

Toquaht Nation People's Assembly

Saturday March 25th, 2023

Virtual Video Conference

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Chair: Kevin Mack

People's Assembly convened 11:00 a.m.

Welcome by čaamaṭa yakawaṭaḥ Kevin Mack

- o Kevin welcomed everyone and provided an opening prayer

Łeko ḥaas ṭanik ḥišimýuup niiwa ḥaḥ ṭuyi.

Thank you, creator, for bringing us together, today.

Łeko ḥaas ṭanik kutiis niiwa, ṭanikḥa hupii ḥuṭqun ṭaṭaapata.

Thank you, creator, for your guidance and wisdom to help us make good decisions.

Łeko ḥaas ṭanin ḥiišuu tiičsinḥap yaṭaayaqḥýuqin, masčimṭakqin.

Thank you, creator, as we work together to build a healthy community for our families.

Łeko ḥaas ṭanin hupiiṭatṭaṭa yaṭaayaqsčaḥinḥin, yaṭaayaqḥýuqin.

Thank you, creator, for our good friends and neighbours that help us along the way.

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Agenda adopted (moved by Brittany Morgan, seconded by Noreen Frank)

Approved December 3, 2022 meetings minutes approved (moved by Kelly Johnsen, seconded by Brittany Morgan)

Presenters: Kevin Mack, Angela Polifroni, David Johnsen, Lisa Morgan, Robyn Rea, Rick Shafer, Noah Plonka

Council Members: Kirsten Johnsen, Naomi Mack, Kevin Mack, Noah Plonka

First Door Prize winner – Sheryl Tate

1) Request for Decision

a) Introduction from Kevin Mack, Finance Portfolio holder

- i) Approval of the Toquaht Annual Budget Act 2023/2024 Robyn Rea, Director of Finance
Supported by dept managers

(1) The total budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year is \$21,410,144

(2) The presentation was broken down into Administration; Community Services; Lands, Public Works and Resources; and Capital Projects

(3) It will be funded by previous year surplus and deferred revenue as well as new funding sources. Namely the Fiscal Financing Agreement (Canada), the province, NTC and some of our own revenues

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- (4) Each department director provided an overview on the upcoming years projects with anticipated costs making up their portion of the budget.
 - (5) The projects were developed to be in line with the overall strategic plan.
 - (a) Building Government Capacity, Build Infrastructure, Grow the Economy, Foster masčim and Community Well-being
 - (6) Contact Kirsten Johnsen (kirstenj@toquaht.ca) if you would like to view the budget
 - (7) Questions and Comments from citizens
 - (a) Q: Is 55 considered an Elder for the various Elder Support programs A: YES
 - (b) Q: Are the Traditional Food Preservation workshops open to everyone? A: YES, keep an eye out for future workshops
 - (c) Q: Will there be parking for the Guest House/Lodge? A: YES, right outside each unit. With overflow to the left of the Community Building.
 - (d) Q: Will there be a charge for staying at the lodge? A: That has not been established yet, if there is it will be low though.
 - (e) Q: Will there be any culture type programs or the ability for youth living in urban areas to participate in events etc.? A: YES, we have dollars in the budget for developing youth programming in Port Alberni as well other opportunities as well as youth camps at Macoah once the lodge is built.
 - (f) Q: Will travel to Macoah or other events be covered? A: YES
 - (g) General Info for Toquaht Housing at <http://www.toquaht.ca/housing/>
 - (h) Is the Toquaht Housing committee up and running? A: We need to make appointments to it.
 - (i) We need a general store with gas bar for campers, boaters and residents.
 - (j) Q: When is next 'food fish' delivery? A: Will announce next delivery as soon as it is planned.

March 25, 2023 People's Assembly MOVED: Kelly Johnsen SECONDED: Sheryl Tate
THAT the People's Assembly recommend that Toquaht Council adopt the draft Toquaht Nation Government Annual Budget Act 2023-2024 with minor amendments from the director of operations.
Motion Carried

Second Door Prize winner – Bayja Morgan-Banke

2) Update on Toquaht Businesses

Noah Plonka, manager of business operations

- a) Secret Beach Marina & Campground
 - i) TMCLP Opening day May 18, 2023
 - ii) New tents sites and infrastructure 2023
 - iii) New trail developments, parks, recreation
 - iv) Year-round operations coming soon
 - v) Partnerships with local businesses and organizations continues benefiting

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- b) Barkley Sound Shellfish**
 - i) Geoduck tenure harvesting/seeding**
 - ii) Vessel modifications for new services**
 - iii) Shellfish sales and operations**
 - iv) local businesses and organizations continues benefiting**

 - c) Toquaht Forestry Operations**
 - i) Currently in the 2022-2026 cut control period**
 - ii) Small salvage operations only currently as we are not harvesting standing green trees until end of 2023-24**
 - iii) Management plan using current timber supply analysis.**
 - iv) Amend current Forestry Stewardship Plan(FSP) for our forest license.**
 - v) Finalize a Collaborative Management plan agreement with BC timber Sales(BCTS will have a 25% volume reservation within the FNWL)“First Nation woodland license”**
 - vi) Develop old growth management plan**

 - d) Toquaht Developments**
 - i) Firewood sales and transport services**
 - ii) Lumber building and equipment installations 2023**
 - iii) Preparing for 2023 hydro connections**
 - iv) Sales and value-added products**
 - v) Employment opportunities**
 - vi) New Equipment to TDLP will be on site April 2023 to enhance productivity and support rising demand for products**

 - e) Toquaht Industries**
 - i) 2023 operations are minimal with a projection of 4500m3 crossing the log sort**
 - ii) Current site clean up and environmental assessments are still active**
 - iii) Agreements with TDLP for property use and operations will continue through 2023 for sawmill and firewood operations**

 - f) Secret Beach Coastal Trail Progress**
 - i) First phase construction, completed Fiscal 21/22, runs from Secret Beach to the middle (Mag 132 road) of Section 38 property next to Macoah.**
 - ii) Construction resumed Fiscal 22/23**
 - iii) \$350,000 grant received from the BC Active Transportation Fund**
 - iv) Construction of a timber bridge deck and crushed gravel capping over a creek will begin early in 2023.**

3) Announcements

- a) How to access housing at Macoah?**
 - Renting At Macoah**
 - Toquaht Nation currently owns and operates ten units of rental housing and are adding three new houses in Spring 2023.

- We rent out these units in a mix of market and below market rental rates (or social housing)
- All rental units are occupied but we maintain social and market housing lists for when units become available.
- To add your name to either rental housing list please fill out the Eligibility Application and forward to Naomi at naomim@toquaht.ca.
- The Eligibility Application will determine if you qualify for social or market housing and must be completed in full.
- When Housing becomes available, all citizens on the relevant list will be invited to submit an Allocation Application.
- Allocation decisions are made by the Toquaht Housing Committee as directed by Toquaht law.

4) Question Period

Angela Polifroni, DOO

Q Is there any herring row available?

A Not currently, but will be purchasing some for distribution.

Q Where can I learn the language?

A Our relative Jeneva Touchie is on YouTube. We also have a site on First Voices.

[https://www.firstvoices.com/explore/FV/sections/Data/Nuu-chah-nulth/Nuu%C4%8Daan%CC%93u%C9%AB/Nuu-chah-nulth%20\(Barkley\)](https://www.firstvoices.com/explore/FV/sections/Data/Nuu-chah-nulth/Nuu%C4%8Daan%CC%93u%C9%AB/Nuu-chah-nulth%20(Barkley))

Draw for Grand Prize – Sebastian Lopez

The next People’s Assembly will be held virtually on Saturday, June 24th, 2023 at Macoah

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by K. Johnsen

Chairperson

Law Clerk

Date

Attendees:

Sheryl Tate
Colleen Mack
Kelly Johnsen
Brittany Morgan
Charlotte Carpenter
Vince McKay

Gloria McKay
Noreen Frank
Andrew Mack
Karen Mack
Greta Picard
Leonard Mack
Sebastien Lopez,

Bayja Banke,
Stephanie Mack