



Lands Advisory Committee

Meeting #1 NOTES

January 26, 2017
 BHFN Band Office
 5 – 7:30 p.m.

Meeting Participants:

Land Advisory Committee:	Rene Ojeebah (by phone)
	Jeremy Naveau
	Donna Taylor
	Cheryl St. Denis
	Christina Redbreast
Chief & Council:	Chief Kevin Tangie
	Lorraine Tangie
	Jennifer Wesley
	Beverly Perreault
Community Observers	Melissa McWatch
	Melissa Black
Land Use Plan/Land Code Working Group:	Bruce Golden, Jr. Lands & Resources Manager
	Tina Gingras, Communications
	David Flood, Sr. Lands & Resources Manager
	Gerald McWatch, Lands & Resources Assistant
	Caroline Burgess, Land Use Plan Project Manager

Distribution: Chief and Council, BHFN Lands Working Group, BHFN Land Advisory Group; and posted to the BHFN website

DRAFT NOTES

Opening Prayer	Elder Donna Taylor
Welcome	Chief Tangie welcomed everyone and indicated that this is a historical event as the first BHFN Land Advisory Committee has been established and is meeting to assist the community and Council in decisions regarding the Land Code and Land Use Plan.
Introductions	All participants introduced themselves
	Norm Jaehrling (Possibilities Group) – provided some background on the planned BHFN commercial complex
	Councillor Bev Perreault provided information about – Water First – who would like to come to community to do a watershed restoration project on the reserve (either community or Mountbatten) and work with BHFN on this project. It would involve planting of 500 tree seedlings (unclear if other types of plants could be planted). Bev asked the LAC and L&R department to provide advice on where to plant. She noted that the school will be a partner and that there will be 12 hours of workshop time. Their presentation will be given at the school.
Overview of LAC Terms of Reference	<p>Bruce Golden summarized the Land Advisory Group Terms of Reference, which guides the way the LAC works together in their mandate to guide and provide advice to the community, Council and Lands & Resources staff and technical advisors.</p> <p>Bruce condensed what the FNLMA -First Nation Land Management Act- really stood for “We take care of our lands instead of getting everything from INAC, we vote & decide what we want.</p> <p>Reminded LAC members that these meetings are like a <i>‘Sharing Circle’</i> Don’t be afraid to speak up.</p>
First Nation Land Management and Land Code Overview	<p>David Flood gave a brief introduction to the First Nation Land Management (FNLN) regime. Materials provided to the LAC for their information included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter from INAC Minister Bennett welcoming BHFN into the FNLN • The FNLN quarterly working phases • Efforts to locate eligible voters

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection of the Verifier, Gerry Douquette (also the Chief of Dokis First Nation), • Communications strategy <p>It was clarified that the Land Code is where a matrimonial real property law will be addressed. Matrimonial real property relates to the dividing of the house on reserve where one of the spouses is a non-band member. It clarifies rules about the continued ownership and occupancy of the house on reserve.</p> <p>Regarding locating eligible voters, other staff that are gathering members' contact information should be sharing this information with Jeremy Naveau and Tina Gingras who are compiling the eligible voter list for the Land Code ratification vote.</p> <p>David reminded committee members that "We are only an <i>Advisory Group</i> for the LAC and that not every band will be taking the FNLMA on. Currently there are approximately 135 communities participating under the Framework so BHFN is fortunate and has a great opportunity ahead.</p> <p>As an example – similar First Nations to BHFN size, location and membership who have a Land Code are generating earnings of \$1 to \$3M per year.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute template of a Land Code – David to share with Tina – to make available for next LAC meeting • Distribute the land research reports from NRCan – David to share with Tina to make available for LAC members for next meeting.
<p>Land Use Plan Overview</p>	<p>A request for clarification on how the process is being funded for the LUP and LC;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) LUP is funded from INAC and is targeted to be completed in a 10 month process that will feed into the Land Code process – approximately \$270k ii) LC is funded through the INAC through transfer payments from the Lands Advisory Board – Resource Centre - \$75k per year over a 2 year project.

- iii) Once or if the Land Code is ratified – BHFN will receive operational funding between \$150 to \$300k per year.

Caroline provided an overview of the work being done to prepare the Land Use Plan for the reserves.

She talked about how the Land Use Plan is needed to help guide decisions around land use and operationalize the Land Code (law). Caroline stated :”What the Land Use Plan does is help you decide what you can do and where *le: Where are our houses and roads going to go?* There is still lots of work to be done and time is of the essence here.

She indicated that a Land Use Plan must be guided by a BHFN-member vision for the future land uses. She summarized some of the results of the visioning survey from November and December 2016 and noted that a copy of the visioning survey report is in the LAC binders.

LAC members will be asked to help prepare a vision statement to guide the Land Use Plan and Land Code.

Examples of other vision statements were provided.

Caroline provided a brief introduction to the DRAFT Land Use Plan Background Report (in the LAC member binders). She noted that there are some gaps in the information and that if the LAC members had information they wanted to see, to let the working group know at the next LAC meeting.

There was an overview of the projected population growth on the community reserve and the potential development areas. Caroline noted that these are very preliminary and would be discussed in detail with the entire community during the community planning week (Feb 20 – 24th).

Caroline indicated that the LAC should be prepared to be involved in community engagement activities during community planning week.

Caroline gave an overview of the funding sources for the Land Code (from INAC under the FNLM) and Land Use Plan (from INAC under the Land and Economic Development Services Program).

	<p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAC members to read the Visioning survey results in preparation for the next meeting where a draft visioning statement will be created. • LAC members to review the DRAFT Background Report and note any changes they would like to see.
<p>Closure and Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 	<p>Next LAC Meeting set for Tuesday, Feb 7 at 5:30 p.m. at the Band Office.</p> <p>Council and community members always welcome to attend as observers.</p> <p>Chief Tangie thanked everyone for coming especially the youth <i>because "they are our future as the Front Runners & Future Managers . Elder Donna Taylor closed with a prayer</i></p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BHFN Lands & Resources staff to resolve issues with Skype so Rene Ojebah can participate by video-conference.