jane reviews the work of the Environmental Protection Technical Working Group.

Gerald – It's a lot of information to absorb, and hadn't realized how much time it's taking of our time.

Glenn – Always expressed my concerns to industry that these projects will negatively impact our traditional way of life. This is an area that our people generally hunt and trap. We have to get our people to speak up on our behalf. Kalum is on the other side of the river, and aren't impacted. Certainly, this is a major project. I often tell our people we need to do a better job, and doing our best to look after our traditional territory.

Darrin provides an overview of key dates, and opportunities.

Linda provides an overview of the next steps and motion. As your internal team, we're doing our due diligence in all areas especially on the environment. We're all in meetings regularly throughout the week.

Glenn – Any kind of strength of claim out there?

Jane – It hasn't been brought up on this project.

Glenn – Why I raise this, when you look at our territory, our furthest reserve approximately 50 km west of Terrace, these projects will impact us greatly. In my mind, it looks like we're not treated seriously. It seems like we're treated the same as Kitsumkalum. Something's not right there. I have serious concerns about how Kitselas is being treated. This is our environment, and it will be forever changed when this project starts. We tend to get pushed aside. We need to see who we can partner with so we don't get left behind. We have a logging company. Hopefully, we'll be given first right of any clearing in our territory. We need to express our concerns. Twice, Copper River was impacted by slides. We need to do our best to protect our environment. We have other projects that seem to be on the back burner like geothermal. We have other projects we should look at. Solar power should be factored in any new development. The Canyon needs more money. It's the crown jewel of Kitselas history. I appreciate your report today. Looks like we still have a lot of work to do. Keep up the good work.

MOTION 2025-04-29 (THREE)

THAT Kitselas Band Council endorses the next steps:

1. Legal review of proposed terms sheets for review at the May 13, 2025 Council meeting including consideration of formally joining K'uul Power as a Director, and the proposed joint Tsimshian energy generation project.
2. Finalize the Term Sheets by May 2025
The term sheets are not a final agreement. They help set the stage for the negotiation of the Definitive Agreement.
3. Kitselas to present at or prior to June 2nd Harvest Kick-off to inform community.

And the Internal NCTL Working Group in advancing Kitselas' inherent rights and rights under the Kitselas Treaty, affirms that Kitselas is the only Nation directly and deeply impacted—socially, culturally, and economically, by the NCTL from the Telkwa Pass to the Lakelse Substation, and affirms that all development within our Territory must proceed only with Kitselas' free, prior, and informed consent, consistent with Kitselas authority, ownership, and stewardship over our lands and resources.

Moved by: Gerald Nyce

Seconded by: Jericho Collison

Carried

Treaty

6. Treaty Update

David provided an update on total registered. Treaty benefit payout - \$9.6 million. Lawyers alerted to the fact about non-Kitselas enrollees to transfer to Kitselas before they receive any benefit payouts. There are 35 non-Kitselas members.

Lands and Resources

7. Cat Ban – Cyril reviewed his briefing provided.

MOTION LMO-2025-04-29 (ONE)

WHEREAS: Kitselas First Nation exercises self-government over its lands in accordance with the Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management, through its duly elected Council;

AND WHEREAS: Under the Kitselas Reserve Lands Management Act, Kitselas Band Council has the jurisdiction and authority over seven Kitselas Indian Reserves, not including Spkshuut IR8, that is jointly owned between Kitselas and Kitsumkalum;

AND WHEREAS: The Kitselas Band Council recognizes the significant overpopulation of stray, feral, and free-roaming domestic felines on Kitselas Reserve Lands and that this poses risks to animal welfare, public health and safety, and ecological and environmental balance;

AND WHEREAS: Community members have reported that feral felines are climbing onto homes, defecating on rooftops, porches, and landscaped areas—including at the Kitselas Community Garden—contributing to sanitation issues, property damage, and safety concerns. The presence of free-roaming and feral cats has also raised broader concerns including: predation on birds and small wildlife; aggression toward domestic pets; potential transmission of parasites and diseases such as rabies, toxoplasmosis, and feline leukemia; increased allergens and noise disturbances during mating season; and repeated property damage such as scratching and marking of homes, vehicles, and gardens. Kitselas Lands and Resources Department has further received reports of aggressive behavior and incidents involving children and pets. As the outdoor feline population continues to grow due to lack of spaying/neutering and limited capacity at nearby shelters, the situation presents growing risks to public health, community well-being, and ecological balance.

AND WHEREAS: The Kitselas Band Council acknowledges its responsibility to ensure a safe and healthy community and is concerned that uncontrolled and irresponsible feline ownership, along with stray and feral felines, may adversely affect the safety, welfare, and health of residents on Kitselas Reserve Lands and may create a persistent nuisance;

AND WHEREAS: The mistreatment, neglect or abandonment of animals is contrary to the teachings of our ancestors and brings harm to both the community and the spirit of the land;

AND WHEREAS: The Kitselas Band Council deems it necessary and in the best interest of the community to regulate and control outdoor domestic felines and their activities, as well as the responsibilities of their owners;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Kitselas Band Council hereby prohibits outdoor free-roaming domestic felines on Kitselas Reserve Lands; and

THAT the Kitselas Lands and Resources Department is authorized to take reasonable steps and explore options, on a case-by-case basis, to manage and reduce the stray, feral, and free-roaming feline population.

Moved by: Gerald Nyce
Seconded by: Jericho Collison
Carried

8. Community Incidents Report
Cyril reviewed his Community Safety Concerns briefing and next steps.

Ken – Also youth are climbing c-cans and basketball court.
Jericho – Can we have an ATV safety training for youth and their parents.

MOTION LMO 04-29-25 (TWO)

THAT Kitselas Band Council supports the immediate implementation of the next steps, and for further clarification the following:

1. Prohibition on Quads, ATVs, UTVs, and Dirt Bikes in all residential streets and areas of Gitau and Kulspai; Launch a Safety and Awareness Campaign with educational materials about the prohibition and what it means.
2. Enhancing monitoring and patrols, including the installation of cameras in known problem areas and coordination with RCMP on repeat incidents;
3. Increasing community and youth engagement through household communication, identifying
4. Youth, especially those under 11 should not be unsupervised outside their lot, as many of the incidents are caused by unsupervised youth under the age of 11 – this is a community standard that was once practiced.
5. Designation of quiet hours in Gitau and Kulspai from 11:00pm to 6:00am;
6. Initiating a full audit and replacement of damaged infrastructure signs using durable materials; and
7. Promoting fire safety awareness by distributing prevention materials and installing community fire risk signage.

Moved by: Jericho Collison
Seconded: Ken McDames Jr.
Carried

CAO Report

9. Audit Update – The audit will be held on May 7-9, 2025.
10. KBC Elections – Nominations will be held on May 2, 2025 from 5:00-8:00 pm. Elections, June 12, 2025.
11. A&A Tenure Update – The transfer is finally completed. Delayed on the wire transfer. We're not set up for wire transfers. RBC sent us documents to sign.
Glenn – Once finalized, will invite John Mohammed to come and have a celebratory dinner, and present him with a gift.
Gerald – Is Kitselas Forestry aware of the transfer and prepared for it? Kitselas Forestry is aware of it. Reminder that they transferred \$800,000.00 toward the purchase.
12. RBC Mortgage Update - \$13,250,000.00 has been approved by RBC. Cameron will complete an analysis of what it'll cost us at the end of 25 years.
13. Work Plans and Budgets – Community engagement on May 21, 2025. The Kitselas and Ksi Lisims IMBA are added at the beginning of the session.
14. Staffing – Linda provided an overview of the hiring of the most recent employee, and process. Policy was adhered to.
Gerald – Thank Linda for her honesty and appreciate everything she's done for the community.
15. Next Meeting Date & Adjournment – May 13, 2025, Gitau

MOTION 2025-04-29 (FOUR)

THAT Kitselas Band Council adjourns the meeting (6:58 pm).

Moved by: Jericho Collison
Seconded by: Gerald Nyce
Carried

16. In-Camera Session – The Council went in-camera.