



Tłıchǫ Community Services Agency Board Meeting SPECIAL MEETING

Teleconference 1-866-969-8429 | Conference ID# 9170065

May 15, 2020

MINUTES

In Attendance: Ted Blondin – Chairperson
 Alex Nitsiza – Vice Chairperson and Whati Representative
 Janita Etsemba – Behchokǫ Representative
 Henry Gon – Gameti Representative
 Noella Kodzin – Wekweeti Representative

Executive & Staff: Shannon Barnett-Aikman – Chief Executive Officer
 Linsey Hope – Director of Education

Regrets

Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at 11:10am.

Opening Prayer – Opening Prayer led by Chairperson, Ted Blondin.

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.

No conflicts of interest were declared relevant to the agenda for this meeting of May 15, 2020.

Approval of Agenda

This is a special meeting specifically to review the NWT *Emerging Wisely* plan to ease public health order restrictions while still responding to COVID-19.

Be it resolved that the Tłıchǫ Community Services Agency Board approves the agenda for May 15, 2020 as presented. Moved by Henry Gon, Seconded by Alex Nitsiza. Motion Carried Unanimously.



Emerging Wisely

Review of the purpose of the *Emerging Wisely* plan; what is included under Phase 1 of the plan; implications for schools and the specific risk mitigation requirements that

Emerging Wisely – Phase 1: Implication for Schools

- Chairperson provided a summary of the meeting with Minister R.J. Simpson which occurred earlier this week between Ed Authority Chairpeople and the Minister.
- TCSA staff are working on planning for upcoming school year and are working collaboratively with other NWT Superintendents to determine what ways we *can* use the schools during Phase 1 to support Grade 12's and students with complex needs.
- TCSA staff are working hard on completing regular year-end prep and accountability measures, staffing, etc. while now also planning for re-opening under COVID risk mitigation conditions. Staff will keep board members
- IT needs in light of

Discussion

Behchoko – Given that schools are not going to re-open until fall, will we be providing computers to students? Will we be providing increased internet support?

- Not all students want to / are engaged in online learning. We will continue with hard copy packages as well for those families.
- DeBeers may be an opportunity for us to obtain computers for students.
- Hotspots for drive-up access; turbo sticks for internet access may be an option – we are reviewing those now.

Chairperson: Willing to go into deficit for the necessary supports to families. Don't want

Increased addictions and family violence happening in the community. Schools are about safe spaces for kids to go – while we may be looking to increase counselling and other service points through the school, will we be able to have students in attendance at the schools?

- CFS
- Education
- Health

Gameti: Concern about the timing – how much time has been lost with the students? If schools aren't going to be open, what are we doing for students to ensure they aren't behind?



- Educators across the territory are facing this together. Per the direction of the Dept of ECE, we've been told to account for 3 hours of learning per week, per course. And for grades 7-9 its to account for approximately 7 hours per week.
- TCSA is focusing on the most essential learning outcomes; we are supporting through IT as extensively as possible insofar as students are being successful.
- Linsey and Shannon are the only people under Education who work through the summer.

Whati Representative:

- Grateful schools are not going to re-open and that the previous motion we made to close schools 'til June stands – no new motion required.
- Reinforce the need to support the grade 12 students to ensure their graduation potential is impacted as minimally as possible.
- Wish to see us proceed with hiring a consultant to move the mental health and treatment program forward.

Chairperson: Is there a possibility for summer school?

- Due to nature of NWTTA and UNW contracts for school year employees, summer school won't be possible.
- PPE: ?

Wekweeti Representative:

Concerned given the small size of the AAS building – how will physical distancing, etc. take place?

- School specific plans will be drafted. Coordinated regionally, but will be very specific to size of school, # of classrooms in the school, # of students and adults to be accommodated within the school, etc.

Chairperson:

Need to share the emerging wisely information in Tlicho via radio and social media and websites.

- Draft letter to CEC to update them on status and implications for school planning.
- Complete request to OCPHO to host an in-person meeting for June Board meeting.

June Board Meeting planning:

- Plan for 2-3 hours of teleconferences per day rather than full day teleconferences. This means a more streamlined process.
- Will plan a very plain-speak presentation of the audited financial statements, recognizing that it will be challenging to navigate via teleconference.
- Funding implications for COVID



Motion to Adjourn

This special meeting of the TCSA Board was adjourned May 15, 2020 at 12:25pm.

Be it resolved that the TCSA Board adjourns the meeting on May 15, 2020 at 12:25pm. Moved by Alex Nitsiza. Seconded by Janita Etsemba. Motion Carried Unanimously.



Chairperson Signature

June 24, 2020

Date



Chief Executive Officer Signature

June 24, 2020

Date