



2016 / 2017 Chiefs Council Report

Prepared for the Matawa 29th Annual General Meeting
August 1 - 3, 2017
Hosted by Ginoogaming First Nation





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Matawa Chiefs Council

VISION

We will do whatever is necessary in order to protect our land, our water and our resources for the future generations. We agree that we must stand together in order to ensure our nation is protected. Therefore, we assert our Aboriginal and Treaty rights to the land, water and resources by requiring written consent before any development activity may proceed. Failure to consult, accommodate and receive the consent of the First Nation(s) to proceed with any work or activity is an unjustified infringement upon our Aboriginal, Treaty and Custodial rights as First Nations.

MISSION

1. Protection of our land, our water and our resources.
2. Protection of our Rights as Peoples of the Land. We have Inherent, Aboriginal Title, Custodial and Treaty Rights.
3. We respect and trust the autonomy of each First Nation, respecting each other's priorities and paths to reach our common goals.
4. We want to maximize opportunities for our Peoples in any developments that they consent to, such as resource revenue and economic benefits.
5. We will achieve our goals through control and ownership of any development and activities in our territories.

CURRENT MATAWA CHIEFS COUNCIL

The Matawa Chiefs Council is comprised of nine (9) First Nations Chiefs of the Matawa First Nations. The Council provides overall strategic direction to the organization and broad governance on collective issues.



Chief Dorothy Towedo
Aroland First Nation



Chief Celia Echum
Ginoogaming
First Nation



Chief Wayne Moonias
Neskantaga
First Nation



Chief Rick Allen
Constance Lake
First Nation



Chief Veronica Waboose
Long Lake #58
First Nation



Chief Johnny Yellowhead
Nibinamik
First Nation



Chief Elizabeth Atlookan
Eabametoong
First Nation



Chief Bruce Achneepineskum
Marten Falls
First Nation



Chief Cornelius Wabasse
Webequie
First Nation



Chiefs Council Office

STAFF:

Paul Capon, Political Advisor
 Dorothy Okeese, Chiefs Council Secretary
 Alanna McKenzie, Jurisdiction Table Coordinator
 Richard Herbert, Health Co-Op Coordinator (2016)
 Frances Wesley, Co-Op Health Planner (2017)

OVERVIEW:

The Matawa First Nations Chiefs Council consists of the nine (9) First Nations Chiefs who represent the Matawa First Nations communities and provide overall direction to the organization and broad decision making on collective issues. The mandate of the Chiefs Council office is:

- To provide logistical, technical, policy and political advice to First Nations Chiefs both collectively and individually
- To support managers within Matawa First Nations Management
- To liaise with external organizations to support Matawa First Nation members

MATAWA JURISDICTION COMMITTEE:

Working with Regional Framework Department and Chiefs Council staff, the purpose of this Committee is to provide technical support to the Matawa Chiefs Council in the areas of jurisdiction. The objectives are to:

- Analyze, review and recommend collective advice on jurisdiction issues. This includes securing a Statement of Commitment (SoC) with Ontario that will focus on land management, roads and permits. The SoC is being finalized between representatives of Ontario and a working group of the larger jurisdiction committee (the 4x4).



- Critically assess the negotiations process
- Promote information sharing, best-practices, education and communications to Matawa First Nations Leadership
- Promote indigenous knowledge, history and language among Matawa First/Nations leadership
- Identify gaps, research and gather information for First Nations Leadership

Members of the Matawa Jurisdiction Committee are:

- Lawrence Baxter
- Peter Moonias
- Joe Baxter
- Gordon Wabasse
- Wallace McKay
- Harvey Yesno
- Marlow Wesley
- Charles Baxter
- Tommy Yellowhead

The Jurisdiction Committee has developed their own Terms of Reference, workplan, budget, confidentiality paper and hired technical support.

CHIEFS COUNCIL OFFICE KEY PRIORITY AREAS:

Jurisdiction

- The Chiefs have met with the Premier of Ontario, Kathleen Wynne three times (October, January and April) to discuss and prioritize jurisdiction areas.
- Reaffirm the Jurisdiction Committee and its working group to negotiate with Ontario
- Securing a Statement of Commitment from Ontario to work with our First Nations, starting with the following areas as it pertains to jurisdiction - permits, roads and land management
- Regional Framework Activities - Re-establish the Regional Framework for active engagement with Ontario on the four pillars: Infrastructure, Environment, Community Wellbeing, Resource Revenue Sharing
- Lobby the federal government and bring them to the negotiations table.
- Support staff within the Regional Framework Agreement (RFA) Secretariat

Support the Social-Health Needs of Communities

- Establish the Matawa Health Co-operative to support community health programs and services directed by the First Nations.

- Lobby Ministers of Canada and Ontario for immediate community-based programs and health transformation
- Support proposal to Canada and Ontario to better serve Matawa First Nations members in health and social services.

Promote Education and Training of First Nation Members

- Support Matawa Education Department and the Matawa Learning Centre to establish a student accommodations centre in Thunder Bay
- Support Matawa Education Staff as an active participant in the Coroner's Inquest into Student Deaths in Thunder Bay.
- Work with KKETS staff to promote community training supports in the areas of adult education, apprenticeships, worker associations and need for worker retention with employers.

Promote Safe Communities

- Working with the Crime Prevention Committee in Thunder Bay
- Establish an Indigenous Peoples Court in Thunder Bay and the links to our communities and support services



Support Infrastructure to First Nations

- Support for First Nation Broadband Working Group and Matawa Broadband Proposal
- Support community based planning, engagement and capacity building on energy initiatives in the areas of transmission, distribution and generation (i.e.: solar)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Economic Development

- Engagement with Katheryn McGarry, Minister of Natural Resources to promote First Nations direction and opportunities in the Ogoki Forest.
- Establishment of the Ogoki Forest Development Corporation which now will manage the Ogoki Forest Sustainable Forest

Education

- Engagement with all levels of government to support the educational needs of Matawa First Nations students
- Partnerships with the City of Thunder Bay to help create Matawa Student Accommodation Centre
- Securing of mental health services from students at the Matawa Learning Centre.

Health

- Establishment of Matawa Co-op, the first First Nation Health Co-op in Canada.
- Recognition of Matawa as part of the board health planning for Northern Ontario
- Establishment of the Remote First Nations Physician Residency Program with Eabametoong, the Northern Ontario School of Medicine, and the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, the first such program in Canada.

Infrastructure

- Engagement with Navdeep Bains, Minister of Science and Innovation to support Matawa First Nations broadband and telecommunications needs.
- Establishment of RapidLinks, a firm to build and operate broadband to Matawa First Nations
- Capacity development of community members who participate in directing the Broadband initiative
- Support to communities in the area of community wellness, financial preparedness and housing construction

Jurisdiction

- Met with Premier Kathleen Wynne of Ontario three times to outline First Nations direction on jurisdiction
- Establishment of Chiefs Working Group to negotiate with Ontario on jurisdiction priorities.

CHALLENGES:

Consistent Funding

- There is a need for enough funding to arrive at the right time so communities and Matawa can start initiatives early in the fiscal year
- Funding need to be long term, not project based or initiatives will falter and staff will be lost



Communications

- Many issues being asked of communities by government are quite complex – translation and interpretation of material and ideas are required.
- Capacity building and understanding of project management of these issues is major asset required.
- On-going communications to community members of what is happening or not in negotiations and how much information should be confidential.

Multiple Ministries and Departments

- Co-ordinating between the different Ministries and Departments to achieve a whole of government (or one-window) approach is difficult but necessary.

Time Pressures

- Governments want communities to make fast decisions. However, communities need time, capacity building and resources to assess their traditional territory, service needs, and future plans.
- Elections at the First Nations and Ontario level can create timing challenges.

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Greater First Nation jurisdiction of First Nation traditional territories
- Bringing in the Federal Government into negotiations
- Increased health and social supports to First Nation members
- Increased housing to First Nations
- Increase financial capacity building for First Nations
- Creation of economic structures to support First Nations owned and operated by communities that build collective momentum and First Nation accomplishments





Photo credit: Garth Lenz, Canadian Geographic Magazine

**2016
2017**

RESOLUTION UPDATES



28th Annual General Meeting

July 26 - 28, 2016 - Eabametoong First Nation

1	Acceptance of 28th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly Agenda	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum, Marten Falls First Nation	Chief Rick Allen, Constance Lake First Nation
01-27-07-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 28th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly accept the agenda as presented for the 28th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u> N/A</p>			

2	Acceptance of the 27th Matawa Chiefs AGA Minutes	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan, Eabametoong First Nation	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation
02-27-07-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 28th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly accept in-principle the minutes of the 27th Matawa Chiefs Annual General Assembly.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u> N/A</p>			

3	Acceptance of the 2015/2016 Chiefs Council Report	Chief Rick Allen, Constance Lake First Nation	Chief Veronica Waboose, Long Lake #58 First Nation
03-27-07-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 28th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly accept in-principle the 2015/2016 Chiefs Council Report as presented for the 28th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u> N/A</p>			

4	Broadband Telecommunications Private Partnership	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation	Chief Johnny Yellowhead, Nibinamik First Nation
04-28-07-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Economic Development Department to move to the next phase of the project to identify a private partner to operate the network as an interim arrangement; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly request the participation from the provincial and federal governments to work with Matawa Economic Development Department to fund the process to develop a private partnership and pursue capital funding.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>A private partner was identified in January 2017 with an MOU signed between Matawa and Tbaytel in March 2017.</p>			

5	Support for Continuation of Aboriginal Skills Advancement Program after March 31, 2018	Proxy Robinson Meshake, Aroland First Nation	Chief Veronica Waboose, Long Lake #58 First Nation
05-28-07-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly directs the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development to continue the Aboriginal Skills Advancement Program after March 31, 2018.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>The Aboriginal Skills Advancement Program (ASAP) is in its final year of its current 3 year funding agreement with the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development (MAESD). KKETS' has fulfilled the agreement of servicing 300 Matawa First Nation members to provide the opportunity to attain an Ontario Secondary School Diploma. The end date of the agreement is March 31st, 2018. KKETS' is in the process of seeking a renewal of ASAP. The Executive Director and Project Coordinator is in dialogue with the funder in seeking the renewal process. Further information will be provided when readily available.</p>			

6	Support for KKETS' Students to Receive Full Ontario Works Exemption while Participating in the Aboriginal Skills Advancement Program	Chief Veronica Waboose, Long Lake #58 First Nation	Proxy Robinson Meshake, Aroland First Nation
06-28-07-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Ministry of Community and Social Services to continue with the full exemption with consideration to all ASAP programming components for all KKETS' participants in receipt of Ontario Works while enrolled in the Aboriginal Skills Advancement Program.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>On March 15, 2017, the Ministry of Community and Social Services re-issued a directive memo on the Policy Direction on the Treatment of Training Allowance. The revised directive indicates ASAP students are to maintain full exemption while participating in academic, industrial certifications and life skills courses.</p>			

7	Specialized Assignment for Chiefs Echum and Yellowhead to Participate in Discussions with ESDC Regarding the Renewal Agreement	Chief Rick Allen, Constance Lake First Nation	Chief Veronica Waboose, Long Lake #58 First Nation
07-28-07-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs in Assembly hereby direct employment and social development Canada to enter in negotiations with Kiikenomaga Kikenjigewen Employment & Training Services for the renewal of the agreement and in consideration of northern factors affecting service delivery to northern Indigenous communities; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs in Assembly hereby appoint Chiefs Johnny Yellowhead and Celia Echum on special assignment to join Kiikenomaga Kikenjigewen Employment & Training Services in the negotiations with EDSC and report to Chiefs at their next assembly, or as required.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>KKETS has partnered with ASETA holders from remote communities on a Northern Position Paper. Meetings were held on this, and other matters with the Assembly of First Nations from July 6 – 8, 2017 and with Hon. Patty Hadju, Minister of Employment, Workforce and Labour the week of July 17, 2017.</p>			

8	Redistribution of First Nation Inuit Child Care Initiative to Matawa Communities	Proxy Robinson Meshake, Aroland First Nation	Chief Rick Allen, Constance Lake First Nation
08-28-07-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly hereby direct employment and social development Canada to consider and in fact re-distribute First Nation Inuit Child Care Initiative to all Matawa First Nation communities; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly hereby direct Kiikenomaga Kikenjigewen Employment & Training Services to enter into negotiations with ESDC for the re-allocation of the FNICCI funding and report to the Chiefs at their next Assembly.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Work in progress.</p>			

9	Renewal of ASETS Program	Chief Cornelius Wabasse, Webequie First Nation	Chief Johnny Yellowhead, Nibinamik First Nation
09-28-07-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly recommend the following factors to be included in the allocation model:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Isolation: this should be considered due to the high cost of living and geographical locations of the Indigenous communities north of 50th parallel; b) High unemployment rate: the rate of unemployment in the northern communities needs to be a factor in the allocation model which is never considered in labour market studies for the northern communities; c) Language: should be considered in the northern Indigenous communities because English is not our first language, consideration needs to be made for language translation; d) Service delivery component: for organizations that deliver services to the northern Indigenous communities, a northern factor needs to be added in the calculation for administration and not limiting it to fifteen (15) percent. <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>ASETS Program has been extended to March 31 2018. KKETS has developed a northern position paper along with Sioux Lookout Aboriginal Area Management Board to identify factors that affect our remote communities. It was submitted to ESDC to consider including it in the ASETS Allocation Model for the proposed ASETS multi year agreement.</p>			

10	Reaffirmation of Support for Matawa Skilled Workers Association	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation	Chief Dorothy Towedo, Aroland First Nation
10-28-07-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Members of KKETS by their respective Chiefs in Assembly, hereby commit to continue to support the mandate of the Workers Association and thereby provide their support to all of the KKETS graduates and other Matawa community members to become a member of the Workers Association; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that KKETS shall be directed to subsidize the membership fees in the Workers Association for those graduates and other Matawa community members wishing to join the Workers Association.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>KKETS has 52 apprentices registered under the Matawa Skilled Workers Association. This will increase capacity in our Matawa First Nations in skilled trades.</p>			

11	Kiikenomaga Kikenjigewen Employment & Training Services (KKETS) Employment Integration Services Officer	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation	Chief Celia Echum, Ginoogaming First Nation
11-28-07-16	<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct KKETS to develop a Proposal for Employment and Integration Services and enter into negotiations with the Ministry of Northern Development & Mines for the continuation of the Project and for annualized funding; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that KKETS will provide a Report to the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly of its progress on a quarterly basis or as requested by the Chiefs, from time to time.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>KKETS is in process of completing the Skills Advance Program proposal. This program will tie in with employment integration services to implement strategies in the trades apprenticeship for Matawa First Nation members. By doing so, we will have the capacity to engage as a highly skilled workforce.</p>		

12	Support for Guardians Program Research	Chief Cornelius Wabasse, Webequie First Nation	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation
12-28-07-16	<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly support Four Rivers in the submission of proposals to secure funding to support this needed research and the associated discussions; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly formally task Four Rivers with gathering information to develop potential Long-Term Regional Environmental Monitoring Network models (AKA Guardians Programs) for discussion and consideration by the Matawa member First Nation communities.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>In October 2016, Four Rivers employees travelled to Ottawa to meet with representatives of First Nations and groups with guardians programs from across the country. This event was coordinated by the National Indigenous Guardians Network. We received information on numerous guardians programs, their funding status, had the opportunity to present, and attended a session to lobby the Minister of the Environment and other MPs at parliament for funding for guardians programs. In the spring of 2017, federal funding was announced to the National Indigenous Guardians network to support guardians programs. This funding is not available to communities or even regional programs yet, however we are continuing to be involved in the network and pursue this option as well as maintain networks with active guardians programs.</p> <p>To-date our research as yielded limited other funding options specific to dedicated, ongoing environmental monitoring/guardians programs. The Regional Framework Agreement specifically identifies long-term environmental monitoring as a priority/focus area. In the fall of 2016, Four Rivers pursued support from Matawa member First Nations Chiefs to direct this funding towards environmental monitoring programing (Resolution #26). Four Rivers has also actively pursued project funding that will help advance environmental monitoring across the region and involve community based monitors on a project or initiative basis. Four Rivers was successful in securing funds for wolverine research for the winter of 2016, bat research for 2017 and climate change research in 2016 to 2017. We are also pursuing opportunities to support monitoring of gaseous mercury through community based monitoring stations.</p>		

13	Matawa Student Care and Education Centre	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation	Chief Johnny Yellowhead, Nibinamik First Nation
13-28-07-16	<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly reaffirm their support for a student care and education centre specifically for Matawa First Nation students attending school in Thunder Bay; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Education Department to present the final feasibility study for the student care and education centre to the Matawa Chiefs in December 2016.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Feasibility study presented to Matawa Chiefs in December 2016.</p>		

14 14-27-27-16	Memorial Scholarship in Memory of Jordan Wabasse	Chief Cornelius Wabasse, Webequie First Nation	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Education Department in consultation with Jordan's family and the Regional Advisory Committee on Education, to develop criteria for a scholarship in Jordan's name to be awarded annually to a student from a Matawa First Nation.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Criteria for a scholarship in the late Jordan Wabasse's name is being developed in partnership with NAN and the Ministry of Education.</p>			

15 15-28-07-16	Support for Recreation Programs for Students Attending the Matawa Learning Centre	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation	Chief Dorothy Towedo, Aroland First Nation
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly support the application to the City of Thunder Bay for an operating grant to support recreation activities for Matawa students; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Learning Centre to explore additional opportunities for recreational programming for Matawa students in Thunder Bay.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Additional opportunities have been explored through partnerships with Right to Play and the City of Thunder Bay. Funding from the city has been provided for sports equipment, and for the development of an orientation video for students who transition to the city for school.</p>			

16 16-28-07-16	Support for Additional Programs and Supports for Students Attending the Matawa Learning Centre	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation	Chief Johnny Yellowhead, Nibinamik First Nation
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Chiefs' Spokesperson for Education to contact Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada to request this funding be provided to the Matawa Learning Centre immediately in order to provide the necessary supports and services in the 2016-2017 school year.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Additional funding has been provided to the Matawa Learning Centre for the outdoor leadership course, resulting in increased attendance. Funding has also been provided for Mental Health Workers and a Cultural Worker who have worked daily with the students.</p>			

17 17-28-07-16	Implementation of the Recommendations of the First Nations Youth Inquest	Chief Johnny Yellowhead, Nibinamik First Nation	Chief Dorothy Towedo, Aroland First Nation
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly fully support the recommendations of the FNYI; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct MFNM and MLC to work with identified First Nation organizations and governments to implement the recommendations of the FNYI conditional upon the availability of human and financial resources; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Government of Canada to uphold its fiduciary responsibility and provide sufficient resources to MFNM and MLC to implement the FNYI recommendations; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct MFNM and the Matawa Education Department to provide regular updates on the implementation of the FNYI recommendations to the Matawa Chiefs.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>A youth inquest officer has been retained to oversee the progress of the recommendations. Updates have been provided consistently to the Matawa Chiefs, Matawa Board of Directors and the Matawa Regional Advisory Committee on Education.</p>			

18	Expansion of Matawa Learning Centre	Chief Dorothy Towedo, Aroland First Nation	Chief Johnny Yellowhead, Nibinamik First Nation
18-28-07-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Education Department to identify and secure resources and make the required policy changes to expand services at the Matawa Learning Centre to include road access community members and off-reserve members who choose this option; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Education Department provide an update on this expansion to the Regional Advisory Committee on Education and the Matawa Chiefs by December 2016.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Update to the Matawa Chiefs was provided in December 2016. Project still ongoing.</p>			

19	Gathering of Rivers for Community Care	Chief Veronica Waboose, Long Lake #58 First Nation	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum, Marten Falls First Nation	<u>Opposed:</u> Chief Rick Allen, Constance Lake First Nation
19-28-07-16				
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa First Nations to discuss with their Councils, based on materials provided by Matawa, the feasibility of obtaining base-line funding from each First Nation and/or from other sources to support the Gathering of Rivers for Community Care; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that a strategy be developed to engage with companies and/or businesses who work with our communities to support the Gathering of Rivers for Community Care; and</p> <p>FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct that each First Nation provide a report to the Matawa Chiefs Council on their consultations with their Council and/or community members by December 31, 2016.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Matawa has told companies about the opportunities of donating to Gathering of Rivers to support communities. Limited resources at Gathering of Rivers for Community Care have hindered its ability to promote itself as this can take funding away from communities.</p>				

20	Health Director Travel, Support and Capacity Building	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation	Chief Celia Echum, Ginoogaming First Nation
20-28-07-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs direct the Matawa First Nations Management to seek additional funding for First Nation Health Directors travel for community, administrative support and capacity building, including travel to Matawa Annual General Meetings; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Indigenous and Northern Development Canada, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Ministry of Community and Social Services, Ministry of Youth and Children's Services, and others to support the request through funding arrangements for the Health Directors.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>A one-time capacity building resources were accessed for Health Directors and 2-Frontline workers to attend a training session in Thunder Bay. A one-time short-term resources was accessed for administrative support. There were no additional resources for travel, on-going administrative support and training.</p>			

21	Approval of Matawa Regional Framework Agreement Transfer Payment Agreement Joint Workplan Team Terms of Reference	Chief Rick Allen, Constance Lake First Nation	Chief Celia Echum, Ginoogaming First Nation
21-28-07-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa RFA Transfer Payment Agreement (“TPA”) Joint Workplan Team will collaborate and be proactive in improving and streamlining the workplan reporting and funding processes; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa RFA TPA Joint Workplan Team will work together in this joint process to maximize the efficiency of the administration of the RFA; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly approve the Terms of Reference presented by the RFA TPA Joint Workplan Team.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>The RFA TPA Joint Workplan Team has met quarterly to improve and streamline TPA reporting and funding processes, and to maximize the efficiency of the administration of the RFA funds, adhering to the Terms of Reference approved by the Matawa Chiefs. The Team includes key finance and RFA personnel from each Matawa community, Matawa staff and representatives from MNDM (Ministry of Northern Development and Mines). The quarterly meetings have proven very effective in improving understanding of requirements under the RFA TPAs and in communicating issues and concerns so that they can be resolved. As a result of the collaborative work, all RFA workplans and budgets were in as requested by MNDM (3rd week of March 2017) so as not to delay funding releases expected in early April 2017.</p>			

22	Construction of the Matawa Business Development Centre	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum, Marten Falls First Nation	Chief Rick Allen, Constance Lake First Nation
22-28-07-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Matawa First Nations Management to secure funding for the \$8.5 million construction of the Matawa Business Development Centre and support the application for funding.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Funding applications to NOHFC and FedNor were submitted in August 2016. There is a need to follow up and meet with the government to discuss who can support this initiative from the federal government. A repackaged proposal is in the works.</p>			

23	Funding Shortfall to Complete Tourism Strategic Plan	Chief Johnny Yellowhead, Nibinamik First Nation	Chief Cornelius Wabasse, Webequie First Nation
23-28-07-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Economic Development Department to secure government funding immediately to complete the long-term tourism strategic plan.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Funding meetings with FedNor, and the Ministry of Tourism and Small Business have taken place. However, funding has not been secured. A presentation will be made to the Chiefs to discuss strategic objectives to secure funding moving forward.</p>			

24	Chiefs Working Group Terms of Reference	Chief Veronica Waboose, Long Lake #58 First Nation	Chief Johnny Yellowhead, Nibinamik First Nation
24-28-07-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs Council supports the attached Matawa Chiefs Working Group Terms of Reference and their report; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa First Nations Management seek resources for this committee to continue their work.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>MFNM has sought and received resources for this committee to continue their work. The Matawa Chiefs Working Group has since morphed into more formal Jurisdiction Groups (Matawa Jurisdiction Working Group [MJWG] & Joint Jurisdiction Working Group [JJWG]) who have made historic progress through numerous meetings and negotiations with Deputy Ministers of two Ontario Ministries on priority jurisdictional issues, as directed by the Matawa Chiefs.</p>			

25	Funding for an Independent Comprehensive Financial Assessment of Matawa Communities	Chief Celia Echum, Ginoogaming First Nation	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation
25-28-07-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Financial Advisory Services Department to secure funding through federal and provincial avenues in order to conduct the independent comprehensive financial assessment.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>The Financial Advisory Services Department was able to secure funding from the Department of Indigenous and Northern Affairs through the Strategic Partnership Initiative for this project. Funding to support a Comprehensive Financial Needs Assessment for 6 communities will extend through March 2018. Additionally the Financial Advisory Services department was also able to obtain additional funds for department support in salary, travel, minor equipment. The project is expected to commence in early fall of 2017 and a comprehensive report produced by March 31, 2018.</p>			

26	Ministry of Transportation	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum, Marten Falls First Nation
26-28-07-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs direct Matawa First Nations undertake to develop a background paper on transportation issues from each First Nation to prepare for future meetings with Ontario; and</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct that a meeting be called with the Minister of Transportation with the Matawa Chiefs to address transportation related issues as per the agreed background paper.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>No meetings have yet been set up with Ministry of Transportation. A work group on broader infrastructure may provide more direction on these transportation issues.</p>			

27	Federal Government Negligence for Economic Development in Matawa First Nations Region	Chief Rick Allen, Constance Lake First Nation	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum, Marten Falls First Nation
27-30-07-15			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Economic Development Department to secure adequate funding for the Matawa Economic Development Committee and for the department to continue to provide enhanced regional advisory services to the Matawa First Nation communities in the areas of mining, forestry, tourism, energy, etc.; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Matawa First Nations Management's CEO office to secure a meeting with Ministers of FedNor and INAC to resolve these matters; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly do not support or recognize any regional funding allocations by INAC and FedNor to other non-Matawa organizations unless specifically support by the Matawa member First Nations; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this support does not supersede, replace or interfere with individual applications to funders or organizations.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>A proposal to the Ontario Trillium Foundation was successful to secure funding for the Economic Development Committee to meet. However there needs to be meetings with FedNor to discuss their role in funding economic initiatives for our First Nations such as planning and feasibility studies.</p>			

28	Ontario Political Accord	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation	Chief Celia Echum, Ginoogaming First Nation
28-28-07-16	<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly state that they do not support the Ontario Political Accord as it infringes upon their inherent rights, community-based processes, Regional Framework Agreement and future jurisdiction discussions; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Ontario Regional Chief to inform the Province to exclude Matawa First Nations from the Political Accord; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Ontario Regional Chief to meet with the Matawa Chiefs to make sure Matawa First Nations will be directing their relationship in all areas being discussed with Ontario, not the Chiefs of Ontario.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Tabled</p>		

29	Energy Independence and Micro-Grid Project	Chief Rick Allen, Constance Lake First Nation	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation
29-28-07-16	<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Economic Development to develop technical capacity in or First Nations to explore energy supply opportunities; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED the Matawa Chiefs direct the Matawa Economic Development Department to secure the funding for a process for the Matawa Energy Planning Committee to assess the industrial, commercial and community energy load requirements; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the work of the Matawa Energy Planning Committee will enhance and support current energy initiatives for our First Nations and will not interfere or impede these projects; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the energy planning committee to request the participation and funding coordination from the Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation and Federal departments including Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, FedNor to support Matawa Energy Planning Committee and our First Nations on this initiative.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>A proposal to FedNor was successful for the Matawa Energy Planning Committee to complete a renewable energy assessment. This assessment will lead to informed decision making regarding micro-grid planning.</p>		

30	Matawa First Nations Potable Water Treatment and Distribution Systems	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum, Marten Falls First Nation
30-28-07-16	<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly demand INAC provide the required capital investments to complete the required design and construction of water treatment plant and distribution system modifications to provide safe potable water and fire protection for all Matawa First Nations.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>We have four projects with respect to water treatment plants in process as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neskantaga - construction to start in the summer of 2017 • Marten Falls - engineering design underway • Eabametoong – engineering design tentatively scheduled to start in the summer of 2017 • Nibinamik – water treatability study to commence in the summer of 2017 		

31	Matawa Health Teams and Cultural Programs	Chief Cornelius Wabasse, Webequie First Nation	Chief Celia Echum, Ginoogaming First Nation
31-28-07-16	<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Canada and Ontario to support a Matawa specific Mental Health Crisis Response Team, a Mental Health Wellness Service Team and Capacity Building Training through the Matawa Health Co-operative Initiative; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED new resources be allocated directly to First Nations to enhance their existing cultural and land based healing programs.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Matawa has advocated for and secured funding to communities from INAC and Ministry of Health and Long Term Care for Family Wellbeing and Community Wellness. Matawa First Nations has been slated as a possible recipient of their own Crisis Team which will support their communities as well. External providers have also approach Matawa First Nations to provide more specialized services in mental health.</p>		

2016/2017 Chiefs Meetings

AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 2, 2016 - MATAWA OFFICE - THUNDER BAY

35	Support for Matawa's Application for Participant Funding to Review Federal Environmental and Regulatory Processes	Chief Rick Allen, Constance Lake First Nation	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum, Marten Falls First Nation
04-02-09-16	<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs support Matawa First Nations Management in their Participant Funding Program proposal submission to secure funding to participate in the Government of Canada's Review of Environmental and Regulatory Processes; and</p> <p>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this expressed support does not supercede, replace, or interfere with individual community applications to the same fund; and</p> <p>FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa member First Nations Chiefs Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorize Matawa First Nations Management (MFNM) to enter into a Contribution Agreement with the Government of Canada's federal departments and organizations; • Designate the duly authorized signatory to be MFNM's Chief Executive Officer, on behalf of the MFNM, for the purposes of signing the application for funding, the Contribution Agreement, or any other documents required under the Contribution Agreement; and • Authorize MFNM's Chief Executive Officer to manage the funds, the expense claim process and to receive the payment cheque in relation to the Contribution Agreement <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>MFNM submitted a proposal for the Participant Funding Programs to Review Environmental and Regulatory Processes including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA) • National Energy Board Modernization (NEB) • Fisheries Act • Navigable Waters Act <p>The proposal was submitted jointly with Webequie First Nation, Neskantaga First Nation, Ginoogaming First Nation and Constance Lake First Nation. Due to a number of factors, including but not limited to, review timelines, scheduling conflicts, and, budget limitations, the project did not roll out as originally planned. However, a new strategy was quickly developed and included, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • community visit(s) were made to all joint applicant communities to inform them about the reviews and solicit feedback; • community representatives attended the CEAA Expert Panel Indigenous Participation event held in Thunder Bay; • information on the federal environmental assessment process was made available on our website and social media; • surveys were used to collect community feedback while keeping comments anonymous; and, • Four Rivers attended the Indigenous Participation event held in Winnipeg and presented community feedback regarding CEAA because the NEB is responsible for administering CEAA for energy related projects such as the Energy East Pipeline. In general, Matawa communities will only engage with the National Energy Board when administering CEAA environmental assessment process on energy projects. • Written submissions were made reflecting the views of the Matawa member communities based on the feedback received during this participant opportunity as well as past events such as the Environmental Assessment Conference. <p>The reviews have been completed and currently, final project reporting is outstanding.</p>		

SEPTEMBER 22, 2016 - MATAWA OFFICE - THUNDER BAY

36	Four Rivers and Regional Long-Term Environmental Monitoring	Chief Veronica Waboose, Long Lake #58 First Nation	Chief Dorothy Towedo, Aroland First Nation
01-21-09-16	<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa member First Nations designate Four Rivers with supporting and facilitating the development of long-term environmental monitoring on a regional basis, taking into account ongoing environmental assessment, community planning processes, and community-based environmental monitoring; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED the Matawa member First Nations designate Four Rivers as a recipient of Regional Framework funding to implement environment work under the Regional Framework agreement, within an agreed upon budget and scope of work, as approved by Matawa Chiefs Council Resolution; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that prior to commencing regional long-term environmental monitoring activities within the traditional homelands of member First Nations, or regional long-term environmental monitoring work that may impact the rights and interests of Matawa member First Nations, Four Rivers will seek a Matawa Chiefs Council Resolution that respects the jurisdiction, authority and intellectual property rights of Matawa member First Nations and their members/knowledge holder; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that funding applications for regional long-term environmental monitoring submitted by Four Rivers will not supercede, replace or interfere with individual members First Nation applications to the same fund.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Activity on this resolution has been on hold until the Regional Framework Agreement is active and the Jurisdiction Table which has a mandate to explore land management (Resolution #42) has had the opportunity to advance their work.</p>		

37	Matawa Representative on the Sioux Lookout Chiefs Committee on Health	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum, Marten Falls First Nation
02-21-09-16	<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED Matawa First Nations Chiefs appoint Chief Elizabeth Atlookan, Eabametoong First Nation as their representative to the Sioux Lookout Chiefs Committee on Health; and</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Matawa Chiefs appoint Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation and, Chief Johnny Yellowhead, Nibinamik First Nation as alternatives to the Sioux Lookout Chiefs Committee on Health.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Chief Atlookan has attended a planning meeting with this group.</p>		

38	Minor Capital Application for the Design of the Matawa Broadband Fibre Optic Network	Chief Cornelius Wabasse, Webequie First Nation	Chief Celia Echum, Ginoogaming First Nation
03-22-09-16	<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs support the minor capital application for the design of the broadband fibre optic network and request the participation of other provincial and federal ministries to contribute funding to complete the work; and</p> <p>AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED in addition to the design request, the Matawa Chiefs request Indigenous Affairs and Northern Canada through the Strategic Partnership Initiative to fund the shortfall of \$60,000 identified by the broadband working group to steer the project and for community engagement.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>The Minor Capital Application was submitted for design funds with \$1.2 million secured from the Build Canada Fund. The remaining funding to begin the design and engineering will be required to start the project. The shortfall for the broadband working group was secured from INAC through the Strategic Partnership Initiative.</p>		

NOVEMBER 6, 2016 - OTTAWA

39	Retention of Legal Support Services	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum, Marten Falls First Nation	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation
01-06-11-16			
<u>Abstentions:</u> Chief Dorothy Towedo, Aroland First Nation <u>Opposed:</u> Chief Rick Allen, Constance Lake First Nation			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa First Nations Chiefs Council direct that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the services of Mary Catherine Chambers be retained for the sole purposes of the inquest implementation support only; and 2. The use of Mary Catherine Chambers does not denote any support of Buset and Partners who have conflict issues with certain Matawa First Nations. <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Mary Catherine Chambers has been working with the Matawa Education Department for the sole purpose of Inquest implementation support. A report was made to the coroner on June 28, 2017. No other business was discussed.</p>			

40	Ontario Political Accord/Bilateral Memoranda	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation	Chief Celia Echum, Ginoogaming First Nation
02-06-11-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly oppose the Ontario Political Accord, the signing of the Bilateral Memorandum of Understanding on Health, and/or other bilateral agreements, as it infringes upon their inherent rights, community-based processes, Regional Framework Agreement and future jurisdiction discussions.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Matawa Chiefs attended the Chiefs of Ontario (COO) Meeting and defeated the motion for a COO/Ontario Health Bilateral. There has been a renewed effort by Chiefs of Ontario to engage with Northern First Nations and their organizations – Nishnawbe-Aski Nation, Grand Council Treaty # 3, Mushkegowuk, etc.</p>			

DECEMBER 1, 2016 - THUNDER BAY

41	Support in Principle for Chiefs Council Spokesperson	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation	Chief Celia Echum, Ginoogaming First Nation
01-01-12-16			
<u>Abstentions:</u> Proxy Joseph Waswa, Eabametoong First Nation			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa First Nations Council support, in principle, the attached posting, job-description and draft budget for a Matawa Chiefs Council Spokesperson; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa First Nations Chiefs direct Matawa First Nations Management to seek the necessary funding which do not impact overall First Nations positions and present to the Board of Directors for Matawa First Nations Management.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Funding still needs to be secured and the formal name needs to be determined.</p>			

DECEMBER 15, 2016 - THUNDER BAY

42	Jurisdiction Table	Chief Cornelius Wabasse, Webequie First Nation	Chief Johnny Yellowhead, Nibinamik First Nation
15-12-16			

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The Jurisdiction Working Group as currently constituted will continue its work; and
2. The Jurisdiction Working Group will be mandated to explore processes and mechanisms to exercise Indigenous jurisdiction (including, but not restricted to, in relation to roads, permitting and land management) and report back to the Chiefs; and
3. The Jurisdiction Working Group will operate separately in support of and to complement the Regional Framework Agreement; and
4. The Jurisdiction Working Group will continue to report to the Chiefs who will share information gathered with their communities as part of a community-based process;
5. The information generated by the Jurisdiction Working Group will be treated as confidential;
6. When required, the Jurisdiction Working Group will rely on traditional knowledge holders and on the legal and technical advisors retained by the First Nations as part of the Regional Framework Agreement;
7. Meetings between the Jurisdiction Working Group will be limited to the Jurisdiction Working Group and Deputy and Assistant Deputy Ministers, unless otherwise agreed to; and
8. On a priority basis, the Jurisdiction Working Group will:
 - a) Work with the Province to develop a joint work plan and budget for the current fiscal year;
 - b) Develop a draft statement of shared commitments to table with the Province as the basis for decision-making;
 - c) Develop a Jurisdiction Work Plan and Budget for 2017-18;
 - d) The work plans will be guided by the priorities for the jurisdiction discussions as set out in the attached Objectives and Positions Paper; and
 - e) The work plans and budgets will be subject to approval by the Chiefs.

UPDATE:

The Jurisdiction Working Group has adhered to directives 1 through 7 with its ongoing political and administrative work which has progressed at a considerable rate, producing: a joint workplan and budget for 2016-2017 (which has received funding), a draft Statement of Shared Commitments which is in its final stages, a Jurisdiction Work Plan and Budget submission for 2017-18; all of which have been guided by the priorities set out in the Objectives and Positions Paper, and are subject to approval by the Matawa Chiefs. In addition, a Jurisdiction Table Coordinator has been hired for the Group. Work is continuing and priority issues remain the focus of negotiations.

43	Support in Principle for Matawa First Nations Health Co-Operative	Chief Cornelius Wabasse, Webequie First Nation	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan, Eabametoong First Nation
02-15-12-16			<u>Abstentions:</u> Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation Chief Rick Allen, Constance Lake First Nation
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs Council direct that the Matawa Health Co-operative be developed within First Nations' Health Directors as founding board members and Matawa First Nations Chiefs as founding delegates; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED each Matawa First Nation will determine their own selection process to choose permanent board members and delegates; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that additional community engagement occur in all First Nations before final incorporation; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the draft incorporation papers come to Matawa First Nations Chiefs for final approval.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Matawa Health Co-operative has been incorporated under Ontario Co-operative Act with basic Articles and By-laws. Names just need to be approved as First Board of Directors. Co-op Health Planner has been hired to work with Health Directors on strategy development, training, communications and board governance. Proposals being developed for an Indigenous Inter-professional Primary Care Team. Remote First Nation Physician Residency Program with Northern Ontario School of Medicine will be challenged through Co-op.</p>			

44	Support for Matawa Joint Action Table	Chief Rick Allen, Constance Lake First Nation	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation
03-15-12-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa First Nations be a participant to the Joint Action Table with Ontario, Canada and Nishnawbe-Aski Nation, and other health forums developed at the regional level, Chiefs of Ontario, and Assembly of First Nations; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED updates be provided to the Matawa First Nations Chiefs on a regular basis.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Health Canada, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and Nishnawbe-Aski Nation have all agreed to have Matawa as part of the Steering Committee of the Joint Action Table which will chart high level health planning in Northern Ontario.</p>			

45	Matawa Health Planning Funding	Chief Dorothy Towedo, Aroland First Nation	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan, Eabametoong First Nation
04-15-12-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa First Nations direct that funding for travel, planning and capacity currently held by SLFNHA be directed to Matawa First Nations and their community health directors; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED updates be provided to the Matawa First Nations Chiefs on a regular basis.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>SLFNHA has supported Matawa in revising their nursing strategy to include all Matawa First Nations and a section on the Matawa First Nations nursing needs. Further, Matawa has secured additional dollars for health planning and travel for health directors through Northern Ontario Medical School, Health Canada and Indigenous Affairs and Northern Development Canada. Further applications will be going to Ministry of Health in the Indigenous Inter-Professional Primary Care Team proposal and Long-Term Care and Ministry of Community and Social Services.</p>			

46	Expression of Interest for Matawa Learning Centre	Chief Dorothy Towedo, Aroland First Nation	Chief Johnny Yellowhead, Nibinamik First Nation
05-15-12-16			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa First Nations Chiefs direct that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An Expression of Interest be developed to move to the next phase of securing a site and financing for a Matawa Accommodation Centre; and 2. That this is a non-binding offer, and does not in itself constitute a legally binding contract; and 3. It is an offer made in good faith to enter into negotiations with a view to then executing a legally binding contract to purchase or lease the property; and 4. On-going developments, business plans and communications processes are brought back to the Matawa Chiefs and management for the next stage of approvals. <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>The feasibility study for the Matawa Accommodation Centre has been completed and a site identified. A business plan with negotiations have been ongoing. An announcement of an agreement with the City of Thunder Bay and MFNM was announced June 2017.</p>			

47	Education Services for Matawa First Nations Schools	Chief Johnny Yellowhead, Nibinamik First Nation	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation
06-15-12-16			
<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa First Nations Chiefs direct that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. INAC remove the residency requirement for all Matawa First Nations, regardless of where they live; and 2. That all nine Matawa First Nations have equal access to support services when they attend high school; and 3. Funding be made available to provide aftercare and after hour services for high school students; and 4. That funding be also made available at the First Nation Level for additional support to help students secure an education in their own community and transition to other systems of their choice. <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>There has not been any movement to the residency requirement regardless of where students reside. There is a lack of equal access to support services and no funding available to provide aftercare and after hour services for the high school students. There is currently no funding for additional support to help the students secure an education in their own community and transition to other education systems of their choice.</p>			

48	Support for Mental Health Supports During High Stress Times	Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan, Eabametoong First Nation
07-15-12-16			
<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa First Nations Chiefs direct that Ontario and Canada through their various Ministries and Departments fund mental health supports during high stress times; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED funding be made available to fund community based prevention and support programs to assist people dealing with trauma and during other high stress times; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Ontario and Canada recognize the urgency of this situation and directly fund First Nations for these services.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Matawa has secured mental health supports for the Matawa Learning Centre students. A wider proposal for more extensive mental health supports is before Health Canada/Indigenous Affairs and Northern Development Canada. Matawa is also slated to receive funding for its own mental health and crisis services through Health Canada/Ministry of Community and Social Services as part of the Matawa Health Co-op. Mental Health will also be included in the Indigenous Inter-professional Primary Care Team proposal.</p>			

49	FPIC Researchers' Access to Matawa Chiefs Meeting Minutes and Summaries	Chief Veronica Waboose, Long Lake #58 First Nation	Chief Cornelius Wabasse, Webequie First Nation
08-15-12-16	<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa First Nations Chiefs direct that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Research team from Laurier University and Lakehead University working on the FPIC research project on the development of the Ring of Fire are near the Matawa communities have access to the Matawa Chiefs meeting minutes and summaries from the past 3 years, excluding any meeting which were in-camera or Chiefs'-only, or those which the Chiefs ask to have kept private and not be released; 2. The only four members to have access to these minutes and summaries will be Dr. Peggy Smith (Lakehead University), Dr. Terry Mitchell (Laurier University), Darren Thomas (Laurier University PhD candidate) and Courtney Arseneau (Laurier University PhD candidate); 3. The aforementioned minutes and summaries will not be shared electronically, but viewed on site; 4. The Matawa Chiefs' minutes and summaries will be used for read-only, background material and will never be published in any form; 5. The Matawa Chiefs' meeting minutes and summaries will be kept confidential in accordance with Laurier University's research confidentiality protocols and will be deleted once they are read, and this process will not take longer than one year from the date of receipt of the documents. 6. The Matawa Chiefs direct that a report be prepared for them based on material provided. <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>University of Laurier Free Prior and Informed Consent Research Staff have met with Regional Framework Department staff and working out the details of this information exchange. FPIC researchers will be visiting communities in the summer of 2017 with updates.</p>		

MARCH 5, 2017 - TORONTO (PDAC)

50	Matawa Jurisdiction Working Group	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan, Eabametoong First Nation	Chief Dorothy Towedo, Aroland First Nation
01-05-03-17	<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa First Nations Chiefs Council support in principle the attached Matawa Jurisdiction Working Group revised Terms of Reference, confidentiality policy and conflict of interest policy.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>The MJWG revised Terms of Reference continue to guide the Group's work. A confidentiality and conflict of interest policy agreement has been developed by the MJWG and confidential discussions only take place with those members who have accepted and signed the confidentiality and conflict of interest policy agreements.</p>		

51	Incorporation of the Broadband Telecommunications Firm	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum, Marten Falls First Nation	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan, Eabametoong First Nation
02-05-03-17	<p style="text-align: right;"><u>Abstentions:</u> Chief Rick Allen, Constance Lake First Nation Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Economic Development Department and legal counsel are hereby directed to incorporate and organize RAPID LINK/LYNX TELECOMMUNICATIONS; and</p> <p>THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the RAPID LINK/LYNX TELECOMMUNICATIONS will be the Competitive Local Exchange Carrier as required by the CRTC for all areas where voice services will be offered; and</p> <p>FINALLY BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the RAPID LINK/LYNX TELECOMMUNICATIONS is directed to improve the current satellite internet systems in the remote First Nations until fibre optic infrastructure is built and to assess the telecommunications limitations in all nine Matawa communities.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>The Rapid Lynx Telecommunications is set up, however BCRs to appoint the interim director are required.</p>		

52	Matawa Solar Energy Training and Installation Project	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum, Marten Falls First Nation	Chief Celia Echum, Ginoogaming First Nation
03-05-03-17			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Matawa Chiefs direct the Matawa Economic Development Department to work with the Matawa Energy Planning Committee to secure the funding for the Solar Energy Training and Installation Project; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution will not affect other community projects, plans and that on-going updates will be provided.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>A funding application for this project has been drafted and a meeting with provincial and federal funding agencies is scheduled for summer 2017.</p>			

MARCH 24, 2017 - THUNDER BAY

53	Water and Wastewater Hub Operations Proposal	Chief Veronica Waboose, Long Lake #58 First Nation	Chief Dorothy Towedo, Aroland First Nation
01-24-03-17			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Matawa First Nation Chiefs reiterate their support for the Matawa First Nations Technical Services HUB proposal to assist Matawa Communities with Operations and Maintenance of Water and Wastewater Infrastructure; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa First Nations Chiefs direct INAC and Ontario to support and immediately start funding the Matawa First Nations Management Technical Services HUB proposal.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>The HUB proposal has been approved and will be funded \$625,000 in fiscal 17/18 and another \$625,000 in 18/19. This will provide much needed support for our water treatment plant operators.</p>			

54	Water and Wastewater Operations and Management (O&M) Funding Cuts	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum, Marten Falls First Nation	Chief Cornelius Wabasse, Webequie First Nation
02-24-03-17			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Matawa First Nation Chiefs support Nishnawbe-Aski Nation, Chiefs of Ontario, and the Assembly of First Nations to lobby the Federal Government to restore Water and Wastewater Funding at an appropriate level to help First Nations provide safe and potable drinking water and ensure infrastructure such as fire pumps and hydrants are maintained and repaired as needed.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Enhanced O&M was reinstated by INAC for 17/18, although at a slightly reduced amount from the previous year. We will forward any information we receive with respect to INAC's long term plans for O&M.</p>			

55	Water and Wastewater Operations and Management (O&M)/Capital Funding for Ginoogaming and Long Lake #58 First Nations	Chief Johnny Yellowhead, Nibinamik First Nation	Chief Dorothy Towedo, Aroland First Nation
03-24-03-17			
<p>THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Matawa First Nation Chiefs support Ginoogaming and Long Lake #58 First Nations to secure funding to ensure they have the same level of service as their neighbouring municipalities for capital and operating upgrades in water, wastewater systems, fire hydrants, sewage lift stations, and water treatment equipment.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Enhanced O&M was reinstated by INAC for 17/18, although at a slightly reduced amount from the previous year. We will forward any information we receive with respect to INAC's long term plans for O&M.</p>			

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MATAWA FIRST NATIONS MANAGEMENT

233 Court Street South, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 2X9

Ph: (807) 344-4575 Email: reception@matawa.on.ca Web: www.matawa.on.ca



Matawa Chiefs Council

233 South Court Street
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 2X9

Phone: 807-344-4575
Fax: 807-344-2977
Toll Free: 1-800-463-2249

www.matawa.on.ca



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