



**MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH GRENVILLE**  
**INDIGENOUS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**March 20, 2025, 4:00 p.m.**  
**Held in Meeting Room 1, 285 County Road 44**

MEMBERS PRESENT Lorraine Rekmans  
Phillip Seymour

MEMBERS ABSENT Patti McDonald

STAFF PRESENT Hillary Geneau, Director of Corporate Services

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**A. Open Meeting**

The meeting was called to order by consensus at 4:05 p.m.

**B. Opening Prayer**

Member Phillip Seymour led the opening prayer.

**C. Approval of the Agenda**

**#IAC-2025-06**

*Be it resolved that:*

*The agenda for March 20, 2025 be approved by consensus.*

**D. Disclosure of Interest**

None.

**E. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting**

**#IAC-2025-07**

*Be it resolved that:*

*The following meeting minutes be approved as circulated:*

1. February 20, 2025

1. Meeting Minutes - Thursday, February 20, 2025

The minutes were approved by consensus.

**F. Delegations**

None.

## **G. Decision Items**

### 1. Mino-jichaag-mtigwaaki Planning

#### 1. Logo

The members reviewed the logo. Hillary will get the final files from Finian.

#### 2. Garden Planning

Guest Sarah Tuck and Rebecca Graves have started growing seedlings that should be ready for planting in late May or early June.

Guest Rob McLellan suggested contacting the Ottawa Wildflower Seed Library which Sarah Tuck advised Rebecca is connected to them.

Member Lorraine Rekmans asked about the status of including sweet grass. Guest Chris Wilson advised that the Ferguson Forest Centre had suggested containing sweet grass in pots but he will discuss with staff again.

Member Lorraine Rekmans suggested the path at the waterfront may need to be re-graded as it is steep. Guest Chris Wilson will discuss with Ferguson Forest Centre staff.

#### 3. Grants and Crowdfunding

Guest Sarah Tuck reviewed the Zeffy campaign she set-up and feedback was provided. It was decided the goal will be set to \$10,000 with an end date of June 21, 2025. Member Lorraine Rekmans will share the campaign and everyone will share form there.

Guest Rob McLellan suggested the Nursery include an option to add a donation during their sales and soliciting businesses. Chris Wilson will discuss donations during sales with the Ferguson Forest Centre. member Lorraine Rekmans advised businesses had been solicited and little was gained, but it can be tried again.

Guest Chris Wilson advised there was a video him and Lorraine had made for a grant that can be used. Chris will work on updating the video and can contact Hillary if support is needed.

Guest Émilie Roy suggested wider circulation for events at Mino-jichaag-mtigwaaki. Hillary will add the newspaper to the events circulation list.

Guest Chris Wilson advised signs at the Ferguson Forest Centre ave incorrect spelling. Hillary will update.

Guest Sarah Tuck suggested reaching out to Nature Canada again as they had seemed interested in the project. Hillary will reach out.

4. Peace Pole and Fire

Director of Corporate Services Hillary Geneau will contact Finian to discuss his ideas for a peace pole. It was also decided to ask Canadian Tire to donate a fire pit.

2. Upcoming Events

The members discussed holding a beading event in May to align with Red Dress Day. Hillary will discuss with Rachel Carroll.

1. Spring Equinox March 22

The event will include tea and light snacks. Member Lorraine Rekmans will bring her fire pit.

2. Land Acknowledgement Event

The event info from Mississippi Mills was reviewed. The members agreed it could be a good event. Guest Rob McLellan asked if it would be appropriate to hold it on a date that aligns better with a significant date of the Anishnabek to which the members agreed that would be a good idea to discuss.

**H. Correspondence/Information Items/Reports**

1. Heart and Spirit Program Information Session

Information was circulated about the program.

**I. Other Business**

1. Items for Next Meeting

The next meeting will include more planning for Mino-jichaag-mtigwaaki and upcoming events.

**J. Public Questions**

Guest Esther Kasalu-Coffin suggested having programming like the Inuit Centre in Ottawa and asked about the size of the Indigenous population in North Grenville. The group discussed the difficulty of engaging Indigenous community members as everyone is very busy.

**K. Adjournment**

Member Lorraine Rekmans provided a closing prayer.

**#IAC-2025-08**

*Be it resolved that:*

*The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 6:27 p.m.*