



DEHCHO FIRST NATIONS

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Leadership Teleconference Summaries February 8, 2011 @ 1:30 PM

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan

Chief Jim Antoine

Chief Dolphus Jumbo

Chief Fred Tesou

Chief Roy Fabian

Chief Stanley Sanguetz

Chief Abnor Cayen

President Marie Lafferty

Elder Rita Cli

Elder Tom Kotchea

Elder Leon Konisenta & Tom Betsaka

Elder Fred Tambour

Elder Ernest Hardisty

Elder James Cayen

Elder Barb Sloat

Bertha Norwegian, Executive Committee Member

Ernest Cazon, Executive Committee Member

Sara McLeod, Office/Travel Manager

1. Opening Prayer – Grand Chief Samuel Gargan

2. Interim Resource Development Agreement (IRDA) Submissions

Bertha Norwegian read briefing note to the Leadership (see attached). Noted there are two parts in the briefing note, part one are the approved submissions and part two are ones that were not approved.

Status - Part One

Approved	Requested	Approved
Cathy Nahanni and Terrence Nahanni – Deli/B&B	\$149,700	\$ 50,000
Tannis Cli Moses – B&B	\$85,500	\$ 30,000
Betty Anne Betsedea- Tourism Camp	\$60,500	\$ 60,500
Olinto Beaulieu – Olinto’s Taxi	\$95,000	\$ 15,000
Nina & Associates	\$20,000	\$ 10,000
Grey Nyuli – Laundry Mat/Consulting/Motel/Hotel	\$135,000	\$ 30,000
Hope Ventures - Expand business	\$106,840	\$ 65,000
Doug Lamalice – Tourism	\$113,648.59	\$100,000
Shannon Buckley – Fish & Chips Stand	\$125,419.55	\$ 40,000

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Alison de Pelham – New Horizons	\$28,195	\$ 28,200
Kele Charles Antoine – K&K Expediting	\$600,000	\$ 54,000
Floyd Moses – Shehtah Adventures	\$70,000	\$ 70,000
James Testso – Sawmill	\$70,500	\$ 50,000
Herb Norwegian – Edehzi Venture	\$60,000	\$ 60,000
Eric Bertrand – Eric’s Bobcat	\$37,989	\$38,000
JMR Development Corporation	\$168,800	\$168,800

The above individuals are encouraged to seek other funding from Federal and Territorial Economic Development programs and DFN will provide letters of support. In addition, some of them will have to provide a letter of support or BCR from their band.

Status - Part Two

Not Approved

Lucy Arts and Crafts
Dehcho Regional Helicopters/LKFN
Liard Valley General Store
Wildcat Contracting
Charles Browning
Sue and Edward Linberg
Douglas Norwegian
Beatrice Antoine
Sarah Tsesto
Maurice Moses
Delmer Bonnetrouge
Jim Antoine
Celine Antoine
Steven Vandell
Katlodeeche First Nations
Keyna Norwegian
Ria & Loyal Letcher
Betty Hardisty
Gail Gresl
Dehcho Economic Corporation
Wind Dancer Contracting Ltd.
Raymond Pellissey
Brendan Whelly
Liidlil Kue First Nation

The above submissions have not been approved due to not providing adequate and/or supporting documentations, no business plan, missed deadline or have already received funding in previous years.

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Questions and Comments

Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge recommended there should be a set deadline to get supporting letters from their Bands and if they don't meet the deadline the people who were declined should be prioritized for consideration.

Elder Rita Cli would like to make the Leadership aware that they have the ultimate authority. The Executive Committee has done their work and these are the recommendations but the Leadership can override or make further decisions. Noted that Bertha has the briefing note available of what was read to them.

President Marie Lafferty reminded the Leadership the Dehcho Economic Corporation was approved for funding in JMR two years ago and the funds were held back. Again there were approved for funding in Fort Simpson last year and the funds are still not released. Now they have been refused funds and would like to know why.

Bertha Norwegian explained that they did not have the documentation that has been requested of them. There are no accounting and financial statements. The type of information that was provided was very poorly submitted. We looked at all of the information and including Resolution #08 from Jean Marie River, it stated that the Dehcho First Nations Annual Assembly supports the recommendation. In other words they are supporting the recommendation and not saying that they are going to give them the \$500,000. The other point is it's not stated in the resolution on what day we are going to issue the cheque, there is no timelines.

We are very concerned on how that organization is functioning. They indicated in their proposal they made investments in a financial company. What company? They invested \$10,000 and when did they invested that money. They invested \$50,000 in a hotel. It doesn't say which hotel or when it was invested. Invested \$100,000 in a utilities company - no names, no locations, no contact information and no dates were given. It doesn't give any information and we cannot justify giving them any funds. They have to be accountable to all of the Leadership and membership. There is nothing that says they made a penny.

The other important thing to note is that we did a financial review at our Executive Committee meeting last week. We've discovered during this time and believe it goes back three or four years, Dehcho Economic Corporation (DEC) did not use up all of their funding that they were eligible for from another pot of money. If they would have supplied their financial documents and accountability they would be eligible to receive the holdback which is \$36,000. The following year they were eligible to receive their balance, which they hadn't received and the money is sitting at the bank for them of \$138,000 because they didn't provide the adequate documentations that is required.

President Marie Lafferty noted that she was not aware of that.

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Grand Chief Samuel Gargan reminded the Leadership that we have an agreement that we had signed. In the Interim Resource Development Agreement, we do have funding of one million. Under Appendix "C" it sets out the guidelines and criteria for eligibility. Noted that Ria was not part of this teleconference because she has submitted an application. Ria was told by Indian Affairs that you cannot provide an open cheque to anybody. They would have to meet the guidelines and criteria. Dehcho Economic Corporation (DEC) has not done that.

A/Chief Stanley Sanguetz doesn't know why we are debating this. The Leadership had already had the Committee to do their work and now we are just approving. Thanked Bertha for her presentation.

Chief Roy Fabian stated that we are pushing this too fast and would like a hard copy of the briefing note that Bertha had read.

Sara was excused from the teleconference to fax the briefing note to the Leadership.

Chief Jim Antoine asked for clarification that every year a business plan will have to be submitted with their application even if they applied last year (may have business plan on file).

Bertha Norwegian said yes. Chief Jim Antoine noted getting a BCR/letter of support from Chief and Council is the proper way of doing it. Suggested it should be done that way.

It was noted that the criteria just says letters of support.

Chief Roy Fabian asked who does the letters of support. What is the purpose of the Executive Committee recommending the Band Councils like in KFN's case get a letter of support? If you had accepted the application, why do you need the letter of support now?

Bertha Norwegian explained that they want to make sure that the Band is aware of businesses that might be happening on Band land. Indicated that one of the applicants are proposing to have their business on their grandparent's property that is on band land. Touched on another applicant which the individual is expanding their tourism business and has to do with cultural development due to the area being large and may interfere with others.

Chief Jim Antoine wants to make sure that businesses have the support of the Bands because most of them are new. Has a concern that the power of Chief and Council is being under minded all the time by the DFN organization. LKFN would like to take back the authority and approvals. This is part of it. We didn't have a clue what was going on until today. Also has a concern with one applicant building a facility at Edehzhie. Noted that he had approved it last year but there was some flack later on.

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Chief Roy Fabian asked if the IRDA funding is for businesses only. KFN has submitted an application to deal with a resource development issue and is not a business. It was KFN understanding that this funding was to deal with resource development issues.

It was noted that INAC has funding for economic development but KFN got denied. It was explained that it was in the agreement that was signed and advise them to look at Appendix "C" of the IRDA agreement.

Bertha Norwegian read the policy. The Committee reviews each application for compatibility with the Committee's prime objectives. The grants are to support economic activity of each individual's company, communities, regional partnerships, joint ventures or broad significant.

There is no appeal process and noted that this program has been in place since December 2002 and has never been evaluated. Work needs to be done on the program.

Grand Chief Samuel Grand mentioned under the Trust, money of \$480K is available for businesses.

It was noted that the submissions has been reviewed twice at two meetings.

The Leadership agreed by consensus to defer the approval of the recommendations for the IRDA allocations to the Winter Leadership.

Direction was given to Bertha Norwegian to have the applicants that are recommended for approval to get a letter of support from their respective Chief and Council before the Winter Leadership meeting.

3. Winter Leadership Location

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan reviewed the meeting they had last month in Yellowknife on Devolution and the teleconference. The consensus from all the other regions was to meet on February 24-25th. There was a request to see if we can have our Leadership February 21-23rd and decided the best way to do this was to have the Winter Leadership in Yellowknife for two days.

It was clarified that Dene Nation is having a Special Leadership meeting and not a Special Assembly.

A/Chief Stanley Sanguéz noted he feels uncomfortable going to the Dene Nation meeting doesn't have concrete support from his community on how to precede with the Devolution.

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan mentioned there was a resolution done stating that we don't support the Devolution.

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Some of the Leaders are of concern that DFN is getting caught up with Dene Nation's issues and that DFN should be dealing with Devolution on our own.

Another concern is that some Chief and Council do not agree going to Yellowknife because it is out of our territory. In addition, there is a resolution to have all meetings in the Dehcho.

The Leadership agreed by consensus to have the Winter Leadership in Fort Simpson on February 22-24, 2011.

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan to call Bill Erasmus to advise him of the DFN Leadership's decision and also what Dehcho's position on the Devolution. .

A/Chief Stanley Sanguéz touched on the letter dated Feb 7, 2011 send to Grand Chief signed by Premier Floyd Roland.

Grand Chief Samuel Gargan noted he requested Kevin Menicoche to have the Legislative to do research and breakdown of the sections on the Devolution and will forward it to the Leadership.

Adjourned 2:49 pm

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