



February 18, 2021

# TSESHAHT COUNCIL REPORT

## COUNCIL MEETING EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Attendance

Elected Chief & Council	Ken Watts (Chair). Bella Fred, Deb Foxcroft, Ed Ross, Eunice Joe, Jennifer Gallic, Les Sam, Natasha Marshall
Administration Staff	Chris Anderson, A/Executive Director Virginia Shrimpton, Executive Assistant (recorder) Darren Mead-Miller, (insert title)
Guests	Owls Path Tourism: Mary Mason, Joel Mason, Denise Young McGill & Associates Engineering: Mike Lange First Nations Financial Management Board: Shayla Point, Kevin Frigon

In consideration of ongoing Public Health orders and extraordinary safety measures, Tseshaht First Nation elected Chief & Council Regular Meeting for February 18, 2021 was held via Zoom. The meeting included three specific timed items where guests joined to offer presentations. These included Owl's Path Tourism, McGill and Associates Engineering and First Nations Financial Management Board.

### Owl's Path Tourism

Denise Young, Mary Mason and Joel Mason offered a presentation regarding the potential for a cultural interpretative centre in Port Alberni. They expressed a desire to pursue business planning and feasibility

for such a project in partnership with Tseshaht. There is general interest in the concept and consensus that it is important to ensure Tseshaht representation, including Culture, Economic Development &

Elder involvement, in further development and planning for this project. Council is mindful of the scope of project presented and committed to ensuring

appropriate community engagement prior to any significant partnership or investment.

## McGill & Associates Engineering

Mike Lange presented on the Saiyatchapis Sewer Route feasibility report. There was recognition of septic tank replacement challenges in the area and the challenges with a section of road that has ongoing failure. The preferred option was to extend the sewer line along Saiyatchapis Road. Council supported this recommendation to move forward to design phase and to pursue funding from Indigenous Services Canada (ISC).



## First Nations Financial Management Board (FNFMB)



Shayla Point and Kevin Frigon provided an overview of FNFMB. FNFMB supports First Nations in establishing Financial Administration Law (FAL), Financial

Performance Certification (FPC), and establishing Financial Management systems. Previous Tseshaht Council approved a BCR to enter the queue to engage with FNFMB. FNFMB will provide support, free of cost, throughout this process. This will help with Tseshaht transparency and accountability to members by improving governance/policy and will also lead to other benefits such as certification and borrowing benefits.

## Band Council Resolutions

- ▶ Support a funding application to improve the outdated and inefficient heating system in the office, as well as security upgrades.
- ▶ 2 BCRs in support of Member-owned businesses on reserve.
- ▶ Funding application for Land Use Planning.



## Other Business

Council provided recommendations to engage a Human Resources (HR) consultant to support finalization of the **HR Policy** and to support the day-to-day HR management of the Nation. There was brief discussion on the topics of Committee restructuring, Referrals, Economic Development, Land Claims Panel and Pandemic Update.

Council reviewed the 2019/2020 **Gaming Revenue Sharing Plan** that was developed based on priorities identified in the community wish list exercise. It was acknowledged that the cost of longhouse renovations will not utilize the full allocation with

approximately \$100,000 remaining. Council agreed to amend the funding allocation to utilize \$50,000 for community health & wellness supports during COVID-19. Ed Ross will work with Administration staff and Council to develop a plan and budget for activities (upholding current public health orders) that support mental health & wellness during COVID-19. The remaining \$50,000 will be held as a contingency for any unexpected costs that are aligned with the funding guidelines and community prioritization.

**Council Appointments to External Committees:**

- Alberni Valley Regional Airport Advisory Committee (Natasha Marshall)
- Port Alberni Port Authority (PAPA) Dry Dock Committee (Ed Ross)

staff are working to develop a **logo use policy** that will be presented to Council in the near future. Council provided support for a funding proposal for **clean up in the Broken Group Islands**. There was further discussion of another Nations interest in establishing a **Women’s Resource Centre** in Port Alberni.

Administration noted that the nation’s **Fire Protection Agreement** is up for renewal. Communication



Council is also proud to announce that our first virtual community meeting that will take place via Zoom is tentatively set for **Sunday March 21, 2021**. Meeting notice and details will be circulated once confirmed. Zoom has been selected as the preferred option as other online platforms, like Facebook Live, are public and accessible to non-members.

