

IROQUOIS CAUCUS

RECORD OF DECISIONS – FINAL

Kahnawake, February 5 & 6, 2014

PARTICIPANTS

Kahnawake: Martin LeBorgne, Lloyd Phillips, Billy Diabo, Bob Patton, Kenneth McComber, Kahsennenhawe Sky-Deer, Dennis Diabo (Intergovernmental Coordinator), Paul Nicholas (Project Leader MCK), Winona Polson-Lahache (Project Leader MCK), Kevin Deer (observer), Andrew T. Delisle Sr. (elder)

Akwesasne: Billy Sunday, Joe Lazore, April Adams-Phillips, Vaughn Sunday (Intergovernmental Liaison)

Tyendinaga: Barry Brant, Shoo-Shoo (Policy Analyst)

Six Nations: Ava Hill, Carl Hill,

Oneida: Joel Abram, Harry Doxtator, Martin Powless (Policy Analyst)

Wahta: Bill Hay

Kahnesatake: Serge Simon

Chair: Martin LeBorgne

Recorder: Trevor Bomberry

Not all participants were able to be present for the duration of the meetings.

Kevin Deer opened the meeting.

HIK – KEVIN DEER PRESENTATION

Kevin Deer conducted a short presentation on behalf of The Hiawatha Institute for Indigenous Knowledge (HIK). Brookfield Renewable Energy Company has agreed to transfer 26 acres of land on the north shore of the Mohawk River at Cohoes Falls, NY, to the HIK. The HIK is seeking a support letter stating the IC understands that these are the traditional lands of the Mohawk Nation of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. A detailed letter from the HIK addressed to the Members of the Iroquois Caucus was

distributed. The IC will need to take this matter back to their respective councils. It was proposed to sign a letter of support at the next IC in April.

Undertaking: Bill Hay will draft a support letter and circulate it for IC approval.

IROQUOIS CAUCUS STRATEGY SESSION

There were a total of four issues that were brought forward by each community, they are: Tobacco, Education, Border Crossing and Taxation. It was stated that all are equally important. Tobacco and Education are moving quickly, these two are the urgent matters.

Education: The IC will be releasing a statement on February 6, 2014 to address the FNEA.

Tobacco: Kahnawake is meeting with the critics regarding Tobacco on Monday (February 10th), it was agreed that Kahnawake can say that they are representing the IC when they meet with them.

Border Crossing: Mike Mitchell is continuing to work on this issue.

Taxation: Ava Hill will follow-up with the AFN on this issue.

It was noted that each community does not respond in a timely manner to things of importance. It was agreed that there will be a two week timeline, if a community does not respond within two weeks; their silence will be seen as agreeing to the issue.

IC Processes and Structures: It was decided to strike a committee and have each community appoint a technician to combine the terms of reference and the processes and structures documents into one updated document. This committee will schedule a one day meeting to be hosted by Tyendinaga, to create a draft. The IC will pay the costs for each council's technician only, if a Chief or Councillor would like to attend, their council will pay for their cost.

Undertaking: Mike Mitchell will continue to work on Border Crossing.

Undertaking: Ava Hill will follow-up with the AFN on taxation.

Undertaking: A technicians committee was struck to deal with IC processes, structures and terms of reference. They will meet in Tyendinaga before the next IC to create an updated draft.

REVIEW DECMEBER 8, 2013 DRAFT RECORD OF DECISIONS

The December 8, 2013 draft record of decisions was accepted as final.

IC COORDINATOR UPDATES

Finances: A summary showing the current balance and an updated IC budget was distributed. It was acknowledged that there is a surplus, there was discussion about reducing each community's contribution to \$5,000 per year, it was also stated that if the IC wants to do things outside of regular meetings that the surplus will diminish quickly.

AFN-AGA: Every Nation was invited to send their own singers and dancers from across Canada to the AFN-AGA being held in Halifax from July 15-17, 2014. The ICC was asked to research the cost to send Iroquois singers and dancers (which was distributed). After much discussion, the decision was not to use IC funds for this matter, but if an individual community can raise the money then they can send the singers and dancers on behalf of the IC.

IC Website: The ICC has contacted Kahnawake's technicians regarding creating an IC website. The ICC has a meeting scheduled with Kahnawake's technician to discuss this further at the conclusion of the IC on Thursday February 6, 2014.

TOBACCO – KAHNAWAKE PRESENTATION

Peggy Mayo presented on behalf of a tobacco manufacturing group, Peggy is employed by Robbie Dickson – owner of Rainbow Tobacco. She explained how it has taken ten years to get to where they are now in terms of a law to regulate tobacco in Kahnawake. Peggy asked the IC to release a statement denouncing Bill C-10. It was asked if Kahnawake's draft tobacco law was going to be shared with the other IC communities, the tobacco group agreed to give each community a copy.

A copy of Kahnawake's draft tobacco law was distributed to each IC community.

The IC agreed to create a resolution denouncing Bill C-10. A draft copy was distributed, each community has to take this issue back to their respective council's first.

The IC was asked if they still wanted to meet with Anne Bird from the MOF. There was discussion on if the IC should be meeting with Ontario on the tobacco issue.

Undertaking: Each community is to take the IC draft resolution regarding Bill C-10 back to their respective councils for approval.

Undertaking: The ICC will find out if Anne Bird's federal counterparts would be attending with her if the IC were to invite her to the next meeting.

FREE TRADE MOU – TRADE ITEMS

There was to be a conference call to discuss possible trade items, this did not happen due to the varying availability of IC members.

There were a lot of similar trade items each community could offer: traditional medicine, language teachers, traditional tobacco, herbal medicines, fish, meat, lacrosse, possibly logging, white corn, pottery, crafts, sports and technical training.

Undertaking: Each council is to appoint a technician to further discuss the free trade items. It was suggested that the technicians could discuss this when they meet to create a new draft of the IC processes, structure and terms of reference.

BORDER CROSSING

It was stated that the Akwesasne border is the tenth busiest border in Canada. Akwesasne community members have to report when crossing into Canada, which is a financial strain on resources. Alternative reporting is being explored; school buses and emergency vehicles do not have to report. The western hemisphere travel initiative utilizes ID cards in Mexico that allows them to cross the border, so the ability to use current technology to create new cards is available. These new cards would have only a name and birth date on them.

Akwesasne suggested the IC communities help in disrupting traffic at the border for a few hours on July 4th to pressure the Canadian government into finding a solution to difficulties they are experiencing. It was also stated to ask the AFN to assist in securing a meeting with high level officials.

EDUCATION - FNEA AND IC EDUCATION SUMMIT

FNEA: there was an announcement coming from PM Harper on Friday February 7, 2014. There is worry that the AFN is trying to fit to the government's mould rather than opposing the FNEA. There is concern that the agreement between the IC and the AFN is not being upheld, the AFN is not informing the IC on their activities.

MCK established a working group to analyze the FNEA; they created a nine page document (which was shared with the IC) and a two page fact sheet. The documents can be found at kec@qc.com online also.

The IC released a statement (resolution) rejecting the FNEA in its entirety.

Some IC communities are working on creating their own education law so that they will control their own education.

Education Summit: Each council was to identify their technicians to participate in an IC education summit to be held in Tyendinaga tentatively scheduled for April 2014.

Undertaking: Each council is to identify resource people to attend an IC Summit on education in April 2014. Akwesasne will follow-up on proposed details.

LAND RIGHTS

There was discussion on whether the IC would be interested in pursuing land rights as a group. Tyendinaga needs more data in order to create an outline of what the IC would be looking at.

Undertaking: Barry Brant will send the ICC an outline when more information becomes available.

IC CONSULTATION POLICY

The ICC distributed the draft IC Consultation Policy as well as a draft disclaimer for presenters to sign. Each council will take these two documents back to their respective council's to review them.

It was suggested that when the technicians meet on processes, structure and the terms of reference, that they can work on the IC Consultation Policy as well.

It was also agreed that each community needs to answer the remaining three questions asked by AFN National Chief Atleo a year ago. Each community can send their answers to the ICC.

Undertaking: Each community to review the draft IC Consultation Policy and disclaimer.

Undertaking: ICC will re-circulate the remaining three questions asked by AFN National Chief Atleo. Each community is to send their answers to the ICC.

ENBRIDGE LINE 9

There are some communities that are in direct talks with Enbridge, and some communities have not taken a position on this matter yet. Akwesasne met with Enbridge, they will share their report of this meeting with the IC. The decision was not to send a letter of support to Amanda Lickers

Undertaking: Akwesasne will share a report of their meeting with Enbridge.

Undertaking: ICC will inform Amanda Lickers that the IC will not be sending a letter of support.

HEALTH

Akwesasne's portfolio holder on health was unable to attend.

Keith Conn and Mary Luisa were invited to the IC, they were unable to attend due to prior commitments. The IC acknowledged that it is important to meet with them, since they offered to host the meeting in Ottawa, the

ICC will ask if IC member's travel costs will be paid for by Keith Conn's office before agreeing to go to Ottawa.

It was recommended that each community gather information on how the health cut-backs are affecting their members.

Undertaking: ICC will ask if IC members will have their travel costs paid for by Keith Conn's office to meet in Ottawa.

Undertaking: Each community is to gather information on how cut-backs are affecting their members.

NEW BUSINESS

It was suggested to have a special session at the next IC to discuss generating funds as the IC. Some possible revenue generating options are: online gaming, casino and IT. Each community is to come up with ideas on how to generate funds for the IC.

Andrew from NICA would like the IC to send a representative to meetings that will occur on March 31, April 1 & 2, 2014 in Alberta. NICA is an independent organization that is investigating the Indian Trust Fund. Andrew will send each IC council an official notice for these meetings.

Akwesasne has appointed Vaughn Sunday as the new contact person.

Six Nations has hired Eliza Montour as a political advisor, she will be the new contact.

Undertaking: Each community is to come up with ideas on how to generate revenue for the IC.

PRESS RELEASE

There was a press release and signing of a resolution by the seven representatives from the IC rejecting the government's FNEA in its entirety. The Montreal Gazette, APTN and the Eastern Door were present.

Next Meeting: Six Nations will host on April 3 & 4, 2014.

Kahsennenhawe Sky-Deer closed the meeting.