



KITSELAS BAND COUNCIL Regularly Scheduled Meeting

July 8, 2025 Minutes, Gitau

Present: Chief Councillor Glenn Bennett, Councillors Jericho Collison, Cheryl Campbell, Jordan Squires, Ken McDames Jr., Gerald Nyce (virtual), Cyril Bennett-Nabess, Sharon Bennett (to 4:10 pm), Bonita Young-Mercer, Linda Morven

Regrets: Victor Wright

Guests: John Balogh

1. Call Meeting to Order & Opening Prayer – The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm.
Opening prayer – Bonnie.

2. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION 2025-07-08 (ONE)

THAT Kitselas Band Council approves the agenda for July 8, 2025 as amended.

Moved by: Jericho Collison

Seconded by: Ken McDames Jr.

3. Adoption of Minutes

MOTION 2025-07-08 (TWO)

THAT Kitselas Band Council approves the minutes of June 24, 2025 as amended – correction to spelling of Sonja Foss last name on page 2.

Moved by: Ken McDames Jr.

Seconded by: Jericho Collison

Carried

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

Education Surplus – page 3: Cameron and I met with the Director of Community Services and we reviewed the surpluses and plans to expend the funds.

Glenn – Do you think we should increase post-secondary allowance?

Linda - We just increased it recently, and it's not recommended.

Jericho – The grade 7-12 incentive can be increased.

Gas Bar & Convenience Store – page 5: We met with AllNorth and they'll be providing their conceptual study proposal. The fee is between \$30,000.00-\$35,000.00, so it will be higher. The one they did previously for Gitlaxt'asmiks is outdated. It's within my spending authority on the difference and the study has been approved. There's an allocation of \$2.6 million in the Ksi Lisims IMBA for the project as well as Parks & Recreation at operations. We could potentially approve the cost with the understanding of the allocation,

PRGT

5. PRGT Management and Benefits Amendment Agreement

John provided a review of his briefing and the updated amended Agreement. Cyril thanked John for his work.

MOTION 2025-07-08 (THREE)

WHEREAS:

A, The Nisga'a Government and Western LNG is proposing to construct and operate the Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Line (PRGT), a natural gas transmission pipeline and associated infrastructure in British Columbia.

B. Kitselas holds and exercises Section 35(1) Rights which may be affected by the Project. The Parties entered into a Mitigation and Benefits Agreement, dated April 1, 2015, (the "Mitigation and Benefits Agreement") to establish certain engagement processes between them and define economic and other benefits to be provided to Kitselas by PRGT in respect of the Project.

C. The Parties wish to build on their existing relationship under the Mitigation and Benefits Agreement by amending the Mitigation and Benefits Agreement to reflect certain developments in the Project since 2015, as per the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

BE IT RESOLVED that Kitselas Band Council:

A. Has read and understood the terms of the Agreement;

B. Has received independent legal advice about the Agreement before signing this Resolution;

C. Approves the Agreement and consents to its execution and delivery, in accordance with applicable Kitselas First Nation governance practices, substantially in the form attached to this resolution; and

D. Authorizes Chief Councillor Glenn Bennett to execute the Agreement substantially in the form attached, on behalf of the Kitselas First Nation.

Moved by: Jericho Collison

Seconded by: Jordan Squires

Carried

Kitselas' Thornhill LNG Lands

6. Land Details Agreement with the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine

MOTION 2025-07-08 (FOUR)

THAT Kitselas Band Council authorizes the signing of the Land Details Agreement with the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine.

Moved by: Ken McDames Jr.

Seconded by: Jordan Squires

Carried

Housing

7. Vacant Rentals – We'll be required to fulfill all requirements of the 40 units for BC Housing, and we need to be in full compliance. Ulyses reviewed his briefing.

Jericho – Has there been a final call-out?

Ulyses – We did and we received applications. We have a couple of people who are applying to become members, and we can move them forward. We can only have 2% of the units unoccupied.

Jericho – What bedrooms are available?

Ulyses – Elders, a couple of 1 bedroom, 3 2-bedroom, 4 units of the 4-bedroom.

Glenn – Are they all at market rates?

Ulyses – No, it's not. The 4-bedroom, for example, is renting for \$1,400.00.

Jorden – How many community members are asking for older houses?

Ulyses – We have approximately 8-10 people. Eventually they feel it would be their house.

Glenn – I would suggest going forward hosting a community meeting to make sure things are above board and transparent. A letter should be sent to individuals that they should take advantage of the housing we have now. I see this community continuing growing.

Jorden – We need to look at the language and accessing social assistance, as an example, and where they'd apply for it.

Ulyses – It's one of the conditions is that they must be employed. The rent won't be the same. We can charge them more.

Gerald – We need to consider the impacts including non-community members accessing our programs and services.

Glenn – Safe to say we need a community meeting to make our community aware.

Linda – What's our timeline to ensure compliance?

Ulyses – Within the next couple of weeks, the grass will be seeded, so final work will be completed by mid-August for substantial completion. By end of September,

Linda – An update will be provided at the September 3 Council meeting.

8. Derelict Vehicles – There are homes that have broken down vehicles.

Ulyses – One of the things I was talking with Cyril about is using the fire smart program to move vehicles. We just need to develop a plan on when we will start. Every year, we move about 10 vehicles in our annual clean-up. Some people have sentimental attachment.

Glenn – Work with Cyril to see if there's anything under the land code and for safety.

Jorden – The image of Kitselas be upheld, and not seeing a garbage stacked up in the front of a place. There are a few houses that need to be cleaned.

Ulyses – It's up to the lands department to draft a bylaw.

Cyril – This is some we've talked over at length. Ulyses addressed a number of avenues to utilize – Kitselas Housing Policy, land code and bylaw, and health with everyone working together. Upholding our community values.

Glenn – Are we still looking at end of September for hall opening.

Ulyses – Yes, end of September, however, it's still an issue with BC Hydro. What will satisfy BC Hydro is to have an area with asphalt and hydro drainage rock, and non-metal conductive fencing. The engineer is saying once you do that, I'll sign off on it.

Cyril – I have a quick comment on the 3-phase power. Our work with NCTL, we continue to press on BC Hydro with our legal, Mark Stevenson. Ulyses, if you can respond to the new capital projects and load capacity. Ulyses will follow-up on the load capacity.

Glenn – I was invited by Darrin to meet with PNG and they're more than willing to provide us back-up power.

Ocean Vessel

9. Feasibility and Procurement (earlier production)

Cyril reviewed the briefing that was completed.

Cyril – I would recommend we travel to visit Eaglecraft and see what it might look like.

Jorden – How many people are qualified to operate an ocean vessel?

Gerald – I have the SPOP as well as pleasure craft certificate. Anything bigger and commercial, I would have to get my masters.

Glenn – I think this gives us time to get members certified.

Linda provided an update on the completion of the ocean vessel, the Coast Funds documents that are in the package, and the earlier production of the vessel as noted by Eaglecraft. Kitselas has \$150,000.00 available with Coast Funds for the feasibility and \$4.6 million that we can use for the procurement of the vessel. If we don't use all of the \$150,000.00, we have to reimburse the difference.

Cyril – Kitselas is eligible to use the initial \$200k to build capacity.

Glenn – I am in support of the motion that is presented, and the earlier production date.

MOTION 2025-07-08 (FIVE)

THAT Kitselas Band Council approves the funding application submission to Coast Funds for \$150,000.00 to complete the Feasibility Study, and acknowledges this action is being taken in advance of the October 3, 2025 Coast Funds intake. to initiate the procurement of the marine vessel and support boat with Eaglecraft LTD.

AND FURTHER THAT Kitselas Band Council approves Kitselas Administration to submit the proposal to Coast Funds to initiate the procurement of the marine vessel and support boat with Eaglecraft LTD and confirm funding up to \$1.85 million dollars for the purchase.

Moved by: Jericho Collison
Seconded by: Jordan Squires
Carried

Treaty

Bonnie provided an overview of her Treaty Manager Report – July 2025 Report.

Glenn – I've been contacted by Band members that they're the beneficiary of loved ones who have passed on – Mickey's daughter.

Bonnie – They'll need to have legal documentation. It would go to their estate unless they have a will in place.

Linda – I had a conversation with Mark and he indicated we would require Trust policy for the distribution and requirements and how payouts are made.

Cyril thanks Bonnie and the Treaty team.

Glenn – We need our own Government building.

10. Kitselas Implementation Strategy – Linda provided an overview of the Strategy that Dr. Try completed.

11. Strategic Planning Session – Linda provided an overview of the planning session end of August in Vancouver – August 26-27 for Treaty Strategic Planning, Council orientation on August 28, and Campbell River to August 29 for the ocean vessel and tour of their facility pending confirmation from EagleCraft.

Council

12. Conflict Acknowledgement and Mitigation Agreement – Linda reviewed the Agreement line by line.

MOTION 2025-07-08 (SIX)

THAT Kitselas Band Council approves the Conflict Acknowledgement and Mitigation Agreement as stipulated in the Kitselas Governance Policy.

Moved by: Jericho Collison

Seconded by: Ken McDames Jr.

Carried

13. Council Portfolios – We need to take this into consideration. We're missing out on a lot of meetings. Linda will take this away and come back with portfolios.

14. FAC Reappointments/Appointments

Linda reviewed the FAC policy on members and who is currently on the Committee. It's noted that Roxanne Ridler has exceeded her term. Linda to draft a letter thanking Roxanne for her years of service under Glenn's signature, and put a call-out for a new FAC member.

MOTION 2025-07-08 (SEVEN)

THAT Kitselas Band Council approves FAC reappointments – Jericho Collison, Chair of the FAC Committee, Gerald Nyce, and Tyler Harrison.

Moved by: Cyril Bennett-Nabess

Seconded by: Jordan Squires

Carried

CAO Report

15. Kitselas Training and Employment Strategy – Linda provided an overview of the Strategy, that it was completed by our internal team and in collaboration with K5T, and although it was completed specifically for Ksi Lisims, it will be adapted to be all inclusive including Treaty. Our

Employment and Training Coordinator is our liaison, and we're being strategic in our approach to utilize K5T as our provider.

Ken – I'm very excited about this.

Jorden – What's really great about the data base is what training members have, and what they'd like to take.

Jericho – Did we do a de-briefing after the Trades Fair?

Jorden – Yes, we have.

Gerald – Working with our youth about what they possibly want to do.

Jorden – It would be great to do a tour of the LNG facility at the end of the summer, to see what positions may be available.

Glenn – Linda can reach out to Hope to arrange.

16. Riverboat Days – The parade is on August 2. I contacted the organizer and expressed our concern with last year's parade, so we're the 1st float this year. We've commenced planning – using an L & R truck, the flat bed, Anne McDames and 3 others have agreed to be on the float and sing, have copper pins that Cyril designed that Council will hand out, ordered t-shirts for our participants, and ordered decorations from Amazon so we're not scrambling around for decorations, so we're ready for the parade.

17. Director of Health – We posted internally, and happy to announce that Gerald is the successful applicant and our new Director of Health.

18. Organizational Chart - Linda provided a briefing on the changes to the organizational chart. Cyril and his team drafted a Parks and Recreation department. Cyril agreed to present the document at the next meeting.

MOTION 2025-07-08 (EIGHT)

THAT Kitselas Band Council approves the Organizational Chart as at July 7, 2025.

Moved by: Jericho Collison

Seconded by: Jorden Squires

Carried

18. AGM – Have 2 full days this year for the AGM on October 17 & 18, 2025.

19. Budgets and Work Plans – Dedicated 2 days for the 26/27 fiscal. We presented the 25/26 budget and work plans on May 21, 2025.

20. Claire Ratte and PNG on July 12 – Claire hosted a meeting with PNG who are interested in providing Gitaus with back-up power.

21. Next Meeting Date & Adjournment – July 22, 2025, Queensway

MOTION 2025-07-08 (NINE)

THAT Kitselas Band Council adjourns the meeting (5:45 pm).

Moved by: Jericho Collison

Seconded by: Ken McDames Jr.

Carried