

Date:	May 16, 2025	Note taker:	Chrissy Tanner
Minutes of:	Chief and Council meeting – Commercial		
Attended:	Chief John L. Bernard Councillors: Jason Bernard, Stewart Peters (arrived at 11:00am), Brandon Poulette, Matilda Googoo, Brennan Peters, Dalen Googoo, Stuart Basque, Katerina Basque, Gordon Googoo CEO – Gioia Usher Grant Thornton Rep. – John MacNeil		
Absent:	John Cremo, Emma Lewis Jason joined by phone arrived at 1:30pm		

Item	Discussion	Action
1	Opening Prayer and meeting called to order: 10:00am	
2	First Nations Fisheries Interest Group: Discussion on whether or not We'koqma'q want to take part the proposed refinancing for First Nations Fisheries Interest Group.	
3	Paint Street: CEO update. Agree to rent out the office space. Meet with Potlotek Chief and Council onsite to discuss further.	
4	Mass Timber Update: Discussion on opportunity to become part owner of Mass Timber Company in Elmsdale.	
5	Commercial Fishing update: Bobby Gould presented. Fishing season ends July 2 nd . Projection catch 15-25,000 lbs. of lobster for each vessel. Bobby will get crab information for John M. net on elvers 1.5M. Require adult eel license to fish in the Lahave river. Chief has been invited to view an eel farm in NFLD.	
6	Ashfield Gypsum Mine: Invite KMKNO in to meet, Gioia will set a meeting with Patrick Butler to discuss again. Need a large map to hang on the wall before they come in.	PW should have a map?

Item	Discussion	Action
7	<p>Fish Farm: Don will meet with Adrian (Ulnooweg Development) next week to discuss further. Improvements have been made on site; clean nets, monitor fish. Require \$2M to be able to continue operations at the Farm, need to make a decision soon and make a motion.</p> <p>Elvers:</p> <p>Can't fish adult eels on the Lahave River, if we don't use the contractual people. Start negotiations now to find a new river.</p>	
8	<p>In Camera:</p> <p>2:15pm-2:35pm</p> <p>No minutes taken</p>	
9	<p>Budget Discussion:</p> <p>CEO explained that our current budget is not balance. There must be cutbacks in certain areas given the financial losses being experienced at the fish farm. Consider cutbacks in possible area.</p> <p>Supplementary & Older workers. Elders workers will be delayed until August.</p> <p>Keep the Low Income Power Utility Plan Program.</p> <p>Need a budget for the Community Events.</p> <p>Ste. Anne DeBeaupre. Need to cut back on how much given.</p> <p>A special budget meeting to be arranged.</p>	
	<p>Brandon Poulette and Dalen Googoo left meeting at 2:00pm.</p> <p>Stewart Peters left meeting at 3:00pm.</p>	
	<u>Adjournment</u>	

Item	Discussion	Action
	Meeting was adjourned at 3:25pm.	

Distributed to all present.

Please advise of any errors or omissions.

Date minutes were approved: _____

Signed by Councillor Stuart Basque: _____

DRAFT