



## **BHFN Chief and Council & Lands Advisory Committee First Nation Land Management (Land Code) Meeting**

### **MEETING SUMMARY**

BHFN Council and Land Advisory Committee met April 12, 2018 at the BHFN Community Hall from 1pm – 5pm and a community meeting was held from 5 – 6 p.m. This is a summary of the meetings.

#### **LAC and Council Meeting Attendees:**

Present from LAC: Christina Redbreast, Jeremy Naveau, Donna Taylor, Rene Ojeebah,

Present from Council: Chief Lisa Vanbuskirk, Councillors Kevin Lacroix, Angela Saunders, Charmaine Saunders, Robert Redbreast, and Cheryl St. Denis.

L&R Department: Bruce Golden and Carl Perreault

Others: April Tangie (BHFN staff), Jeremy Bonhomme (LABRC), Max McCormick (Arcadis), Allison Canrod – by conference call (Arcadis), Caroline Burgess (Odonaterra) and Cheryl Naveau (Odonaterra)

#### **Opening and Introductions:**

- The meeting was opened with smudging and a prayer from Elder Donna Taylor.
- Caroline Burgess introduced Jeremy Bonhomme, Technical Support from the Lands Advisory Board Resource and Centre (LABRC) and Max McCormick, Arcadis.
- All others introduced themselves.

#### **Presentations:**

Bruce, Jeremy and Caroline presented information about:

- First Nation land management and Land Code overview
- Draft Land Code – with an overview of its 3 sections
- Environmental Site Assessment – draft phase
- Reported finding from BHFN environmental archives
- Community vote procedures - including the importance of ensuring the eligible voter list is continuously updated and the options for voting processes (registered and non-registered options),
- Individual Agreement (including summary of the draft Environmental Site Assessment; survey of the reserves and information on operational funding)
- Information how the community will be engaged over the next 6 months prior to the target community vote date – including regular monthly meetings and updates on social media and the website: [bhfnlandcode.com](http://bhfnlandcode.com).

Presentation slides are available at: [bhfnlandcode.com](http://bhfnlandcode.com) or by contacting Bruce Golden at the BHFN office.

#### **Comments on the Land Code:**

- Does law making power come before or after the vote?
- There will be operational funding available yearly
- BHFN should start working on operational laws now to prepare to submit in the land code draft
- BHFN needs 164 members to vote which is 20% of the membership
- Suggestions on a dispute panel which will be up to leadership to decide



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- Chief Lisa suggest a member from each of the five main families of BHFN to sit on the panel
- No Council, employee or committee member from LAC can sit on this dispute panel
- Council suggests BHFN monitor the forest to protect the land from hunters/ neighbours
- Bruce Golden – Lands & Resources Department would over see the enforcement which would take more staff to control – 2 for forestry – 2 for mining activities – 2 for fish and wildlife plus summer student positions to water sample
- Some concerns that the proposed \$204,000 per year wouldn't cover these costs, might have to source BHFN resources
- Generating revenue from BHFN lands such as leases, development of services, licenses would offset these costs
- BHFN can only acquire land that has been mapped out and registered

### **Comments on Community Engagement:**

- Jeremy noted that he will be available for future community engagements to document, discuss and include suggestions
- All in attendance committed to sharing information about First Nation land management with their friends and family.
- Chief Lisa suggested meetings in Timmins, Sudbury and Sault St. Marie for off reserve members
- Chief Lisa also suggested a mandatory meeting for all staff to attend, important information should be flowed out from the office, staff needs to be more educated on this
- Jeremy suggested that the LAC and Council take time to visit people in their homes to ensure they know about the Land Code so that they can be informed about what they will be voting on.
- A Facebook page is being set up for the Land Code – Jeremy is moderating – so that questions and concerns can be addressed as they come up.
- Link on BHFN health website – Brunswick House FN Facebook page– should have a link on that site – April will update
- Mail outs and emails two weeks prior to each meeting to BHFN members

### **Comments on the Community Vote:**

- There are 829 Band members
- There are 649 eligible voters (BHFN members 18 and older on October 20, 2018)
- BHFN has contact information for 340 eligible voters (or just over half of all eligible voters) – at least 80 of the eligible voters should be on the contact list (or about 520)
- There will need to be 164 YES votes to pass the Land Code and the Individual Agreement.
- In the unregistered system: 326 eligible voters will have to participate in the vote and a minimum of 25% +1 or (164 voters) will have to vote YES to pass the Land Code and Individual Agreement.
- In the registered system: eligible voters must register to vote and of those who registered, and 25%+1 of the eligible voters (164 voters) must vote YES to pass the Land Code and Individual Agreement. This system is the most popular option for First Nations since they do not need to get a majority of the eligible voters to vote (or 325 voters) to pass the Land Code and Individual Agreement.

### **Comments on the Environmental Site Assessment:**

- There was interest on a land fill site and what was the process to clean it up, who funds this clean up?
- Would there be any water sampling of Mount Batten, concerns of the waterflow into Mount Batten.
- Would MOECC be out of the picture once Land Code is approved?



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- Concerns of offences and how would rules be enforced
- Who would monitor lots with septic tanks?
- Would there be any sampling on the CP rail line from oil splashes
- Forest Fires would still be covered by the province
- Concerns about dumping at the airport road
- Out dated tanks on the first lot is Rosie St

### **Summary of Community Meeting 5 - 7 p.m. on April 12, 2018**

- 25 people attended the community meeting in person.
- The Facebook live video has been viewed by 274 people (as of April 3, 2018).
- A community member will share pictures on dumping in Mount Batten
- A community member noted that having notification of the meetings through Facebook is good.