

Annual General Meeting

February 24, 2017

This year's AGM was focused on business development and housing. The following is a summary of the day's reports.

Nak'azdli Development Corporation (NDC)

Vince Prince, NDC CEO We are making business structure changes, re-structuring Band's business portfolio. NDC is developing business plans and budgets for all of the businesses.

Here's a brief rundown of how Nak'azdli's businesses are doing:

- **Sana'aih** sees 10-15% growth/month. Marketing efforts are beginning to have a positive effect. The business is stable and earning money. Anti-theft improvements have been implemented.
- **Carrier Food & Fuel** Going strong. Last year's upgrades have improved customer experience. Still looking at pre-pay issues. Need additional tool to bypass.
- **Nahounli Creek Gas Bar** Limited success. Looking for their niche—a unique draw to bring in customers. They are making a small profit right now.
- **Nakal Koh Logging** Started doing our own logging this year, trucking and repair shop. Trucking going well. Purchased six hay racks for smaller logs. Going non-stop since October.
- **Greenhouse** NDC took over the greenhouse in December. They have been actively selling produce for the past three years. We plan to continue operation but more as a research facility—not really a viable business at this time. Working with UNBC to look at cash crops and bioenergy project.
- **Jaboon Holdings** NDC currently owns three townhouses in Prince George. We are breaking even; this is not a viable business at this time. 50% of income is going to maintenance and strata fees.
- **NTT Drilling** Tl'azt'en, Takla and Nak'azdli drilling enterprise—drilling equipment was sold after exploratory drilling was completed. More drilling will be needed this year. We may rent equipment from Thompson Creek, Omineca Creek for this.
- **NusDe** has paid out Chad Lance so Nak'azdli now owns NusDe in its entirety. We are working on our business plan to get the company back up and running and will be looking for a manager once the plan is done.
- **Nak'azdli Scarlet Security** has contract at Mt. Milligan. The mine is interested in training more aboriginal security workers and would like to hire all Nak'azdli members for security. The issues related to making this happen are currently being ironed out.



Other projects:

- A business plan is being developed for a one-acre greenhouse with 2.4 acres of growing space. The ceiling will be 45 feet high. Hydro-

ponic and tiered gardening will be used. Pay-back is expected in 3-4 years. We are looking at grants to reduce Nak'azdli investment in this project. The greenhouse will employ 10-12 fulltime workers and additional part time workers in the summer. We hope to expand to Williams Prairie and capture heat from the biomass plant.

- We need a log sort yard so we can sort our own wood and sell it for the best price. We also need a better system so trees are not left cut and unused. We are looking at ways to introduce medicinal plants back into spaces as reclamation plants.
- Tourism is on the rise. We want to draw people to the area and also increase sales in local stores and increase fuel sales at our gas stations. We are working to develop tourism and business development training for entrepreneurs to maximize opportunities around tourism.
- We are also working with the Nak'azdli Recycling Centre to build capacity.

Community Comments and Questions

- Leaving poplar, brush helps with regeneration.
- Tl'oh Forest Products—what's going on with that building? Light and heat, building itself are costly. CNC is renting a small area for their pipe fitting course right now.

- It would be good to work on jobs creation, daily jobs for people with addictions.
- Have you looked at marijuana, medicinal grow ops? There are security and licensing issues. Also, the board hasn't directed this and NDC follows the direction of the board.
- Is Suspenders still for sale? No.
- What are we drilling for? We're looking for minerals, hard rock drilling.



Castlemain

James Spencer, Economic Development

James is a biologist by training. He has worked in the fishing and mining industries and is certified in project management.

Castlemain is a firm that only serves First Nations. They were hired to help with the Economic Development Plan for NDC. This project is funded largely through a Western Diversification grant.

A Community Development Questionnaire has been developed to gather input from Nak'azdli community members. Copies of the questionnaire

Keynote Speaker

Bernd Christmas, Membertou First Nation

Mi'kmaw from the east coast of Cape Breton Isle, Christmas worked as a lawyer for 23 years. His current work is focused on wealth creation for First Nation communities and creating capacity. Using a First Nation development model and investing in their community, Membertou has realized phenomenal success.





are available at the Band Office and at NDC. You can also download a copy from the Nak'azdli Whut'en website. Please fill out a copy and share your ideas with us!

Nak'azdli Trust

The Naka'zdli Trust presented a resolution for Band members to move funds from the Ottawa Trust to the Nakazdli Whut'en Trust. The current return is very small. The motion passed.

The minutes were passed from last meeting (2016 AGM).

Community Question

- The Guardianship Program-what is the status? Is it up and running yet? It was to be up and running this year. The program is coming together. There is program support on the federal level over the next 5 years.

Capital Housing and Lands

Aileen Prince, CHL Manager

Hiring is underway for a Lands Manager. There is currently a shortage of conservation officers. We will be splitting Housing and Lands into separate departments. The housing committee is looking at low-cost housing off-reserve.

O&M may possibly become a standalone department along with the Capital & Lands Department and the Housing Department. Development, housing, roads, water, sewer, etc. will all now fall under the new Land Code.

Kenny and Billy handle infrastructure maintenance. They are not responsible for houses. The inside of the house is the homeowner's responsibility. The Band does not hold homeowners insurance for you. It is in your best interest to have your home insured. Homeowners insurance covers things like roof leaks, sewer backups, etc.

CHL is currently re-doing the housing policies. The Band arrears are being more strictly enforced. There are currently approximately \$300,000 in arrears.

A \$25,000 renovation loan subsidy is available to purchase homes. This can also be used for tiny homes. You will need detailed plans, costs, a material list, site prep, etc. as part of proposal to the Band. There is a list at the CHL Office with details of what you'll need.

Tiny homes can also be built on someone else's lot. We are working with CMHC on a program that might help with this.

Work is underway on a ten year housing plan. Nak'azdli is running out of space and looking at long term costs. Single people and youth ages 19-29, transitional housing are all areas we are looking to improve. A needs assessment for the 10 year plan will be presented at this year's AGA.

CHL is also planning workshops on potential home ownership, social housing, subsidy housing, rental housing, and making plans.

A landscaping project is planned this year for Social Development and for the rental properties as well as the CHL Office.

Roads will be paved as soon as the ground thaws and funding is in place

Now that the Land Code is in place, there is a lot of work to be done—CSTC, INAC, environmental assessments, etc. all need to be run through the Lands Department. There are impacts to new development, too—this will have to go through the Lands Office for approval/requirements.

Ann Sam is the lands governance authority for the Band and will appoint a lands manager. The CHL Department, Housing and Lands Committee, Chief & Council and the community will also need to be involved in some upcoming decision making. We would like to find ways to include youth involvement in environmental surveys to teach them to become stewards of the land.

We are hiring a person to help with policies, forms, processes and procedures. That person will replace Aileen in her position when she enters semi-retirement

Community Comments and Questions

- We need policies for dealing with drug houses on reserve. There are a few banishment laws—enforcement is a problem. Can put clause in agreements for houses on Band land—rentals vs own property. We can't grandfather these

agreements in.

- How do we develop laws to deal with drugs on reserve? Laws are being written now in committee towards on-reserve policing to enforce. A lot of information will be going out on policies in the next 5-6 months.
- Who are the community members on the housing committee and do they have education to make decisions? The names in review by Chief and Council.

Signs and speed strips being installed to slow down traffic. Policies are going to our committee for review and will also go out to the community through the Nak'azdli website, FB and Dustl'us.

People interested in new housing should visit the CHL Office. We are hoping to build social housing units this year through CMHC. There are lots of singles/singles with one child on the wait list. We are also hoping to build Elder housing—we are applying for additional funding from INAC for this.

Community Question

- Subsidy housing—Can it go to prefab tiny homes. Yes, if the project is priced out and meets building code requirements.

Sharon Aslin has been organizing files and helping with needs assessment for the last 4 months. CHL is also working on data entry to go paperless in next 2-3 months. Old paper housing files will be sent out to the people who own the homes.

Sheila Caswell is working on ASAT Program work orders.

We are planning our capital budgets for next year and looking at a possible upgrade to front of Kwah Hall, a subdivision project past end of Mountainview, and a school addition for Nak'albun.

Community Comments and Questions

- I'd like to suggest that the Bank of Montreal is

not very efficient to go through. They don't accommodate people going to camp very well. BMO should have a package with all signatures all at once.

- There is a lot of land abuse.—old vehicles that need to be cleaned up. Council has already approved cleanup at Four Mile.
- How do we know who on the waiting list is still interested? People should update application every year. We recently did a call out for a tenants committee for the apartment building. And we are working on having the amount allowed for assistance to match rents. We are working with tenants toward solutions on this.

The Band will be hiring a person to work with Aileen until she leaves. Aileen has given her six months' notice. She is starting her semi-retirement—July 28 is her last day. She will be spending more time with family and working on projects she wants to do.

Videos from the AGM can be found on Nak'azdli's YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvQBkayZGL_TIT_cpjQ9S3Q. Please subscribe to Nak'azdli's channel while you're there and enter to win some great Nak'azdli swag! 🎁

