



Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council Education Authority

Regular Board Meeting

February 4, 2021

Time: 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Virtual/Online Meeting – Google Meet

Attendees:

<p>Board Members:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chief Ivan Sawan, Chair, Loon River First Nation 2. Councilor Tyler Letendre, Loon River First Nation 3. Councilor Shayne Letendre, Loon River First Nation 4. Chief Billy Joe Laboucan, Lubicon Lake Band 5. Councilor Jason Laboucan, Lubicon Lake Band 6. Councilor Timothy Sawan, Lubicon Lake Band 7. Chief Gladys Okemow, Peerless Trout First Nation 8. Councilor Corrine Alook, Peerless Trout First Nation 9. Councilor Judy Sinclair, Peerless Trout First Nation 10. Chief Albert Thunder, Whitefish Lake First Nation 11. Councilor Darren Auger, Whitefish Lake First Nation 12. Chief Isaac Laboucan Avirom, Woodland Cree First Nation 13. Councilor Derek Auger, Vice Chair, Woodland Cree First Nation 14. Councilor Richard Laboucan, Whitefish Lake First Nation 	<p>KTCEA Staff:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Daphne Mai'Stoina, Superintendent 2. Pearl Calahasen, Deputy Superintendent 3. Carmen Parent, Strategic Projects Specialist 4. Yvonne Noskey, Director of Finance 5. Adam Noskey, Intermediate Accountant 6. Melbourne Disbrowe, Communications Coord. 7. Gord Atkinson, Director of Capital Services 8. Theresa Brown, Director of Student Services 9. Terry Lynn Cook, Director of C & I 10. Melvina Thunder, Human Resources Director 11. Melva White, Human Resources Manager 12. Colin Kelly, Board Mentor 13. Gilbert Okemow, Community Engagement 14. Heather L'Hirondelle, Executive Assistant
<p>Absent / Regrets:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Councilor Joseph Whitehead Jr., Woodland Cree First Nation 2. Al Rollins, KTC Chief Executive Officer 	<p>KTC Admin Staff & Other Guests:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dan Smith, KTC Chief Operations Officer

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

1. Meeting Called to Order 9:10 am Chair Ivan Sawan
2. Opening Prayer 9:15 am Councilor Darren Auger
3. Introductions / Roll Call Chair Ivan Sawan
4. Approval of February 4, 2021 Agenda: Chair Ivan Sawan
 - a. Councilor Corrine Alook requested school closures to be added to the agenda.
 - 2021 - 02 - 04 # 1: Motion to approve the February 4, 2021 Agenda with the addition of School Closures.
 - Moved by Councilor Derek Auger. Seconded by Councilor Jason Laboucan. All in favor, motion carried.
5. Reading of the Minutes from January 14, 2021 Yvonne Noskey, Director of Finance
 - o No changes or corrections.
 - o 2021 - 02 - 04 # 2: Motion to approve the Minutes of January 14, 2021 as read.
 - o Moved by Councilor Derek Auger. Seconded by Darren Auger. All in favor, motion carried.



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- Chairman Ivan Sawan stated the importance of the Superintendent's Report that is presented to each Nation member and how vital the information provided answers some of our questions and concerns regarding the reopening of the schools.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes:

- Highlighted items in the minutes denotes the follow up to be done and is included in the Superintendent's Report.
 - Student Incentives – KTCEA continues to work on these initiatives, and will be providing the schools with funding over and above the school budget; we will provide detailed information at the next meeting.
 - LBL Lesson plan was sent to the Board. (Jan 27)
 - Board training – included in report.

7. Superintendent's Update:

- The Superintendent provided the status updates of the schools and current information on how other jurisdictions are continuing to operate during Covid.
 - We will open the schools once there are zero cases in each community as directed by the leadership.
 - Provincial schools are now open as of January 11. Health and Safety continues to monitor the cases in the province.
 - Student participation rates continue to fluctuate at all the schools. There have been decreases since November, however over the last few weeks numbers have increased in all the schools.
 - Learning loss is occurring across the world for students; we are all facing incredible challenges during this time; we continue to look for motivators to engage our students. Student browsing data is encouraging and shows that students are using the internet in educational ways.
 - Nominal Roll student count for 2020/2021 is 1131 as compared to last year's figure of 1067.
 - High School graduation rates are expected to increase this year; with data showing 28 students with having more than 70 credits from the last school year. There is a minimum 20 credits per semester requirement for these students.
 - The C & I assessment process was presented as to how it fits into the Alberta Education curriculum and how this is being done. Examples and detailed information are provided in the report.
 - The KTCEA radio program is moving forward and we will be purchasing equipment for this project. This will improve the areas of communication and engagement while providing CTS and CCC learning opportunities for the students.
 - LBL has been very active in developing videos and projects for the students; these include instructional videos in moose calling, snare making, snaring rabbits and squirrels, and storytelling. These are also used in the PLC's for the teaching staff in lesson planning.
 - Board members recommended the videos to include names appearing on the screen in both Cree and English for the students to thoroughly comprehend and understand this connection.
 - Virtual LBL classes support the teachers with these resource videos and are part of the CCC.
 - We are pleased to announce the Royal Alberta Museum will be hosting an exhibit / display with a focus on the KTCEA Land Based Learning.
 - LBL Subcommittee meeting will be held on February 9.
 - The LBL school kits are available and will be distributed.



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- C & I staff are working on developing and implementing an Outreach program with making connections and researching information. Applications for this are underway.
 - A needs assessment survey will be sent out to the communities in the near future; there are three options are being explored: 1. Stand alone with one per community, 2. One main building with satellite locations or regional blended, or 3. Multiple sites shared by the closer communities.
 - The funders will require a name for the Outreach school by March 31.
 - We have met with Penny Laboucan from KTC and looking into a partnership with this initiative and they are exploring for the PSE program.
 - The program would capture those students in grades 7 to 12 and the age limit would be 21. We are hoping to launch this in September 2021. There will be more information to follow as we receive and compile the feasibility data for this project.
 - Board members noted the need for an Outreach program in their communities and the lack of access for those students wanting to return to school.
 - This program will provide those students who only need limited number of credits to gain access to postsecondary or trades education. LBL will also be included in this program.
 - Little Buffalo has space available for this. The program must be made interesting for the students, and to include some type of international learning of other indigenous cultures such as Australia or New Zealand.
 - A recommendation was made to incorporate progressive learning with the teaching tool, where there is an outcome to that teaching; for the student to have an opportunity to make their own videos and show what they have learned and this could be used as the assessment. Kits could be sent home to the students to continue the learning.
 - Are credits provided or can be provided for those students who are doing LBL teachings within their community? Who is teaching the LBL in the elementary levels?
 - Yes, where there are LBL and other common activities where the students are writing about their experiences, this is how the Common Consistent Curriculum comes together with the Cree language and Cree ways of knowing and being.
 - The elementary teachers teach the LBL as part of their daily lesson planning and they are also learning how to do this in the PLCs. This is a new way of doing things for the teachers and has not been fully implemented during Covid. We have just started this in September and it will take time to be fully utilized.
- Capital services continues to provide services in the areas of delivery services, transportation, IT, O & M and Health and Safety. They are preparing, cleaning and monitoring at this time in preparation of when schools open. New buses have been purchased and will be going to CJS and the PTFN schools.
- Security and camera systems have been added at the schools and we are now using the new maintenance request system for reporting and responding to O & M concerns. Smartboards, intercom systems and alarm systems have been replaced and/or upgraded. We currently have 4 month's supply of PPE and sanitizer that has been delivered to all the schools in preparation for school restart.
- Software purchases and upgrades have been made for Google Suites and Go Guardian Beacon program. The Student Helpline 1-800 number from Student Services will soon be implemented and manned by the mental health therapists.
- Outdoor digital signage is being researched for broadcasting information across all schools.
- We continue to provide internet support to the families with the long range solution being led by KTC with the Universal Broad band project.



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- Student services staff and therapists continue to support school staff and students in providing wellness resources and sessions. The SLP & Mental health therapists have increased the number of sessions per month, videos are being developed and art therapy supplies have been ordered.
 - The “Black Bear” Cree/ English literacy resource video and horse riding video was presented to the Board.
- Chief Ivan Sawan inquired on how success is measured and would like a snap-shot report of how the needs of the community are being met in education. We need to see how successful we have been in moving forward the education authority.
 - The community report covers some of the accomplishments on an annual basis, however we can give a more detailed report on the completed initiatives.
- The HR department has completed a staff survey and guidelines for staff working for the Nations. HR training sessions have been provide to the Directors, Managers and Principals. Draft policy development is ongoing and information is being compiled and will be presented for review and direction to the subcommittee.
- The staff survey data and results were presented. Common remarks were made in the areas of:
 - Housing needs – lacking, reduced rent, poor housing.
 - KTCEA is professional, growing and becoming a better organization.
 - Appreciation of the survey and staff being heard.
- Chief Isaac commented on the Horse Therapy program and inquired if students could use their own horse?
 - This can be looked at with the possibility on doing something like this in the future, at this time we use Marty’s as they are therapy trained horses.
 - Chief Billy Joe mentioned a horse program is starting in their community. We are having a wagon train to Bison Lake with some our community leadership group, and this invitation is extended to the KTC Nations. We are also looking at an indoor riding structure to hold horse riding events.
 - KTCEA will continue in working with the communities in expanding the Equine program.
- Board training options were presented with the recommendation of comprehensive training be done in-person once restrictions are lifted. Basic one-on-one training can be provided by the Board Mentor Colin Kelly as requested for any or new members, or half day sessions. Please call Heather to schedule your training requests. The CASS annual FNMI Gathering

- 2021 - 02 - 04 # 3: Motion to accept the Superintendent’s Report as presented.
- Moved by Chief Albert Thunder. Seconded by Chief Isaac Laboucan Avirom. All in favor, motion carried.

- The Director of Finance presented the current Financial Statements to the Board.
 - Covid Revenue Allocations and YTD expenditures.
 - REA and Targeted Revenue and YTD expenditures.
 - Additional requirements are needed for this year’s T4 processing for the CRA Covid Benefits reporting. The simplified method was used to calculate these amounts.

- 2021 - 02 - 04 # 4: Motion to accept the Financial Statements Report as presented.
- Moved by Councilor Corrine Alook. Seconded by Chief Isaac Laboucan Avirom. All in favor, motion carried.



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- School closures and entry restrictions will be followed by all KTCEA staff as directed by each First Nations leadership. Follow-up will be done to ensure all staff are in compliance with this directive.

- 2021 - 02 - 04 # 5: Motion to adjourn the meeting.
- Moved by Councilor Timothy Sawan. Seconded by Chief Gladys Okemow. All in favor, motion carried.

Closing Prayer

Derek Auger