



Seabird Island
Question and Answers
Admin Quarterly

Administration Quarterly Meeting

February 2, 2022

Infrastructure/ Housing – Ryan Stephan

1. Q: What about the Big Semi Trucks that use the Seabird Island Road all the time and the tractors, are these going to be ok driving on the road after the snow is melted, a few are afraid of them falling into the slough? Is Kent involved?

A: The District of Kent had sent letters to all of their constituents on the other side of the Slough, to request the Farmers to have their truck drivers to use Wahleach. We are working with Emergency Management BC (EMBC) and the District of Kent to repair the road and other modifications as needed.

Education – Barb White

1. Q: Be nice to see reports on progress of EJ.

A: We plan on sharing these with the members. At the present time we are preparing to submit information to FNESE/FNSA for review in preparation for an assessment visit. When we receive feedback from the visit, likely in May, we will share this with the membership.

2. Q: Could we involve Grandparents and Elders in the surveys more?

A: The survey window has closed for this session but there will be other opportunities to hear from grandparents and Elders. There may be an opportunity for a select number of Elders and grandparents to speak with members of the assessment team in May via telephone.

3. Q: A request to post Halq'eméylem curriculum on the member site.

A: This a very large file that is currently saved on hard drive and we are not sure how accessible it will be to all Band Members. If folks would like the entire thing uploaded we can do so. Dianna let me know that the direct Band Administration site/platform at the Band Office has access to the Halq'eméylem basic drive which was completed by Phaine some time ago. It has the basics of the language, songs and stories. This could be a starting point?

4. Q: Send out the link to the community for morning protocol/prayer at the school.

A: It is my understanding that this link was sent out. We have had various Community Members join in.

5. Q: Request to have conversational Halq'eméylem taught in the community (perhaps at the college).

A: There is planning be done with respect to conversational language in the community.

Education Jurisdiction; Culture/Community Centre - Chuck McNeil

1. Q: It would be sad if we lose a historic site to a building, do Members get to vote on the site, design, and other issues? Is this where the first church was built?

A: We have three potential sites at present. We have asked an engineering firm to help us determine which site will be the best location – based on infrastructure like water and sewage, drainage, parking capacity etc. We will then let the community know what the engineers have recommended to staff. The 1st soccer field is one of the proposed sites which is where the first church was built.

2. Q: Could we have a parkade? Move the Road?

A: Given the need for raising the building to make it more flood-proof, we are considering a parkade, but need to be sure we have the budget. Parkades are expensive but so is fill.

3. Q: What kind of buildings will be built (136 acre parcel)?

A: No plans for buildings at this time, this area will be used as a green space.

4. Q: Can we use the space for emergencies if we need to get to a higher elevation (136 acre parcel)?

A: Yes, for the short term we can, we need to put plans in place.

5. Q: How long before we have plans in place (136 acre parcel)?
A: *For the short term we can use for emergencies due to climate change and will work on putting plans together, I can't provide an exact time that this will happen.*
6. Q: What was the cost of the land (136 acre parcel)?
A: *\$1.4M – from the time we put in the offer to the time we purchased it, the new land assessments were done and this property has gone up just shy of \$600K. This land could be part of the land exchange with MOTI.*
7. Q: Could the existing structure be used for staff meetings etc. (136 acre parcel)?
A: *Possibly, but in order for this to be a safe space for staff and Community Members, it would need to be rebuilt. Ideally we could run a program that could help fund the cost of the renovations.*

Health – Lolly Andrew

1. Q: How does “Life on the Bird” fit into the Food Bank of Health? Do you use Seabird when you request it? If no, why not? Why is Seabird not connecting?
A: *“Life in the Bird” food bank is not connected to the Health Food Bank. Deanna works with Guru with her own connections. Buy-Low Foods in Hope, Guru Foods and a three other food groups that can bring food into the community.*
Action: Health would need to work on a plan to receive food donations, we have not done this as of yet.
2. Q: This can be a huge food donation, this could be huge for the community. Only problem would be picking it up constantly. This would not only be for those on Income Assistance, this would be for everyone within the community and Deanna has never brought it up to Seabird. Is it possible?
A: *Seabird may not have all the space for the food as well, questions could be brought into the office any time, you do not have to wait for Quarterly Meetings.*
Action: Lolly to connect with Deanna on the food donations for the community, on possible pick up and storage (this has not occurred as of yet).
3. Q: Is there new documentation for more funding for the residential schools and the children to apply for that, a lot of people have seen on Facebook, because we are taking on our own welfare of our own children. We work with Stó:lō, we have kids in foster care from another reserve. So how does that funding apply to what we're taking on?
A: *Health Director has not seen any new claim forms come out for the Residential Schools.*
4. Q: To the children and how does that implement their needs? Is that being funded to all foster parents that are taking children on a reserve for families that have been taken away implements their needs for years to come? Does that implement on funding for the family financially too? Families do not know how to document this, is Health assisting families with this now?
A: *Our Jurisdiction over our own children and families are in the beginning phases right now, so, we have to build into these plans. We have monthly meetings with Xyolhemeylh, MCFD because we have to follow what they have in place now, in terms of what caregivers get paid or a support service to be a foster parent, that is determined by the delegated agencies. We want to make sure when we take over our own Jurisdiction that we're going to get the same amount of funding that they were getting so that is in our plans, and we know that it's important. Thank you for your questions.*



Inter-Governmental Affairs – Janice Parsey

1. Could there be another huge land slide in that area again?

A: There is no way we could predict that really.

2. If that road had collapsed, would it have taken out Strawberry Island? Or do they have different areas and routes that go around Strawberry Island to those homes?

A: This was one of our concerns and we working with Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure (MOTI), to prevent this for the future.

3. Is it the Dam area that has been closed off years ago, is that why this has happened?

A: It has a lot to do with the size of culverts and debris, everything, what CP Rail and the Highway has done. All the culverts that have been put into those roadways for those personal homes, they blocked everything. There are many different things that affect that scenario. These are the things that we are working on with the District of Kent, Emergency Management BC, MOTI and ISC. We are trying to address these issues so that doesn't happen again in the future.

4. Funeral, we made progress on it, we would like to see the community based feedback and send it to C&C?

5. *A: In response to a request from Community Members, a notice was sent out to get input from the community for the funeral process in April 2021, the meeting was posted on Facebook and the Seabird Website Notices page. From the initial meeting in April 2021, and again on May 10, 2021, a group was formed to address concerns with the funeral process. There were many delays due to the passing of Community Members, fires, the covid out break and the flooding we had in the community. There was a restart meeting in February 2022 and another meeting will be held on April 8, 2022.*

6. Why are Members being turned away when requesting a lot to build a home?

A: No members have been turned away when requesting a lot to build a home, however other issues may impact the selection of lots due to estate issues or lack of infrastructure at the location, to name a couple.

Administration/ Finance – Nigel Selvadurai

1. Q: Is there any way the Band could loan Deanna a laptop for these meetings? This would be helpful for families as well.

Sorry, the Band office is unable to provide laptops for meetings.

2. Q: Is there plans to cut the trees for the members who need firewood?

We have a newly signed forest agreement with an accommodation for logs for firewood and cultural purposes which will be based upon needs to be supplied to SIB annually upon request. The difficulty we run into is having folks on our end that can cut and deliver the wood.

3. Upgrading the gravel road at the Business Park would be ideal solution for the Truck traffic on Seabird Island Road.

Upgrading of the gravel road is currently in our future capital plans.

4. Q: Is Cable Internet being sold to Shaw?

No it is not but we are looking at options such as Shaw Communications to provide all residents on SIB similar or enhanced internet and cable options currently available to the community core. This includes increased internet speeds and reliability.

5. Q: Hey, could the order of the Agenda change, so we could have a chance to ask Lands and Finance questions?

Yes, the order will be change on a rotational basis however should you have questions for Lands, Finance or any other department please forward them onto Administration comm@seabirdisland.ca and we will get the responses back to you as soon as possible.

