



FIRST NATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SAFE DRINKING WATER

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FIRST NATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (the “Committee”)

(13 August 2025 – TD TOWER, 66 WELLINGTON STREET WEST, T’KARONTO)

1Reference: CHAIR

Chief Emily Whetung acted as chair of the meeting. John P. Brown (“**Executive Director**”) acted as secretary for the meeting. Kerry Black was present as the expert consultant to the FNAC.

2Reference: MEETING PROPERLY CONSTITUTED

A quorum of the Members of the Committee was present in person or virtually as set out in Schedule A.

3Reference: BUSINESS CONDUCTED

The Committee considered and addressed the matters set out in the Agenda attached as Schedule B.

4Reference: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 29 JANUARY 2025 MEETING

ON A MOTION DULY MADE, seconded and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the January 29th meeting be and are hereby approved including these follow up matters from the meeting of 12 December 2024.

1. The FNAC should investigate a more focused approach to create awareness of and to deliver information relating to the FNAC website by targeting First Nations communities with water issues using Instagram and Facebook.
2. Wes Bova, Maggie Stothart and Kerry Black should reach out to local tribal councils to gather a set of criteria of the qualifications and skills experts should have to be able to assist First Nations with assessing, designing and requesting funding for water and wastewater infrastructure. These criteria will then be included on the “Resources” page of the website.

3. The FNAC should send emails to appropriate individuals in the relevant Chief's organizations in each province advising them of the FNAC website. These names/organizations will be obtained by:
 - a. John Brown sending an email to the AFN asking for a list of the provincial organizations that are members of the AFN.
 - b. Kerry Black providing John Brown with a list of suggested organizations that he can reach out to with information regarding the website.
4. Maggie Stothart will send information regarding the FNAC website by email to the regional chiefs and water operators.
5. The FNAC should write to ISC:
 - a. requesting that the capital management officer in each region compile and deliver to the FNAC the current funding requests received;
 - b. emphasizing that First Nations do not have to be in the FNIP to be eligible for funding under the Settlement Agreement;
 - c. requesting from ISC its annual reports outlining the amounts spent under the Settlement Agreement
 - d. requesting that the Attorney General review ISC's "spending" under the Settlement Agreement since June 2021;
 - e. clearly articulating the funding mechanisms that are required under the Settlement Agreement;
 - f. providing a link to the FNAC website; and
 - g. requesting dates to meet with the RDGs.
6. The FNAC should write to ISC and request/demand that the new CDRP form be added to the ISC website and sent to the RDGs with appropriate instructions on when, how and why it should be used.

5Reference: APPLICATIONS TO THE WATER GOVERNANCE FUND

ON A MOTION DULY MADE, seconded and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The four applications to the Water Governance Fund set out in Schedule C are approved together with the amendments to the amounts in each application as noted therein.
2. Letters should be composed for delivery to each of the applicants advising of the FNAC's decision with respect to their respective applications.

3. Letters should be composed for delivery to ISC relating to each of the applicants advising ISC of the FNAC's recommendations with respect to their respective applications.
4. Kathleen Padulo should reach out to OFNTSC to provide some guidance regarding the FNAC's decision relating to its application.

6Reference: JOB POSTING FOR POSITION OF AN ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

ON A MOTION DULY MADE, seconded and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Executive Director (currently John P. Brown) and FNAC members Kathleen Padulo and Maggie Stothart (a) review all applications for the above position as described in Schedule D; (b) interview eligible candidates for the position; and, (c) select the most appropriate candidate for consideration and approval by the FNAC.

7Reference: THE PROROGUING OF PARLIAMENT AND OTHER DELAYS

ON A MOTION DULY MADE, seconded and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the FNAC formally records that the proroguing of Parliament, the subsequent election, the change in Minister, and the Government's summer recess ("pause estivale") have collectively and severely hindered the FNAC's ability to fulfill its mandate and obtain timely responses to significant and pertinent questions relating to Canada's obligations under the Class Action Settlement.

8Reference: REVIEW OF THE COMMITMENT DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS

ON A MOTION DULY MADE, seconded and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the FNAC undertake a review of the Commitment Dispute Resolution Process under the Class Action Settlement to confirm application triggers, oversight responsibility, escalation timelines, and potential recourse to independent mediation and/or arbitration if required.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting then adjourned.

Schedule A

Members of the First Nations Advisory Committee (“FNAC”)		
Name	Email	Community
Chief Emerita Emily Whetung (present)	emiliee.whetung@gmail.com	Curve Lake First Nation Southern Ontario
Councilor Doreen Spence (absent)	doreenspence@tataskweyak.com	Tataskweyak First Nation Northern Manitoba
Chief Chris Moonias (absent)	chris.moonias@neskantaga.com	Neskantaga First Nation Northern Ontario
Richard Inkster (absent)	rinkster@kitsumkalum.com	Kitsumkalum Band Council British Columbia
Wesley Bova (present)	wesbova@shaw.ca	Akwesasne First Nation Ontario
Kathleen Padulo (present)	kathleen.padulo@coo.org	Oneida Nation of the Thames Ontario
Mario Swampy (present)	mario_73@hotmail.com	Nipisihkopahk (Samson Cree Nation) Alberta
Maggie Stothart, P. Eng., FEC (present)	maggiestothart@nsmtc.ca	New Brunswick

Schedule B

2025 - Second Quarterly Meeting of the First Nations Advisory Committee

Agenda - 13 August 2025		
	Time	Description
1	12:00 to 12:10	Opening & Introductions
2	12:10 to 12:20	Approval of Meeting Minutes of 29 January 2025 (see Tab 2) and consideration of follow up items
3	12:20 to 12:30	Requests to extend March 2026 deadlines to March 2030 re: FNAC funding and Water to Governance Funding (see Tabs 3-6)
4	12:30 to 12:45	Requests to re-introduce Bill C-61 including discussion with Class Counsel (see Tabs 7-11)
5	12:45 to 12:55	Job Posting for position of an Engagement & Communications Coordinator (see Tabs 12-14)
11	12:55 to 1:00	Timing to Consider Current Applications to the Water Governance Fund
12	1:00	Closing