



FIRST NATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE **OK SAFE DRINKING WATER**

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

(12 December 2024 – 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.

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

4Reference: The Committee considered and addressed the matters set out in the Agenda attached as Schedule B.

5Reference: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 25 SEPTEMBER 2024 MEETING

ON A MOTION DULY MADE, seconded and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the 25 September meeting be and are hereby approved.

6Reference: FOLLOW UP RE MATTERS FROM 25 SEPTEMBER 2024 MEETING

ON A MOTION DULY MADE, seconded and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

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 list of eligible First Nations on the FNAC website should be amended so that they are grouped by province and then alphabetically.
4. 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.
5. Maggie Stothart will send information regarding the FNAC website by email to the regional chiefs and water operators.
6. Maggie Stothart will have one of the Funding Requests that she has submitted under the Settlement Agreement to ISC on behalf of her First Nation clients reviewed to assess the strength and merits of the request. This is to determine which request should proceed through the Commitment Dispute Resolution Process, and whether the FNAC should financially support the First Nation in this endeavour.
7. 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.

7Reference: COMMITMENT DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS

ON A MOTION DULY MADE, seconded and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The FNAC continue to identify First Nations who are seeking funding for water and wastewater infrastructure and to provide these First Nations with guidance, support and financial assistance in order that they may access and engage in (a) the new Funding Request Process, and (b) if required, to

access and engage in the Commitment Dispute Resolution Process under the Clean Water Class Action Settlement.

2. 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.

8Reference: BILLC-61

ON A MOTION DULY MADE, seconded and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT.

In response to the partisan politics that is evident in the INAN Standing Committee and otherwise all members of the FNAC should reach out to representatives of all parties to emphasize the urgent need to pass Bill C-61.

9Reference: THE FNAC WEBSITE

ON A MOTION DULY MADE, seconded and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT John Brown is directed to amend the FNAC website in accordance with the recommendations provided by the members of the FNAC, including updating the website with the new CDRP form, and having the entire website translated into French.

10Reference: _____ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting then adjourned.

Schedule B

Agenda – 12 December 2024		
	Time	Description
1	12:00 to 12:10	Opening & Introductions
2	12:10 to 12:30	Approval of Meeting Minutes of 25 September 2024 and consideration of follow up items (John)
3	12:30 to 12:40	Update re Decentralization Issue (See Tab 3)
4	12:40 to 1:00	Update re Bill C-61 (see Tabs 4 to 6) (Chief Whetung)
5	1:00 to 1:45	Discussion of ISC's position re Funding Requests under the Settlement Agreement (see Tabs 7 to 11) (All)
6	1:45 to 2:00	Health Break
7	2:00 to 2:30	Discussion of next steps re meeting with and/or educating ISC and the RDGs re their obligations under the Settlement Agreement (All)
8	2:30 to 2:45	Status of Shamattawa First Nation et al v. Attorney General of Canada (John) a. Key Issues b. Motion for Summary Judgment (see Tabs 12 to 13)
9	2:45 to 2:55	Other business & scheduling next meeting.
10	2:55 to 3:00	Closing