



2023 / 2024 Chiefs Council Report

Prepared for the Matawa 36th Annual General Meeting
July 30, 31 and August 1, 2024
Hosted by Neskantaga First Nation



NESKANTAGA FIRST NATION





TABLE OF CONTENTS

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Chiefs Council Support Services	3
Homelessness Outreach	6
Urban Housing	6
Transitions to Care	7
Matawa Education & Care Centre Grand Opening	8
International Activities Inaugural Youth Delegation	10
Last Year's AGM Memories	12
Animal Services Pilot Project	16

RESOLUTION UPDATES - 2023 AGM

1. Acceptance of the 35th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly Agenda . . .	19
2. Acceptance IP of 2023 Chiefs Council & Regional Priorities & J Reports	19
3. Support for Matawa Learning Institute Business Plan	19
4. Appointment of Chiefs' Spokesperson for Education	20
5. Matawa Education Structural Readiness Technical Support	20
6. Matawa Education Regional Education Agreement Technical Support	21
7. Matawa Wake Tere Language Revitalization Expansion	23
8. Moses Beaver Coroner's Inquest Follow-Up	24
9. Creation of Matawa Emergency Services	25
10. Independent Review of Matawa First Nations Management	25

RESOLUTION UPDATES - 2023/2024 CHIEFS MEETINGS

11. Remote Matawa Community Electricity Grid Connection Studies . . .	26
12. Call for the Approval of MTO Permit for Migizi Commercial Plaza . .	26
13. Matawa Chiefs' Council Direction to Conduct an Economic Study . . .	27
14. Awashishewiigiihiwaywiin Support	28
15. Support for Post-Majority Care for Awashishewiigiihiwaywiin	28
16. Support to Develop/Implement Runners Strategy (Matawa Education)	29
17. Support for the Development of a Matawa FN Youth Shelter	29
18. Support for the Dev't of a Comprehensive Matawa FNs Youth Shelter	30
19. Establishment of Estate Management Services	30
20. Support for the Dev't of a FNs Community Wellbeing Strategy	31

MATAWA FIRST NATIONS MANAGEMENT

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

Ph: (807) 344-4575 Toll-Free: 1-800-463-2249 Email: reception@matawa.on.ca

Web: www.matawa.on.ca

In loving memory



DEANDRE BROWN
LONG LAKE #58 FIRST NATION

To Deandre, the 7 year old little boy on his bike at our AGM in 2023: we will always remember you and we will always keep advocating for our communities to be better and safer places for all children to thrive.





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.



The Matawa Chiefs Council passed 20 Resolutions in total in 2023/2024. This is down from 39 Resolutions the year before.

Peoples of the Land Culture Language Unity Future Cooperation Development Sustainability Peoples of the Land Culture Language Unity Future Co

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.

For Matawa First Nations Management department updates, refer to the 2023/2024 Annual Report.



Chief Sonny Gagnon
Aroland First Nation



Chief Rick Allen
Constance Lake First Nation



Chief Solomon Allookan
Eabametoong First Nation



Chief Sheri Taylor
Ginoogaming First Nation



Chief Judy Desmoulin
Long Lake #58 First Nation



Chief Bruce Achneepineskum
Marten Falls First Nation



Chief Chris Moonias
Neskantaga First Nation



Ogamakan Michael Sugarhead
Nibinamik First Nation



Chief Cornelius Wabasse
Webequie First Nation

Note: Chief Rick Allen joined the Chiefs Council this year replacing former Chief Ramona Sutherland of Constance Lake First Nation (in June 2023) and Chief Sonny Gagnon joined the Chiefs Council this year replacing Chief Dorothy Towedo of Aroland First Nation (November 2023).

Sustainability Peoples of the Land Culture Language Unity Future Cooperation Development Sustainability Peoples of the Land Culture Language U



Chiefs Council Support Services

STAFF:

Paul Capon, Political Advisor
Dorothy Valtierra, Chiefs Council Secretary
Paul Magiskan, Homelessness and Housing Coordinator
Barbara Monroe, Homeless Systems Navigator
Jackie Corbett, Transitions to Care Coordinator

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 Support Services is:

- To provide logistical, technical, policy and political advice to the nine First Nations Chiefs both collectively and individually
- To support managers and initiatives within Matawa First Nations Management and its subsidiary corporations
- To liaise with external organizations and governments that support Matawa First Nation Chiefs, members and community aspirations
- To support community members in prior areas deemed important by the Chiefs Council (i.e. some have included homelessness and justice issues)

DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES:

Sub-Committee established by Matawa First Nations Chief Council Resolution 10-07-27-2023 consisting of: Chief Rick Allen, Constance Lake; Chief Solomon Atlookan, Eabametoong First Nation. Board Member Peter Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation and Board Member Lisa Echum, Ginoogaming First Nation. The Committee established to oversee an independent review of Matawa First Nations Management as it moves forward to address opportunities and be more community based.

KEY PRIORITY AREA:

Community Safety and Wellbeing

Community Safety and Wellbeing Needs for Communities. Developing a coordinated approach for:

- Increasing supports for mental health and addictions
- Health planning in the areas of Noojmawing Sookagaing (Health Working Together) Ontario Health Team, NAN Health Transformation, etc.
- Working with the Awashishewiigihiwaywiin (Matawa Social Services Framework) on Child, Youth and Family Services
- Supporting Homeless individuals with health, social and housing needs
- Increasing capital projects at the communities' level, including housing
- Support for Matawa Homeless Initiative, the needs of off-reserve members and food security to all Matawa members
- Development of animal management program and pet education in communities
- Working with justice partners for those interacting with the Justice system – restorative and alternatives to current justice systems
- Support for prevention, diversion, those leaving custody, Nishnawbe-Aski Police, and the Moses Beaver Inquest

Education and Training of First Nation Members

- Support the Matawa Education Department on Regional Education Agreements and funding for the Matawa Education Care Centre (MECC), mental health and addictions support, language program, youth accommodation centre, etc.
- Support community school programs and capital needs – Tiny Homes, etc.
- Support for KIIKENOMAGA KIKENJIGEWEN Employment & Training Services (KKETS) programs
- Support for health human resources and community capacity building strategy by all departments at Matawa

Regional Economic Development and Environmental Services:

- Support the development of the Matawa Development Corporation

- Support for Matawa Energy Strategy for all communities
- Support for co-developing a Regional Impact Assessment with the Federal Government
- Support for Community lead Matawa Environment Technical Table (METT), community education and environmental monitoring

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Education

- Grand opening of the Matawa Education Care Centre, including completion of the Gymnasium and various other education support initiatives
- Increase transition support for students to stay and as they leave school

Economic Development

- Support for new Economic Development Strategy for Matawa First Nations through the Matawa Development Corporation
- Support for an Energy Strategy to support Remote First

Nations access the grid and improved service to road access communities

Health and Social

- Support for and additional funding for youth, families and communities in the area child and family services Awashishewiigihiwaywiin
- Additional funding for Jordan's Principle, Band Representative, to support families and Youth through the Matawa Awashishewiigihiwaywiin
- Development of Animal Services Pilot project with First Nations

Infrastructure

- Ongoing work on the Matawa Wellness and Training Centre



- Increased housing funding to benefit First Nation members from Matawa communities in Thunder Bay
- Commitment from Ontario to connect remote First Nations to the grid

Environment

- Development of a draft Terms of Reference for Regional Impact Assessment
- Ongoing work with the Mushkegowuk Council on environmental matters
- Increased funding for community Environmental Guardians

CHALLENGES:

Capacity Building

Matawa First Nations communities are challenged in the area's capacity, human resource, and systems development, etc. There is a lack of funding to appropriately pay and house staff at the First Nation level compounds. Communities have limited staff and there is the need for increased professional development, training and social supports for trainees and their families to grow into their positions.

Mental Health:

Communities, like much of Canada are confronted with increasing rates of - and severity of - mental health and addictions. This takes a toll on First Nations as they do not have the services to support these individuals. The social ramifications for First Nations on individuals who are impacted by mental health and addictions is – sometimes up to death – is profound and draining for Chiefs and Councils.

Governance:

Time and capacity building are needed to address complex issue of regional governance. This is true in many areas – land use, environmental, economic development, health, social services, and education. Governance and the accompanying accountability systems takes time to develop and involves community members. Regional needs and building up communities are a fine balance which requires much more communications, human and technical resources to build a vision and how everything works together are needed.

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Potential transmission strategy to Remote First Nations
- Wider energy strategy
- Economic development for opportunities within the Matawa Development Corporation Governance models in the areas of economic development, land use planning, environment, health, and education.
- New relationship with the federal and provincial governments on wider jurisdictional and planning issues.
- Additional support for child and family services and in various justice initiatives



Homelessness Outreach - Barb Munroe

Barbara Munroe has been working the past year as our connection to homeless community members and those at risk of homelessness. To make sure that we have a worker that can ensure community members are connected to the best fit service or offer brief support services to those in need. We hope to see an increase in her programs size as the number of service requests by community members who aren't fully prepared to commit to change but are in need. We hope that by ensuring a connection to those most vulnerable through brief services that we are best equipped to ensure their prompt and effective connection to service when they are. Not everyone is ready to make major changes, but they still require help.

Urban Housing - Paul Magiskan

This year completed the joint effort of the 211 mapping service (see next page). This service is free to all to search for high needs services in the region. This project began and ended with a focus on not only showing the vast geographic area Thunder Bay services, but to better illustrate how far our communities must travel for even basic needs. Travelling for chronic medical conditions has become a daily accepted occurrence in all our communities. Many Families have been pushed to accept urban residences with little no control over the location. The world is quickly moving forward, and we need to ensure that we can assist our communities along every step of the way.

I have worked towards the complete development and implementation of the Matawa Housing Strategy. Our community members are hitting barriers at every point of the housing continuum. By not having an answer to every step of the housing journey we will always be falling behind. We hope that by expanding both the range of housing options available and supports provided to our people that meet every need. We need to develop and construct housing projects that both meet the need and serves a further purpose. We must be able to support our community members to buy homes on their terms and through their work. We must increase the supports for our families every step of the way, not just through affordable housing, which we still see an increase in, but through supports that build independent

living outside of subsidies. Having been appointed to the Mayors Housing Accelerator Fund Task Force for the next 4 years. We hope to develop with the City to ensure that we are begin heard. That we are here to develop and grow together. We must work to provide housing for our children, a future where home ownership is a reality.

A copy of the business plan that has been proposed to the city for the acquisition of Bertrand Court, a lot with 60 housing units adjacent to the Matawa Training and Wellness Centre will be provided. In this report you will find more detailed information into how the Matawa Housing Strategy can provide meaningful change with as many as 60 units at no cost to Matawa or the City of Thunder Bay.





Transitions in Care Program - Jackie Corbett

The Transitions to Care Coordinator facilitates the project and acts as liaison between justice-involved individuals, institutional health, and primary health care providers, by connecting clients who meet the referral criteria, to health care pathways.

Anishinawbe Mushkiki, Dilico Anishinabek Family Care, and the Matawa Health Co-operative are three community health organizations identified to act as pilot sites for the project. One goal of the project is to provide both a provincial and local approach for streamlining community health service delivery for individuals being discharged from provincial correctional facilities.

Referrals to the Transitions to Care Project are made through institutional health and case carrying began at the end of May, 2024. To date, the Transitions to Care Coordinator has received 30 referrals from 2 local correctional facilities in Thunder Bay.

The Transitions in Care Program is a collaboration between the Indigenous Primary Health Care Council, Alliance for Healthier Communities, Ministry of the Solicitor General, Ministry of Health & Ontario Health with a mandate to provide access to culturally appropriate, timely primary health care for justice-involved people upon release.

The scope of the Transitions in Care Program is to determine how to achieve primary healthcare outcomes for justice-involved individuals. The Solicitor General, the Indigenous Primary Health Care Council (IPHCC) and the Alliance for Healthier Communities (the Alliance) and 7 pilot sites across Ontario, including 1 in Thunder Bay, are part of Phase 1 and are developing a strategy to support individuals being released from corrections to get timely access to wraparound healthcare.

For additional information on the project, please contact Jackie Corbett, Transitions to Care Coordinator with Matawa First Nations Management. Email jcorbett@matawa.on.ca



Grand Opening

On September 29, 2023, with the completion of their new gymnasium, the Matawa Education and Care Centre (MECC) celebrated a grand opening marking the completion of construction/renovations to indoor spaces of the MECC. These spaces include: a kitchen, classrooms, a Student Care Centre, amongst others.

A number of dignitaries provided remarks including: Matawa First Nations Management CEO David Paul Achneepineskum, a representative of Fort William First Nation, Thunder Bay City Mayor Ken Boshcoff, Minister of Indigenous Services Honourable Patty Hajdu, Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler, and Matawa Education Executive Director Sharon Nate. Other guests/dignitaries included: the family of the late Jordan Wabasse of Webequie First Nation, MPP Sol Mamakwa of Kiiwetinoong, Chiefs from the First Nations in Matawa, members of the Matawa Education Authority, Denise Baxter, Lakehead University Vice-Provost (Indigenous Initiatives), representatives from Ring of Fire Metals, NAN Deputy Grand Chiefs Bobby Narcisse and



Anna Betty Achneepineksun, and project partners. The grand opening included a MECC tour.

Since 2010, MFNM have provided private high school services to Matawa students in Thunder Bay in the traditional territory of Fort William First Nation. Unfortunately, these services were provided at locations within Thunder Bay which were not adequate in meeting students' various needs.

In 2017, the City of Thunder Bay transitioned surplus municipal property (the former Grandview Lodge Home for the Aged) to MFNM. Ontario Secondary School Credits as well as cultural programming and extracurricular activities have been delivered there since and so have ongoing indoor/outdoor renovations. Overall capital costs of the entire project since 2018 was \$23M with the federal government making a majority of the investment.

The grand opening came on the heels of Canada's 3rd annual National Day for Truth and Reconciliation which fulfills the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call-to-Action #80 and Orange Shirt Day on September 30, 2023. Sharon Nate, Executive Director of Matawa Education said:

"This momentous occasion is one that will continue to impact Matawa First Nations youth, their communities, and families for decades to come. Students who must leave the support of their families and communities, and way of life behind to access high school now have a safe and reliable facility in Thunder Bay. With staff who are committed to youth's physical, cultural, mental, and emotional wellbeing, students now have a place where they can access equal opportunity to education and mental wellness supports."



Cooperation
Peoples of the
Unity Future C
Sustainability

re Language
velopment S
e Land Cultur
Cooperation D
velopment S

International Activities - Inaugural Youth Delegation

Led by Chief Sheri Taylor of Ginoogaming First Nation—a delegation of five (5) Matawa First Nations youth returned from the Twenty-third Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) in New York City, the traditional territories of the Lenape People. They attended the forum's second week from April 22 – 25, 2024. It was the first time Matawa First Nations Management (MFNM) participated in international activities. Participation was supported by both the MFNM Board of Directors and Matawa Chiefs Council.

On April 23, the youth had an opportunity to meet with Bob Rae, the current Canadian Ambassador to the United Nations (UN) at the Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations. Discussed was Ambassador Rae's experience working with the Matawa Chiefs Council from 2014-2018 and his current role. At the UNPFII, the youth also attended a side-event organized by the Global Indigenous Youth Forum: "Calls to Action for Safeguarding Seven Generations in Times of Food, Social and Ecological Crises."

On April 25, the youth made a statement at the interactive dialogue between Indigenous Peoples and member states. The statement was made under the guiding theme: Enhancing Indigenous Peoples' right to self-determination in the context of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and emphasizing the voices of Indigenous youth. Some of the issues raised in the statement included:



- The Ogoki and Long Lake Water Diversions, signed through an agreement between Canada and the US in the 1940's;
- The incentivization of extractive industries and online mining staking;
- The encroachment on our lands by the Métis in Ontario; and
- First Nation communities experiencing 3rd world conditions while having to deal with a state (and extractive industry) that does not want to address these conditions first

The two calls they made to Canada and the UNPFII were: (1) to secure a meaningful place for Indigenous youth who will be affected by proposed development in the mineral-loaded area called the 'Ring of Fire' and, (2) for Canada and the UNPFII to mandate extractive industries and Ontario to ensure that 3rd world conditions are addressed (in a measurable way) in tandem or before development takes place.

While at the UNPFII, the delegation had an opportunity to follow human rights dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (with respect to annual review of progress of the implementation of general recommendation No. 39) and the future work of the UNPFII, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council, the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and emerging issues.

Currently, MFNM is registered with the UN as an Indigenous Peoples Organization (IPO) and is currently working towards consultative status with the UN's Economic and Social Council.



Last Year's AGM Memories

All photos courtesy of Ethan Alatyppo, Ginoogaming First Nation



Unity Future Cooperation Development Sustainability Peoples of the Land Culture Language Unity Future Cooperation
Sustainability Peoples of the Land Culture Language Unity Future Cooperation
Language Unity Future Cooperation Development Sustainability Peoples of the



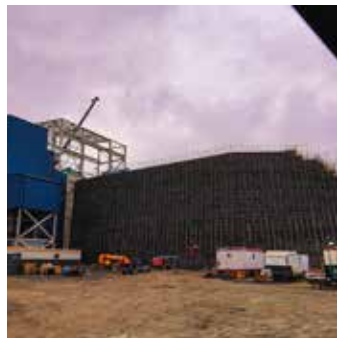
All photos courtesy of Ethan Alatyppo, Ginoogaming First Nation



or
f t
re Cooperation Development Sustainability Peoples of the Land Culture Language
ity Peoples of the Land Culture Language Unity Future Cooperation Developme

Equinox Gold (Greenstone Gold Mines) Tour and Luncheon

All photos courtesy of Ethan Alatyppo, Ginoogaming First Nation





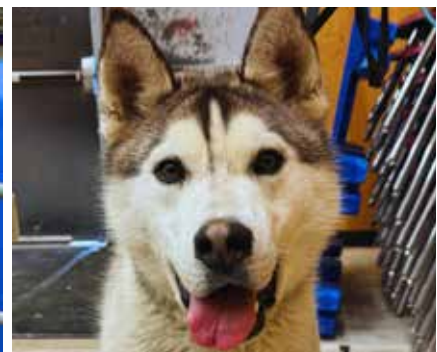
Animal Services Pilot Project

On May 12, 2023, the Matawa Chiefs Council passed resolution #36-12/05/2023 called 'Support for a 2-Year Pilot Project on a New Animal Services Community-of-Practice and to Reclaim the Cultural Practice of Dog Sledding in the Matawa First Nations.' One of the reasons it was passed was because the Chiefs Council recognized that despite its direct impact on the people and community's public health, the issue of animal services is rarely addressed and a huge gap exists. Because, unlike municipalities across Canada, First Nations do not have animal services in their communities nor are they in the immediate vicinity of a veterinary hospital. This has resulted in poor animal health and dog overpopulation which negatively impacts community public health through dog bites, pack aggression, dog mauling deaths, and increased potential for zoonotic disease transmission in the First Nations in Matawa. A proposal was submitted to Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and was partially funded for 14 months. It was championed by ISC Minister of Indigenous Affairs and Member of Parliament (MP) for Thunder Bay-Superior-North Patty Hajdu. On February 5, 2024 the pilot project began. It will run until March 31, 2025. To date, the following has taken place:

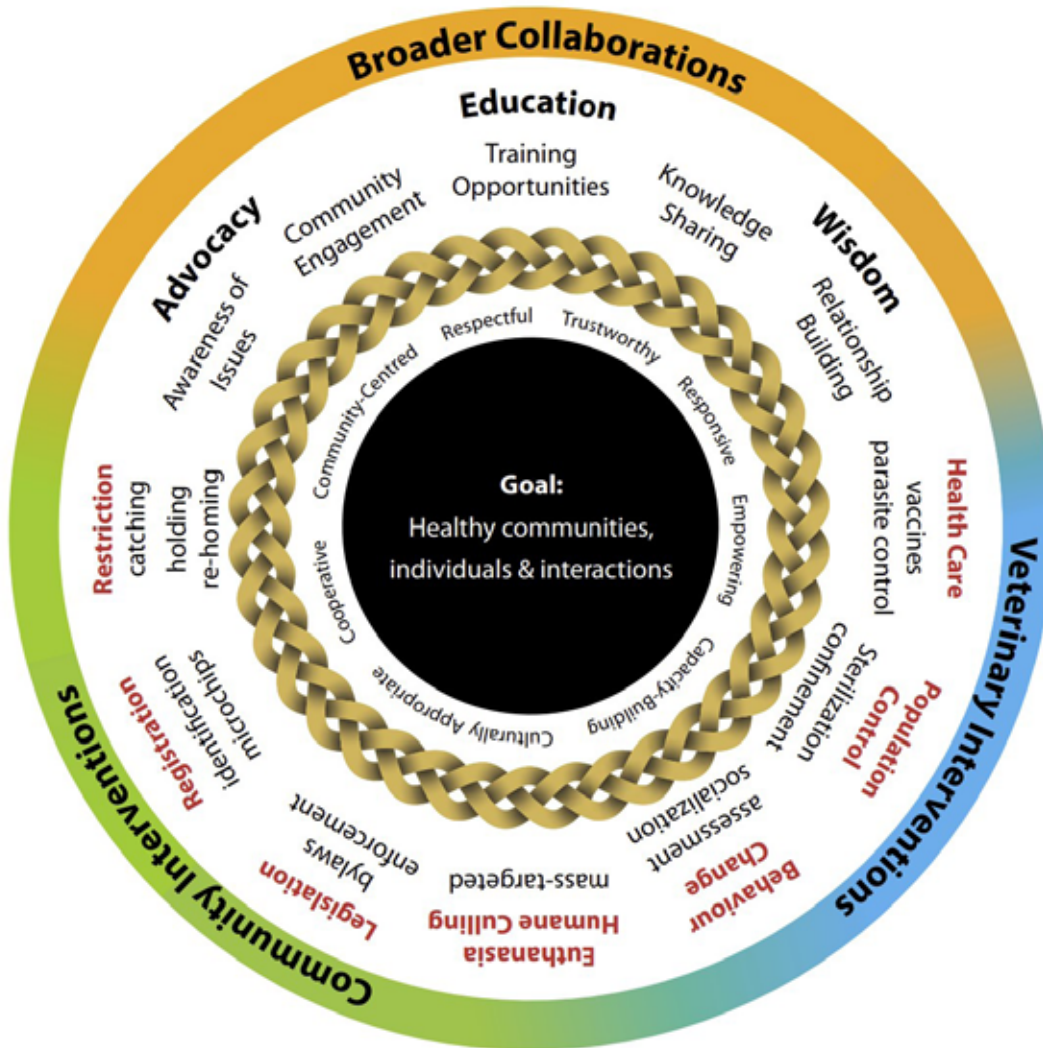


Photo credit: Jared Qwustenuxum Williams

- **Feb/March:** Part-Time Animal Guardians hired in almost all the First Nations in Matawa
- **March 5-7:** 1st Matawa Animal Services Guardian Gathering
- **April 4 and 17:** Assisted MPP Sol Mamakwa on his 1st Reading debate on proposed Bill 171, Enhancing Veterinarian Professionals Act
- **April/May:** Wyloo donated 210 lbs. of specialty dog food to support parvovirus outbreak in Nibinamik and approximately 675 lbs. of dog food to Marten Falls First Nation
- **May 1-4:** Animal Wellness Clinic held in Webequie, their last clinic was in 2016 – the team delivered 59 surgeries, and provided 97 animal wellness exams and 188 vaccines
- **May 22:** Animal Guardian Resource Guide drafted (still incomplete)
- **June 3:** Eabametoong First Nation Wellness Clinic and Listening Circle
- **June 6:** Despite making a submission for major amendments on May 23 that would consider First Nations needs, an Act to Enact the Veterinary Professionals Act received royal assent without the recommended amendments
- **June 20 – 25:** Ginoogaming and Long Lake #58 First Nation Animal Wellness Clinic with PetSmart Charities and Northern Reach, their last clinic was also in 2016 – the veterinary team delivered 148 surgeries, 56 animal wellness exams in total between both communities
- **June 26:** Aroland First Nation Animal Plans Listening Circle
- **June 27:** Constance Lake First Nation Listening Circle with the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA)
- Pre-planning for August 8-11 Animal Wellness Clinic in Constance Lake First Nation (with the OSPCA)
- **July 15:** Update meeting with MP Patty Hajdu



Dog Population Management in the Community



Source: This illustration is an adaptation of a illustration in the following article.

Dhillon, et al, 2016. Finding Pathways for Bite Prevention and Decreasing Dog Populations: The process of animal control for indigenous communities in Canada. *Journal of Indigenous Wellbeing: Te Mauri-Pimatisiwin*, Volume 1, Issue 2.

The Community Dog Book

2023/2024

RESOLUTION UPDATES





35th Annual General Meeting

July 25 - 27, 2023 - Long Lake #58 First Nation

1	Acceptance of the 35th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly Agenda	Chief Dorothy Towedo, Aroland FN	Chief Sheri Taylor, Ginoogaming FN
01-26-07-2023			
<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 35th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly accept the agenda as presented with amendments made by Chief Judy Desmoulin.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u> N/A</p>			

2	Acceptance in Principle of the 2023 Matawa Chiefs Council and Regional Priorities & Jurisdiction Reports	Chief Cornelius Wabasse, Webequie FN	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum, Marten Falls FN
02-27-07-23			
<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 35th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly accept in-principle the 2023 Chiefs Council Report and Regional Priorities & Jurisdiction Report as presented.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u> Report provided to Department of Justice in May 2023. There were no other financial or annual report requirements for the 2022-2023 fiscal year, as no external funding was received from any parties or sources such as Canada or Ontario.</p>			

3	Support for Matawa Learning Institute Business Plan	Chief Judy Desmoulin, Long Lake #58 FN	Ogamakan Michael Sugarhead, Nibinamik FN
03-08-12-2023			
<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Matawa Education Department to develop a business plan supporting the development of the Matawa Learning Institute; and,</p> <p>FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly ask that the Matawa Education Department's business plan identifies the need for acquiring adequate and sustainable funding for facilities to support the activities of the Matawa Learning Institute in Thunder Bay and the Matawa First Nations communities; and,</p> <p>FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Education Department to provide regular updates to the Matawa First Nations' education leadership and the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly on activities related to the development of the Matawa Learning Institute.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u> Through the Matawa Waka Tere program, partnering with the Matawa Language Revitalization Committee, the Self-Study, or Phase III of the WINHEC accreditation program has been submitted to the governing body. This will lead into the WINHEC accreditation committee visit, which is scheduled for August 2024. This visit will involve WINHEC members from around the world coming to Thunder Bay, ON, as well as several Matawa community visits and will culminate with a report and the accreditation certification. In addition to this work, the Matawa Language Revitalization Committee will look to attend the WINHEC AGM in September 2024 in Honolulu, Hawaii.</p>			

4	Appointment of Chiefs' Spokesperson for Education	Chief Sheri Taylor, Ginoogaming FN	Ogamakan Michael Sugarhead, Nibinamik FN
04-08-12- 2023	<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly appoint Cornelius Wabasse as the Matawa Chiefs' Spokesperson for Education for two years, or until said person is no longer able to fulfil this responsibility; and,</p> <p>FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Matawa Education to ensure the Matawa Chiefs' Spokesperson for Education is kept up to date on issues and opportunities related to education policies, programming, funding, and regional education strategic planning.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u> Matawa Education staff provide current education-related concerns to Sharon Nate, Executive Director of Education, for her to share with the Matawa Chiefs' Spokesperson for Education. Regular updates are also provided to the Education Directors of Matawa First Nations through their roles as the Matawa First Nations Education Authority Board of Directors.</p>		

5	Matawa Education Structural Readiness Technical Support	Chief Sol Atlookan, Eabametoong FN	Chief Cornelius Wabasse, Webequie FN
05-08-12- 2023	<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly request Indigenous Services Canada to continue funding the Matawa Education Department in order for it to continue building its capacity to deliver education programs and services that support identified Matawa First Nations' education priorities until revoked or replaced by the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly resolution; and,</p> <p>FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Education Department to provide regular updates to the Matawa First Nations' education leadership and to the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u> Matawa Education and Matawa First Nations Education Authority have identified challenges in recruiting and retaining Teachers, as well as restoring parental involvement in Matawa First Nation schools. Therefore, as directed by Matawa First Nations Education Authority, and to build capacity, Matawa Education will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matawa Education has hired a Recruitment Officer who is currently assisting schools and Matawa First Nations Education Authority with recruitment needs. Feasibility research is also being conducted to consider recruitment opportunities involving retention strategies, job fairs, collaborating with Post-Secondary Teacher Education Institutions. Recruitment and Retention is also heavily discussed at the 3 times per year Principals Working Group Meetings. • A Community Education Navigator has also been hired who is currently working on building relationships between school, home and Matawa Education Department. The Community Education Navigator is also assisting with the JCY education supply procurement management system and is forming strong community contacts within Matawa. <p><u>Next steps:</u> Meet with each Matawa First Nation local education authority, if agreeable, to support targeted activities that build the capacity of First Nations organizations to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a hiring and recruitment plan that will encourage longevity in staff employment in Matawa community schools. • Continue to engage with community members, staff and students during community visits and engage in meaningful discussion about needs. • Continue to respond to the needs of Matawa First Nations communities and provide support as requested. • Use the strategic plan as a guide to service delivery and support and develop measurable and actionable goals to be ready for the next strategic plan. 		

6	Matawa Education Regional Education Agreement Technical Support	Chief Rick Allen, Constance Lake FN	Chief Sol Atlookan, Eabametoong FN
06-08-12-2023	<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly request Indigenous Services Canada to continue funding the Matawa Education Department to support Matawa First Nations' community-based REA information sessions related to education transformation and REA technical tables, as well as explore the negotiation of an REA education agreement that identifies and addresses Matawa First Nations' education priorities; and,</p> <p>FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Education Department to provide regular updates to the Matawa First Nations' education leadership and the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly on the progress and status of support for the Matawa First Nations Regional Education Agreement(s).</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Matawa Education has held community conversations with leadership and education authorities regarding the Regional Education Agreement. Matawa Education has met with the following Matawa First Nations (excluding Neskantaga First Nation as they have indicated they will move forward independently):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Aroland First Nation ▪ Constance Lake First Nation ▪ Eabametoong First Nation ▪ Ginoogaming First Nation ▪ Marten Falls First Nation ▪ Nibinamik First Nation ▪ Webequie First Nation <p>Following the meetings with First Nations who stated that a Regional Education funding model/framework is more responsive to the needs of the group of First Nations, Matawa Education received copies of side-by-sides from the following Matawa First Nations to develop a data analysis report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Aroland First Nation ▪ Eabametoong First Nation (partial) ▪ Nibinamik First Nation ▪ Webequie First Nation <p>The communities who provided information for analysis are currently underfunded by at least \$1M annually. One of the communities could be as high as \$3.5M. There are grants in the Ontario formula that are not included in the comparability model and should be added, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mental Health & Wellbeing Grant ▪ Continuing Education Grant ▪ Capital Funding <p><u>Next steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Evaluate Continued Community Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Assess outcomes and feedback from meetings with Aroland, Eabametoong, Webequie, Nibinamik, Long Lake #58, Constance Lake, Ginoogaming, and Marten Falls First Nations. ▪ Formation of a Collective Funding Formula <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Facilitate discussions to form a collective group among Matawa First Nations. ○ Identify representatives from each community for the collective. ○ Establish a framework for developing a Matawa-specific funding formula. ○ Analyze current funding to identify gaps and needs. ○ Develop an improved education funding formula. ○ Support discussions with ISC to implement the new mode 		

- **Regional Education System Development**

- Assess the feasibility of creating a Matawa Regional Education System.
- Engage with each Matawa First Nation to gather input and understand community needs.
- Conduct strategic planning sessions and explore funding sources.

- **Regional Education Agreements (REA)**

- Incorporate treaty-based and local education agreements to meet First Nations' goals.
- Adapt the provincial comparability model to Matawa's specific needs.
- Ensure funding model flexibility for resource allocation.

- **Addressing Funding Gaps**

- Advocate for addressing gaps in the IFF model, including governance, leadership, tuition, services, and special education.
- Ensure capital grants and revisit Indigenous education grants.
- Provide updated funding calculations for 2024-25.
- Gather community feedback and adjust the proposed model.
- Integrate MECC's needs into the broader Matawa REA discussion.
- Consider MECC's unique needs in the final funding model.



Chiefs Sheri Taylor (Ginoogaming), Yvette Metansinine (Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek), Judy Desmoulin (Long Lake #58), and Sonny Gagnon (Aroland) with Premier Doug Ford and other Ontario Ministers and Greenstone Gold labourers at the grounds of Migizi Commercial Plaza on the corner of Michael Power Blvd. and Highway 11 in Greenstone on June 18, 2024.



7	Matawa Waka Tere Language Revitalization Expansion	Chief Sheri Taylor, Ginoogaming FN	Chief Cornelius Wabasse, Webequie FN
07-08-12-2023	<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly recognize the need to secure sustainable and adequate funding to adequately support the Matawa Waka Tere Revitalization Project in developing, training, and delivering three language programs (Cree, Ojibway, and Oji-Cree) at the First Nation level; and,</p> <p>FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Education Department, Matawa First Nations Management, and the Matawa Spokesperson for Education to lobby Canada and Ontario for capital funding to support the successful implementation of the Matawa Waka Tere Revitalization Project at the community level; and,</p> <p>FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly mandate the Matawa Education Department to procure adequate delivery sites in Matawa communities and in Thunder Bay to accommodate the expansion of the workforce and the enrolment of adult learners in the Matawa Waka Tere Revitalization Project; and,</p> <p>FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Matawa Education Department provide regular updates to the Matawa First Nations' education leadership and the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>Through the Matawa Waka Tere program, in partnership with the Matawa Language Revitalization Committee, the Self-Study (Phase III) of the WINHEC accreditation program has been submitted to the governing body. This will lead to the WINHEC accreditation committee visit scheduled for August 2024. During this visit, WINHEC members from around the world will come to Thunder Bay, ON, and visit several Matawa communities, culminating in a report and accreditation certification.</p> <p>Additionally, an updated resolution was submitted to the Chiefs in May 2024, focusing on securing an independent location for Matawa Waka Tere classes, student supports, and future programming.</p>		

ent Sustainability Peoples of the Land Culture Language Unity Future Cooperati
 Iture Language Unity Future Cooperation Development Sustainability Peoples o
 n Development Sustainability Peoples of the Land Culture Language Unity Futu
 f the Land Culture Language Unity Future Cooperation Development Sustainabi

8	Moses Beaver Coroner's Inquest Follow-Up	Ogamakan Michael	Chief Cornelius
08-08-12-2023		Sugarhead, Nibinamik FN	Wabasse, Webequie FN
<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Ontario Chief Coroner's Office, the Ministry of the Solicitor General, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of the Attorney General, and the Department of Indigenous Services to include Matawa First Nations and Nibinamik First Nation into the regional co-ordinating committee to implement the Coroner's Inquests' 63 jury recommendations; and,</p> <p>FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that the coordinating committee visit Nibinamik First Nation to meet with the families; and,</p> <p>FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa First Nations, and Nibinamik First Nation, be funded for coordination services to manage the various ministries, departments and agencies involved in acute mental health and corrections; and,</p> <p>FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that additional funding be made available to Nibinamik First Nation and the Matawa Health Co-operative to better support individuals with acute mental health, and/or addiction needs, including accommodations and supports for families and extended families.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>The resolution has been forwarded to NAN, Ministry of Solicitor-General and the Officer of the Chief Coroner. NAN organized a meeting of all the named parties in the Inquest, along with family members, Nibinamik First Nation and Matawa First Nations on May 28, 2024. It was agreed that all the parties would meet to form some type of accountability mechanism to show how the recommendations would happen and how they could be communicated. The future meeting is planned to discuss how and what the structure will look like to move forward.</p>			

9	Creation of Matawa Emergency Services	Chief Sol Atlookan, Eabametoong FN	Chief Sheri Taylor, Ginoogaming FN
08-08-12-2023	<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the creation of the Matawa Emergency Services; and,</p> <p>FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED the Matawa Emergency Services will provide logistical services, and will not just be limited to accommodations, meals, security, ground, air transportation, and other health, education, and social supports, and be delivered in the Indigenous languages of Matawa First Nations; and,</p> <p>FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Emergency Services be inclusive of, and integrated into Matawa First Nations Management services such as Health, Education, Training, Technical and any other divisions or services procured to Matawa membership; and,</p> <p>FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Development GP Inc., (MDC) be tasked with taking the lead on this regional economic opportunity.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u> As the Matawa Development GP Inc., (MDC) was tasked with taking the lead on this regional economic opportunity, preliminary work was completed to assess the scope of this potential opportunity. However, as the MDC has not secured further funding for operations – this resolution is now under the support of the Matawa CEO's Office and Matawa Technical Services, specifically the Fire Prevention & Protection consultants (2 Fire Marshals). As this internal transition is recent, the staff are working to develop a workplan and recommended next steps for the consideration of the Matawa Chiefs Council in the fall of 2024. It is also anticipated that this resolution will be part of the work ahead for the incoming Economic Development Advisor (recruitment and hiring process underway).</p>		

July 25 - 27, 2023 - Neebing, Ontario

10	Independent Review of Matawa First Nations Management	Chief Solomon Atlookan, Eabametoong FN	Chief Judy Desmoulin, Long Lake #58 FN
10-07-27-2023	<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa member First Nation Chiefs direct the MFNM Board to commission an independent review of Matawa First Nation Management Inc. and all associated departments and corporations. This review will be overseen by the Matawa member First Nation Chiefs review team, consisting of 2 Chiefs and 2 Board Members (1 remote and 1 road access, respectively). Matawa member First Nations Chiefs will provide guidance for the review process, including terms of reference.</p> <p>FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa member Chiefs and the Board will meet to determine the terms of reference, discuss this review, including core objectives and identification of a capable review team/firm, within 1 (one) month of the passing of the resolution.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u> The Matawa Chiefs have mandated Matawa First Nations Management (MFNM) Board of Directors and CEO to carry out a comprehensive, independent review of its departments, affiliated corporations, operations, and services that it provides to its nine member First Nations. There has been very significant growth in the number of Matawa employees, departments, and corporations in the past 10 years, as we have grown from 80 employees to over 500. Due to the fast expansion of services and programs, the Matawa Chiefs have concerns about service delivery and want to review all services and programs to ensure effective delivery and maximum benefit to their community members. MFNM departments and corporations will use the findings from the review in their planning processes. Matawa Chiefs want to ensure that we are adequately supporting our First Nations to build the necessary capacity to meet the challenges, and benefit from the potential opportunities that are coming to our communities. The Ring of Fire is only one of many potential resource development projects and associated infrastructure that will be impacting our communities.</p>		



February 9, 2024 - Thunder Bay, Ontario

11	Remote Matawa Community Electricity Grid Connection Studies	Chief Sonny Gagnon, Aroland FN	Chief Solomon Atlookan, Eabametoong FN
11-09-02-2024	<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly instruct the Matawa Development Corporation to seek resources from Canada and Ontario to undertake the initial Power System Study for community engagement, education and to enable the leadership to make appropriate decisions regarding the supply and regional transmission of electricity to our communities; and</p> <p>FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that this process will support First Nations to share their plans and gather together for supportive planning in the short, medium, and long term; and</p> <p>FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that nothing in this resolution will negatively impact, take away or infringe on existing or future studies of a First Nation to conduct their own generation and distribution studies, or participate in this study.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u> Matawa First Nations Management (MFNM) continues to support the direction of individual First Nations and the next steps that may be directed by the Matawa Chiefs Council. It is also anticipated that this resolution will be part of the work ahead for the incoming Economic Development Advisor (recruitment and hiring process underway).</p>		

12	Call for the Approval of Ontario Ministry of Transportation Permit for Continued Development of Migizi Commercial Plaza in Geraldton	Chief Sheri Taylor, Ginoogaming FN	Chief Sonny Gagnon, Aroland FN
12-09-02-2024	<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly have had an opportunity to deliberate on this matter and call for the MTO Minister to approve the permit for continued development of Migizi Commercial Plaza in Geraldton as it is critical for the timely completion of the project and that any delay or denial of this permit will have significant negative consequences for the project and our communities; and</p> <p>FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that should this permit not be granted, the Matawa Chiefs Council will work with these communities to determine next steps including direct action and working with them on the denying of any other future projects that require permitting from First Nations.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u> Although the permit was not granted by MTO (for various reasons including it being a 6 to 8 month process and requiring legislative amendments), an alternative was provided to the satisfaction of the First Nations. On June 18, 2024, Ontario announced \$2 million in funding to support the construction and maintenance of the Migizi Commercial Plaza.</p>		



February 28, 2024 - Virtual

13	Matawa Chiefs' Council Direction to Conduct an Economic Study	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum, Marten Falls FN	Chief Cornelius Wabasse, Webequie FN
13-27-02-2024			
Abstentions: Chief Solomon Atlookan, Eabametoong FN			
<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Matawa Chiefs Council (MCC) respect the autonomy of each individual Matawa member First Nation, including political positions, community protocols, and process for the free, prior and informed consent of each Indigenous rights holding community related to development, and;</p> <p>FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that the MCC direct Matawa First Nations Management (MFNM) to submit the approved Economic Study Proposal: Poverty to Prosperity to funding sources as required, and;</p> <p>FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that the proposed economic study does not and will not impact or replace other studies being conducted at the community level, and;</p> <p>FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the proposed economic study does not and will not imply the consent of any First Nation to any development or projects.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u></p> <p>As per the resolution, the Matawa First Nations Management (MFNM) <i>Economic Study Proposal: Poverty to Prosperity</i> was prepared for submission to the Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN) Critical Minerals Infrastructure Fund (CMIF) for the deadline of February 29, 2024. This resolution was the Matawa Chiefs' Council approval of the draft proposal – approach and content/scope.</p> <p>In addition to the formal CMIF proposal submission process - the proposal was also presented directly to Minister of Natural Resources Canada, the Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson at the March 5, 2024 meeting with Matawa Chiefs' Council during the Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) 2024 meeting in Toronto. At that time, the Minister indicated that he would be discussing with the Province of Ontario any next steps – and that NRCAN senior staff would also assist on a review of the proposal presented.</p> <p>Currently, there is no further response from the Minister of Natural Resources Canada for further discussions on critical minerals in the Matawa region - and the proposal has not received a response (yes or no) from the CMIF. NRCAN senior staff also did not have a direct response on what any options may be for this proposal – other than referring potentially to the First Nations Major Projects Coalition for financial support or resources (which is not the intention of the Matawa Chiefs' Council to establish a working relationship directly with Canada in some way shape or form).</p> <p>NEXT STEPS / FURTHER DIRECTION REQUIRED:</p> <p>The lack of response from the Minister of Natural Resources Canada on discussions and concerns raised at the March 5, 2024 meeting and the proposal submitted may require direct follow up with his office.</p>			

May 21, 2024 - Thunder Bay, Ontario

14	Awashishewiigihiwaywiin Support		Chief Judi Desmoulin, Long Lake #58 FN	Chief Sheri Taylor, Ginoogaming FN
14-21-05-2024				
Abstentions: Chief Sonny Gagnon, Aroland FN				
<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Awashishewiigihiwaywiin continue to work in partnership with First Nations as they build capacity, develop policies, community education tools, train and mentor staff, support communities in their band representatives' program, develop protocols, and work with clients/families in Thunder Bay, especially for those communities who do not yet have urban programs and/or who have to deal with very complex or conflict of interest cases; and</p> <p>FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa First Nations Chiefs support Awashishewiigihiwaywiin in their budget request to Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and other funders which will provide on-going operational support and renovation expenses to Matawa First Nations families at the Matawa Training and Wellness Centre; and</p> <p>FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that the on-going and future work of Awashishewiigihiwaywiin will be guided by Elder Values, Teaching and Principles; and</p> <p>FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that nothing in this resolution will conflict with any initiatives currently or in the future being developed at the community level; and</p> <p>FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution will remain in good standing with Indigenous Services Canada for 2024/2025.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u> Budget and request has been completed. Final review and signatures to be completed then submitted to ISC for approval.</p>				

15	Support for Post-Majority Care for Awashishewiigihiwaywiin	Chief Judy Desmoulin, Long Lake #58 FN	Chief Sheri Taylor, Ginoogaming FN
15-21-05-2024			
<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa Chiefs acknowledge the high number of Matawa youth aged 18-26 exiting the child welfare system and the current lack of supports to transition them to independent living and enhance connection to community and culture; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa Chiefs authorize Matawa Awashishewiigihiwaywiin Program to provide Post Majority Care for those youth exiting the child welfare system; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Awashishewiigihiwaywiin will work co-operatively with First Nations on case management to better serve First Nations members in all areas; and</p> <p>FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution will remain in good standing with Indigenous Service Canada for 2024/2025.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u> Budget and request has been completed. Final review and signatures to be completed then submitted to ISC for approval.</p>			

16	Support for Matawa Education to Collaborate to Develop & Implement a Strategy Against 'Runners'	Chief Judy Desmoulin, Long Lake #58 FN	Chief Sonny Gagnon, Aroland FN
16-21-05-2024	<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Matawa Education to collaborate with Ontario, the Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO), and Thunder Bay Police Service (TBPS) to review the current Runner Program Plan and related initiatives, and to revise and/or develop and implement revised strategies to more effectively deter 'runners or second party purchasers; and</p> <p>FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly demand that Canada and Ontario provide adequate, on-going funding to implement identified strategies to target and deter "runners" or second party purchasers; and</p> <p>FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Matawa Education Department to provide regular updates to the Matawa First Nations' education leadership and the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly on these activities related to the review and implementation of all strategies targeting 'runners' or second party purchasers.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u> Matawa Education began planning in June 2024 for the facilitation of a meeting between representatives from Ontario, the Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO), and Thunder Bay Police Service (TBPS) to share resolution and begin discussions and planning of strategy. Meeting target date set for September 2024.</p>		

17	Support for the Development of a Matawa First Nation Youth Shelter	Chief Rick Allen, Constance Lake FN	Ogamakan Michael Sugarhead, Nibinamik FN
17-21-05-2024	<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Matawa Education to work collaboratively with other Matawa Departments to develop a business plan to support the development of a Matawa First Nations Youth Shelter; and</p> <p>FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT that the Matawa Education Department obtain and consider input from at-risk Matawa Youth, other Matawa departments and organizations, and local agencies providing services to at-risk youth; and</p> <p>FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct that this business plan identify the need for the acquisition of adequate, sustainable funding for facilities that will support the development, implementation and on-going activities of the Matawa First Nations Youth Shelter; and</p> <p>FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT nothing in this resolution will take away or diminish any funding and/or youth treatment happening in individual First Nations; and</p> <p>FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Matawa to provide regular updates to the Matawa First Nations' education leadership and the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly on these activities related to the Matawa First Nations Youth Shelter.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u> Matawa Education forwarded resolution in June 2024 to other applicable Matawa First Nations Management department managers to begin business plan development. Meeting target date set for summer 2024. Matawa Education will also begin work of identifying at-risk youth who are willing to provide important input into a Matawa First Nations Youth Shelter.</p>		

18	Support for the Development of a Comprehensive Matawa First Nations Youth Treatment Centre	Chief Sheri Taylor, Ginoogaming FN	Chief Solomon Atlookan, Eabametoong FN
18-21-05-2024	<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Matawa Education to work collaboratively with other Matawa Departments to develop a business plan to support the development of a Matawa First Nations Youth Treatment Centre; and</p> <p>FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Education Department obtain and consider input from at-risk Matawa Youth, other Matawa departments and organizations, and local agencies providing services to at-risk youth; and</p> <p>FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct that this business plan identify the need for the acquisition of adequate, sustainable funding for facilities that will support the development, implementation and on-going activities of the Matawa First Nations Youth Treatment Centre; and</p> <p>FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED nothing in this resolution will take away or diminish any funding and/or youth treatment happening in individual First Nations; and</p> <p>FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Matawa to provide regular updates to the Matawa First Nations' education leadership and the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly on these activities related to the Matawa First Nations Youth Treatment Centre.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u> Matawa Education forwarded resolution in June 2024 to other applicable Matawa First Nations Management department managers to begin business plan development. Meeting target date set for summer 2024.</p>		

19	Establishment of Estate Management Services	Chief Judy Desmoulin, Long Lake #58 FN	Chief Rick Allen, Constance Lake FN
19-21-05-2024	<p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs Council hereby supports MFNM in establishing an Estate Management Service pilot project in partnership with Normaxx Financial Group to provide guidance, support, and assistance to its members in matters related to estate planning and management; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Estate Management Service shall be responsible for offering services such as will drafting, estate administration guidance, inheritance planning, and related consultations to eligible members of the Matawa communities; and</p> <p>FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs Council support MFNM in submitting a proposal to the Estate Management Funding offered by ISC and other funders to support this pilot project; and</p> <p>FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa financial advisory services department will work with Normaxx to oversee and operate the Estate Management Service. They will work to establish procedures and guidelines for the effective operation of the Estate Management Service, ensuring confidentiality, cultural sensitivity, and compliance with relevant laws and regulations.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u> A proposal was submitted to Indigenous Services Canada on June 7, 2024. A response to-date has not been provided.</p>		



20	Support for the Development of a Matawa First Nations Community Wellbeing Strategy	Chief Rick Allen, Constance Lake FN	Ogamakan Michael Sugarhead, Nibinamik FN
20-21-05-2024			
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Matawa First Nations Management to develop a wholistic Community Safety and Wellbeing Strategy; and			
FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct that this strategy be coordinated by all departments within Matawa First Nations with a designated coordinating committee; and			
FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that this committee will collaborate with First Nations communities, police, health, social services, education, and other agencies for best practices in developing this proposal; and			
FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa First Nations seek resources from funders to help implement this strategy; and			
FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Matawa First Nations Management provide an update to Matawa Chiefs in Assembly and the Board of Directors of Matawa First Nations Management.			
<u>UPDATE:</u> Matawa departments met at a Program Manager’s meeting on July 15, 2024 to have a preliminary discussion on the follow-up of this mandate. Discussions included the need to develop a workplan, research on other models and funding sources. Further updates will be provided throughout the 2024/2025 fiscal year.			

Matawa wants to hear from you!

To help us improve our services to your community, Matawa is conducting an independent review of its of programs, services and corporations. **A review team will be visiting your community in the late summer or early fall of 2024.** It is an opportunity for you to share your thoughts and let us know what we are doing well, and what we need to improve on. We will also be holding meetings with Matawa First Nation members who live in Thunder Bay and Greenstone municipalities. More information will be available in the coming months.



*Mark
YOUR
Calendar*



your voice matters!



**Everyone is invited to
participate**



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

Matawa Education and Care Centre

200 Lillie Street North
Thunder Bay, ON
1-807-768-3300
www.matawaeducation.com

Matawa Training and Wellness Centre

523 Algoma Street North
Thunder Bay, ON
Awashishewiigihiwaywiin: 1-807-698-7406
KKETS: 1-807-633-6540



The Power of Unity
The Dignity of Difference