



Tłchq Community Services Agency Board Meeting Minutes September 8-10, 2020

In Attendance: Ted Blondin – Chairperson
Alex Nitsiza – Vice Chairperson and Whatì Representative
Janita Etsemba – Behchokò Representative
Noella Kodzin – Wekweetì Representative

Executive and Staff: Sara Nash - Director of Health and Social Services
Linsey Hope - Director of Education
Rose Jiang - Director of Corporate Services
Livia Kurinska-Hrdlickova - Quality Assurance & Risk Manager

Regrets: Henry Gon, Gametì Representative
Shannon Barnett-Aikman - Chief Executive Officer

Call to Order - Day 1

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am. Chairperson Ted Blondin welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Opening Prayer

Ted Blondin led the TCSA Board in an opening prayer.

Occupational Health and Safety

The Director of Corporate Services, Rose Jiang, reviewed the COVID-19 Risk Mitigation and Safety Plan for the board meeting. All questions were answered and all attendees confirmed their understanding of the plan.



Approval of Current Agenda

Be it resolved that the Tłı̨chǫ Community Services Agency Board approves the agenda for September 8-10, 2020 as presented. Moved by: Janita Etsemba. Seconded by: Noella Kodzin. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

To perform good governance, TCSA Board meetings begin with a declaration of any real or perceived conflict of interest by board members. Conflict of interest declarations help ensure public confidence in the Board as they make decisions that affect strategic and financial actions of the TCSA. Conflict of interest declarations are recorded in the meeting's minutes.

The respective Northwest Territories Conflict of Interest Act states:

2. (1) *Where a member, either on his or her behalf or while acting for, by, with or through another, has any direct pecuniary interest*

(a) in a contract or proposed contract with the municipality or board,

(b) in a contract or proposed contract that is reasonably likely to be affected by a decision of the council or board, or

(c) in a manner in which the council or board is concerned,

and is present at a meeting of the council, board, or committee of the council or board at which the contract, proposed contract or other matter is the subject of consideration, the member shall, as soon as practicable after the commencement of the meeting, disclosed his or her interest and the extent and nature of the interest, and

(d) Shall not take part in the consideration or discussion of, or vote on any such question with respect to, the contract, proposed contract, or other matter, or attempt in any way whether before, during or after the meeting to influence the voting on any such question.

2. (2) *Where the interest of a member has not been disclosed as required by subsection (1) by reason of his or her absence from the meeting referred to in subsection (1) or by reason of the interest having been acquired or having come to his or her knowledge after the meeting, the member shall disclosed his or her interest and otherwise comply with subsection (1) at the first meeting of the council, board or committee that he or she subsequently attends.*

No conflicts of interest were declared relevant to the agenda for this meeting of September 8-10, 2020.



Approval of Previous Minutes

Be it resolved that the Tłı̨chǫ Community Services Agency Board approves the minutes for the June 24-25, 2020 regular quarterly board meeting. Moved by Janita Etsemba. Seconded by Noella Kodzin. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Be it resolved that the Tłı̨chǫ Community Services Agency Board approves the minutes for the special board meeting held on July 31, 2020. Moved by Janita Esemba. Seconded by Alex Nitsiza. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Be it resolved that the Tłı̨chǫ Community Services Agency Board approves the minutes for the special board meeting held on August 24, 2020. Moved by Janita Esemba. Seconded by Alex Nitsiza. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Business Arising from Previous Meetings

Any new actions that arise during a board meeting are tracked in the Action Log. As actions are completed, they are removed from the log.

Action items since the June 24-25, 2020 Board meeting were reviewed. Items added to the log from this meeting include:

20/09-001	Send a letter of congratulations to new Minister of Health and Social Services identifying that the TCSA looks forward to working with her – submit an open invitation to attend the next Board meeting	Chief Executive Officer
20/09-002	Request an update from Aurora College – Andy Bevan: How can our Tlı̨chǫ students access courses; what is the process; are there accommodations in Yellowknife?	Director of Education
20/09-003	Draft letter from Chairperson inviting Tlı̨chǫ Government and NWT Housing Corporate to attend TCSA Board meeting to review housing crisis and reiterate the negative impacts on recruitment and retention.	Director of Corporate Services
20/09-004	Send NWTTA copy of same / similar housing letter that was sent to other GNWT and TG parties.	Director of Education

Chairperson's Report

Ted Blondin was present to provide a written report dated Sept 8, 2020. Items discussed include a review of the Chairperson's events attended since the June 2020 Board meeting;





the letter sent to the Tłı̨chǫ̀ Government Chiefs Executive Council seeking to coordinate Board meetings; a review of the Housing Briefing Note and the decision to send corresponding letters to GNWT Ministers of Housing, Education, Culture and Employment, Health and Social Services, and the Tłı̨chǫ̀ Government CEC.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

The Chief Executive Officer, Shannon Barnett-Aikman, was not in attendance for this meeting due to a family emergency. She did, however, provide a written report dated September 8, 2020 which was delivered by the Director of Corporate Services.

Specific items discussed include preference for the identified board training be completed in person however if impacted by Covid-19, it will require online platforms; an overview of the updated Covid-19 response plan with particular attention on training, communications, and wellness surveys. The Director of Health and Social Services reviewed the section of the report specific to the next steps of the Quality Improvement Plan for Child and Family Services as well as the Dental Services contract negotiations.

Quality Assurance Committee – Committee of the Whole

The new Quality Assurance & Risk Manager, Livia Kurinska-Hrdlickova, presented a written report dated September 8, 2020. Items discussed include the details of the quality assurance framework and the need to pass a motion to adopt the framework.

Be it resolved that the Tłı̨chǫ̀ Community Services Agency Board approves the TCSA Quality Assurance Framework as presented. Moved by Janita Esemba. Seconded by Noella Kodzin. Motion Carried Unanimously.

The TCSA Board also reviewed their code of conduct as presented within the Board Orientation Binder. All Board members re-signed the Code of Conduct on September 9, 2020. Copies will be maintained on file with the Quality Assurance & Risk Manager.

The Quality Assurance and Risk Manager reviewed the Board Member Self-Assessment tool and shared results of those assessments from recent meetings. Items discussed include a need for opportunities for team building within the Board and the Senior Management group; further discussions about priorities and board member roles / duties, success planning. Board members look forward to reviewing the results to look for growth areas.

End of Day 1





Guest Engagement: Indigenous Health and Community Wellness Division, DHSS

Karen Blondin-Hall, Senior Advisor for the Indigenous Health and Community Wellness division of the Department of Health and Social Services, was present to provide a presentation and update on the cultural safety action plan implementation across the NWT.

Particular items of review included updates on the medical residency program and cultural connections to the Tlicho region. An open invitation was extended from the TCSA Board for members of the IHCW division to visit the TCSA to see some of our best practices (i.e. within the Jimmy Erasmus Long Term Care facility, the Indigenous Health and Wellness Elders program in our schools, etc.)

Guest Engagement: Chief Public Health Office

Dr. Andy Dellipizzi, Deputy Chief Public Health Officer with the GNWT Department of Health and Social Services, was present to provide an update on the status of CoVID-19 in the NWT and strategic response efforts to date.

Specific topics of discussion included the focus on COVID-19 in children and related social determinates of health, in light of the school reopening plans, and an update on the Pertussis outbreak that has been ongoing in the Tlicho region in recent months.

Guest Engagement: Northwest Territories Teachers' Association (NWTTA)

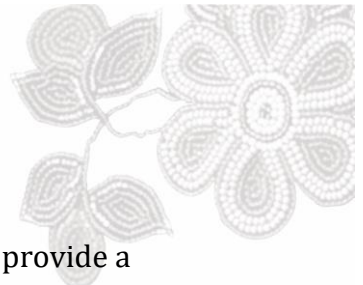
The TCSA Board welcomed the President of the NWTTA, and the Executive Director of the NWTTA and expressed their commitment to continuing a positive working relationship with the Association.

Key topics of discussion included trending areas of concern, as presented by the NWTTA, including sick / special leave, supervisions and schedules, sub-teachers, and increased principal duties over the summer all stemming from the impacts of CoVID-19. The TCSA and the NWTTA confirmed the benefits of the strong collaboration between the GNWT Department of Education, Culture and Employment, the Office of the Chief Public Health Officer, the Northwest Territories Superintendents' Association, and themselves.

Additional topics discussed include the e-Performance system and how it impacts on manager workloads, substitute teacher training programs, Christmas Break / March Break, positively supporting teachers to maintain connections within their communities, alcohol / cannabis prohibitions and 'fit for work' protocols and supports, cultural safety in schools (Black Lives Matter and Indigenous Lives Matter), and the need for greater language and culture succession planning in all NWT schools.



Health and Social Services Report



The Director of Health and Social Services, Sara Nash, was present to provide a written report dated September 9, 2020. Items discussed include: recruitment challenges with nursing support positions; ongoing CoVID-19 pandemic planning and response, an introduction to the Baby-Friendly Initiative, an Overview of the ongoing progress in providing ever-increasing language and culture based programming within our long term care setting, especially the recently approved Grant from the McConnell Foundation – a private Canadian foundation that develops applies innovation approaches to social, cultural, economic, and environmental change.

Additional updates were provided for Child and Family Services programs, the Mental Health and Wellness programs, and a review of our ongoing quality improvement initiatives.

Education Report

The Director of Education, Linsey Hope, was present to provide a written report dated September 9, 2020.

Items discussed include: a review of the TCSA school reopening plans, user friendly approaches when children attend school while CoVID-19 protocols are in place, the complexities of current CoVID processes with specific focus on bussing, masking, and screening, return to school experiences for children, future school break planning and the potential impacts of self-isolation protocols on schools' ability to remain open, ongoing planning for school0-related events to be completed via distance-based platforms (Christmas celebrations, potentially grad ceremonies, etc.), use of school fitness / recreation facilities under CoVID-19 response, technology supports going out to students as part of the school reopening plans supporting continuous learning.

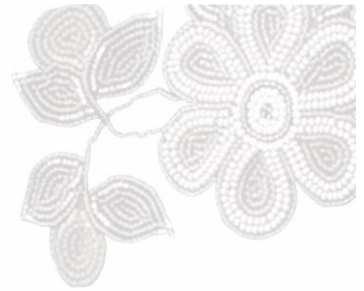
End of Day 2





Call to Order - Day 3

The meeting was called to order at 9:10am.



Finance and Corporate Services Report

Director of Finance and Corporate Services, Rose Jiang, was present to provide a written report dated September 10, 2020. Items discussed include: a detailed review of the 1st quarter variance report, increased costs and related tracking of expenses connected to CoVID-19 response.

Guest Engagement: Auditor's Review of the 2019-2020 Audited Financial Statements for the Education Program

Ethan Oatman, one of the auditors from ERP Yellowknife Accounting, was present to provide a verbal presentation of the 2019-2020 Audited Financial Statements for the TCSA Education program. Specific areas of discussion included the Jordan's Principal funding and parameters for carrying forward unspent funds, significant accounting policies in place supporting the audit, and the fact that this was a "clean audit" with no reportable inconsistencies, discrepancies, or deficiencies.

Be it resolved that the Tłchq Community Services Agency Board approves the 2019-2020 Audited Financial Statements for the TCSA Education Program as presented. Moved by: Alex Nitsiza. Seconded by: Henry Gon. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Schedule of Upcoming Meetings

The 2020-21 schedule of TCSA Board meetings was reviewed and the next regular quarterly meetings date confirmed for November 17-19 inclusive. Confirmation that community visits are suspended pending the current CoVID-19 pandemic reality. of community visits will remain fluid pending travel and gathering restrictions due to COVID. Community visits will be re-scheduled to prioritize those communities the Board has not yet visited due to COVID.

Confirmed meeting dates for the remainder of the 2020-21 fiscal year and into 2021-22 include:

- November 17-19, 2020
- February 2-4, 2021
- June 1-3, 2021





Board Meeting Reflections

Significant areas of concern were not noted during the Board member reflections.

Behchokò Representative: The Behchokò Board member expressed concern regarding the lack of available fitness and recreation center facilities to the communities, and urges managers to consider how this might be supported moving forward.

Gametì Representative: The Gametì Board representative expressed concerns around the housing difficulties in his communities and the negative impact on recruitment.

Wekweetì Representative: The Wekweetì representative expressed concern that there is insufficient healthcare in the region and requests that management consider additional staffing supports.

Board Meeting Evaluation Forms

Board members were asked to complete the meeting evaluation forms and return to Livia either in hard copy before the end of the meeting, or to send afterward (via email, or fax).

Closing Prayer – Noella Kodzin

Noella Kodzin led the TCSA Board in a closing prayer.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:00pm.

Be it resolved that the Tłı̨chǫ Community Services Agency Board closes the September 8-10, 2020 meeting on September 10, 2020 at 3:00pm. Moved by: Alex Nitsiza.

Seconded by: Henry Gon. Motion Carried Unanimously.



Chairperson Signature

December 1, 2020

Date



Chief Executive Officer Signature

December 1, 2020

Date



