



Yuutu?it?ath

HITACU ASSEMBLY (Annual General Assembly)

October 17, 2022 | 6:00pm | Cixwatin Centre / Zoom

Meeting Record

Participants

Chairperson:	Shana Thomas
Citizens:	Vi Mundy; Bob Mundy; Jenna Miller; Marjorie Touchie; Jack Touchie; Marlene Tomren; Savannah McCarthy; Leo Touchie; Pearl Touchie; Gordon Taylor;
Members of Legislature:	Chuck McCarthy (President, Lands & Resources Executive Portfolio); Jenny Touchie (Assets Executive Portfolio); Lorri Touchie (Community Services Executive Portfolio); Asya Touchie; Jay Millar, Ha'wiih Representative;
Support Staff/other:	Suzanne Williams, Director of Operations; Tamara Nelson, Chief Financial Officer; Dr. Rohan Ghatak, Director of Health and Social Services; John Rankin, Senior Advisor; Melissa Boucha, Manager of Communications and Public Relations; Spencer Touchie, Manager of Assets; Darlene Clayton, Kitchen staff; Debbie Touchie, Kitchen Staff; Jill Hamilton, Law Clerk; Mike Watts, Audio/Visual Support; Chris Hild and Jonathon Mitchell, MNP; Woitck Malach (Community Resident);

1. Call to order at 6:03pm.
2. Opening Ceremonies/Welcoming remarks

Bob Mundy offered a prayer. Welcoming remarks by President McCarthy.

3. Review and adoption of the agenda

Addition: Business Entrepreneurs and Land Development.

Motion (2022.10.17-01): to adopt the agenda as amended.

Moved by Bob Mundy. Seconded by Vi Mundy. No opposition. Motion carried.

4. Executive Reports

Members of Executive in attendance provided short updates since the last Assembly which was held on September 26, 2022.

5. Yuulu?il?ath Government Strategies

The Director of Operations introduced Chris Hild and Jonathan Mitchell from MNP. Chris and Jonathon reviewed the various strategic planning processes undertaken and the documents that were created and subsequently approved by the Legislature, including the Master Strategic Plan Document, Governemnt Strategic Plan and Economic Development Strategic Plan. There were no comments or questions from citizens.

6. Q&A

Executive Jenny Touchie responded to the concerns raised at the last assembly regarding environmental conditions at the junction properties. Jenny confirmed that the Yuulu?il?ath Government is the owner of the site but is not the operator of the site. The operator is YFN Capital Assets Inc. through a licence of occupation; therefore, any questions or clarifications being sought should be done through YCAI via the CEO or operating board of directors.

Citizen Gordon Taylor claimed that the buildings at the junction properties do not meet environmental standards. He encouraged the leadership to review the environmental report submitted to the nation from 2011. He would like a better understanding of what's in the environmental report.

Action: the Yuulu?il?ath Government will attempt to locate the 2011 environmental report and will be in touch with Gordon prior to the next assembly to provide an update. Any update will also be brought back to the next Assembly.

7. Other

a. Business Entrepreneurs and land development.

Citizen Gordon Taylor expressed frustration with the amount of red tape for entrepreneurs, the different struggles to get a business off the ground, get a lease or a licence of occupation, and to purchase land to operate a business. Stated that the Economic Development Act is too restrictive. He asked if he can operate a business on former reserve land to meet the new taxation issues coming forward.

Economic Development Officer, Corey Rich, spoke to the notion of entrepreneurs and doing business on TSL. He clarified that the Economic Development Act governs the formation of development corporations (formerly known as “band owned businesses”) and how the Yuułu?il?ath Government invests in development corporations. The role of Economic Development Officer, provided for under the Economic Development Act, involves studying business opportunities in the region and determining what types of businesses and initiatives might be worthwhile for the Government to invest in. Corey confirmed that there are sites within YG’s TSL that currently do have economic development taking place including the junction sites, Wya Surf shop, Wya Resort which are operated under licences of occupation or leases. For individual entrepreneurs, to use other parts of TSL, the first step is to review the Zoning and Structures Act to see what type of zoning is in the different areas. The Lands and Resources Department is responsible for reviewing and issuing business licenses and processing applications for disposition. The goal is to make sure we’re providing that clarity in the business process for entrepreneurs looking to utilize YG lands for commercial purposes to build businesses and support their families.

Gordon spoke to the challenges he faces with the responses he receives to his requests for direction from the various YG department and feels there is some mixed messaging. He requested clarification on the role of Lands and Resources Department.

Action: Director of Operations is to ensure that the entire Administration of the Yuułu?il?ath Government has a consistent understanding of the different processes related to Gordon’s concerns and to clarify what those processes are, and report back to Gordon.

Executive Member Jenny Touchie recognized that as we bring on new acts and regulations to meet YG’s self-governing responsibility, it adds in complex layers of processes. The goal is to try to remove as much of the red tape and barriers as possible. Jenny noted that Corey has been working on additions to the YG website for economic development purposes that will help guide citizens and answer their questions. The deeper we get into self-governing history, the more clarification we will need to have readily available for citizens.

President McCarthy added that there is a cost affiliated with occupying lands, surveys and licences of occupation.

8. Adjournment

The Chairperson confirmed that the next assembly is scheduled for the evening of December 5th on Zoom. Meeting adjourned at 7:07pm