



## COUNCIL MEETING

### MINUTES

October 17, 2024

#### **Attendees:**

Chief Eugene Hope  
 Sub Chief Donny Bertrand  
 Brenda Berreault  
 Dennis Nelson  
 Vanessa Villeneuve – Timbre  
 Boyd Clark, Advisor to Council (Band Manager)

#### **With Regrets:**

Morris McLeod

### 1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Advisor (Acting Band Manager) Boyd Clark called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM MDT. All of Council was present.

### 2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA & CHAIRPERSON**

The Council requested for Advisor (Acting Band Manager) to Chair the meeting; he reads the agenda and asked if there were any additions: (5.1) Norman Sassie: Wood Harvesting Permit, (5.2) Education Support: Mikala McLeod, (5.3) Christmas Support Payment to Members in Fort Liard, (7.16) Trevor McLeod [BCR 2024-15-1017: Approval of Bison Tag, (7.17) Triton Diamond C [BCR 2024-15-1017: Approval of Bison Tag.

2024.10.17:01: Motion to Approve the Agenda with the Additions.

Dennis Nelson  
 Vanessa Villeneuve  
 Carried.

### 3. **IN-CAMERA**

2024.10.17:02: Motion to Move into Camera @ 6:21 pm

Chief Eugene Hope  
 Sub Chief Donny Bertrand  
 Carried.

1. **RCMP: August Report**
2. **RCMP: September Report**

2024.10.17:03: Motion to Table as the RCMP Officers were called away from the meeting.

Brenda Berreault  
 Sub Chief Donny Bertrand  
 Carried.

### 3. **Acho Dene Koe First Nation v. Paramount Resources**

Advisor (Acting Band Manager) Boyd Clark reviews with Council the status of the litigation with Paramount Resources in particular the letter of 2024-10-03 from Rae and Company (Doug Rae – Legal Counsel for Acho Dene) to Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories seeking a Special Chambers date and the request that the letter be placed before the Honorable Chief Justice Smallwood. The Advisor in addition reviewed the implication of Gall Legge Grant Zwack LLP (Wendy Zhang – Legal Counsel for Paramount Resources) letter of 2024-10-08 to Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories. Chief Hope provided additional comments concerning his cross-examination by Legal Counsel – Zhang in Calgary earlier this Fall.

### 4. **Letter: Kathy Hardisty: Membership Clerk**

2024.10.17:04: Motion to Accept as Information and file.

Brenda Berreault  
 Sub Chief Donny Bertrand  
 Carried.

## 5. **Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs: Treaty 11 Ammunition and Twine Specific Claim**

The Treaty 11 Ammunition and Twine Claim joins the Agricultural Benefits Claim that Canada has agreed to negotiated. This leaves the two remaining claims that have been filed with Canada for response of negotiations - Treaty Land Entitlement Claim and Annuities Claim.

Research of Other Claims is needed yet. As reported in the last newsletter we are still seeking funding to conduct research, as to whether we would qualify and be successful with the following additional Claims. These claims include: (1) Misuse of Band Assets Claim: A Claim arising from Canada's failure to properly manage Band Trust Fund, (2) Axes and Augers Claim: A Claim arising from Canada's failure to provide tools and implements upon the selection of a Reserve, (3) Trapline Claim: A Claim arising from Canada failure to protect Treaty signatories' vocation of hunting, fishing, and trapping, such as through the establishment and protection of traplines, (4) Cloths Claim: A Claim arising from Canada failure to provide a Chief and Council with a suit of clothing every third year, (5) Education Claim: A Claim arising from Canada's failure to provide adequate education, in accordance with the treaty, and (6) Tax Immunity Claim: A Claim arising from Canada's failure to establish a reserve, which would have resulted in tax immunity for members.

2024.10.17:05: Motion to Accept as Information and file.

Brenda Berreault  
Chief Eugene Hope  
Carried.

## 6. **Update: Director v. A.B: Mediation**

Advisor (Acting Band Manager) Boyd Clark reports on the file and the Nation's intervenors status.

The Member has continued to demonstrate improvement over the last few months – living in the same residence in Fort Nelson (demonstrating stability) and has maintained sobriety (minus one incident). The member, however, continues to be in off-again-on-again relationship with the youngest's father who has a history of alcohol abuse and domestic violence issues. Member has been seeing a counsellor through Facebook for several months now and continues to see son regularly in Prince George. The Director's position hasn't been much changed since the last update. The Director is pleased with the members' improvements, but they are not willing to return the son given their persisting concerns over the last seven years. The foster parents are undergoing an evaluation to take permanent custody. They are Indigenous but I was not able to get a clear answer which Nation they are members of. The temporary custody order will be extended while the foster parents are assessed, and a further collaborative meeting has been scheduled for November. After November, it is expected that the Director will move for permanent custody. The member's Counsel said she will advise the member to oppose trying to buy more time to mitigate the child protection concerns. Alternatively, if a family member is available, they should immediately submit their documents to be assessed. The member's cousin has repeated that she wants to take the child, but she did not complete her forms after the last meeting in June but said she will do so after yesterday's meeting.

## 7. **Staffing**

Advisor (Acting Band Manager) Boyd Clark reports on the file and the immediate need to address cash flow issues and the lack of funding to support payroll. Discussion ensued.

## 8. **Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs: Urban Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy Funding**

Advisor (Acting Band Manager) Boyd Clark reports on the file.

2024.10.17:06: Motion to Accept as Information and file.

Sub Chief Donny Bertrand  
Chief Eugene Hope  
Carried.

## 9. **Christmas Hampers**

2024.10.17:07: Motion to Approve the purchase of "traditional" Christmas food hampers for band members living in Fort Liard and to provide purchase orders [\$150.00] for Fort Nelson IGA for Acho Dene members who reside in Fort Liard and to provide \$150.00 electronic transfers to members who reside further of Fort Nelson.

Brenda Berreault  
Vanessa Villeneuve  
Carried.

## 10. **Bison Tags**

**2024.10.17:08:** Motion to Table the Band Council Resolutions associated and to provide notice that applications of interest are being sought from members for the five (5) Nahanni Wood Bison Harvesters Permits allocated to Acho Dene Koe First Nation by the Government of Northwest Territories. A deadline for application to be November 19, 2024, with the applications to be reviewed at the November 21 meeting of Council and the awarding of the tags based on the applications received. If any harvester tags remain of the five, then a second Call of Interest will occur in January with a deadline of February for submission. Band Council Resolutions Tabled:

BCR 2024-11-1017: Approval of Bison Tag: Kathy Hardisty  
 BCR 2024-12-1017: Approval of Bison Tag: Dale Diamond C  
 BCR 2024-15-1017: Approval of Bison Tag: Trevor McLeod  
 BCR 2024-16-1017: Approval of Bison Tag: Triton Diamond C

Chief Eugene Hope  
 Dennis Nelson  
 Carried.

**2024.10.17:09:** Motion to come out of Camera at 7:50 pm.  
 Chief Eugene Hope  
 Dennis Nelson  
 Carried.

## 4. **OLD BUSINESS**

### 1. **Government of Northwest Territories: Bi-Lateral Meeting [Yellowknife] 2024-11-07**

The Council approved the agenda for the annual bi-lateral meeting with the Government of Northwest Territories. The meeting in November in Yellowknife with the Premier and Cabinet Ministers will involve the following subjects: will include discussions on the following subjects: (Housing) Fort Liard Housing Action Plan & Local Housing Association, (Education) Issues to the implementation of the Action Plan to Improve JK-12 Student Outcomes/Education Renewal, (Municipal and Community Affairs): Municipal Governance & Emergency Management, (Indigenous & Executive Affairs) Self-Government Negotiations, (Infrastructure) Critical Minerals, (Infrastructure) Indigenous Procurement, (Finance) Liquor and Cannabis, (Indigenous & Executive Affairs) Updates from the Previous Bi-Lateral Meeting (Oct 2022).

### 2. **Government of Northwest Territories: Meetings with Federal Ministers [Ottawa] 2024-10-24/25**

The Council received an update on the happenings of the meetings with Federal Cabinet Ministers in Ottawa. Sixteen Indigenous governments were in attendance (including Acho Dene) with the Government of Northwest Territories and we had an opportunity for Leaders and Officials to meet with Federal Ministers of Canada on subjects of Natural Resources, Infrastructure and Communities, National Defense, Foreign Affairs, Indigenous Relations, Intergovernmental Affairs, Environment and Climate Change, Emergency Preparedness, Science and Industry, Transportation and Logistics, Health, Mental Health and Addictions, Families, Children, and Social Development, and Economic Development.

**2024.10.17:10:** Motion to Accept as Information and file.  
 Chief Eugene Hope  
 Sub Chief Donny Bertrand  
 Carried.

## 5. **NEW BUSINESS [DISCUSSION ITEMS]**

### **Council Additions**

#### 1. **Norman Sassie: Wood Harvesting Permit**

**2024.10.17:11:** Motion to Approve to notify the Government of Northwest Territories of Acho Dene Koe First Nation's consent to the Norman Sassie revised harvesting Permit and for Chief Eugene Hope to be approved to sign the harvester's permit.  
 Sub Chief Donny Bertrand  
 Dennis Nelson  
 Carried.

## 2. **Education Support: Mikala McLeod**

2024.10.17:12: Motion to Approve Mikala McLeod for \$2,000 in education support but for Chief Hope to discuss with the applicant that they should seek another program due to the cost.

Vanessa Villeneuve  
Sub Chief Donny Bertrand  
Carried.

## 3. **Christmas Support Payment to Members in Fort Liard**

2024.10.17:10: Motion to Approve Christmas Support Payments to Members in Fort Liard.

Brenda Berreault  
Dennis Nelson  
Carried.

## **Negotiations**

### 4. **Canada / Northwest Territories {Next Mtg}: [Virtual] Dec 9 & 13/24**

### 5. **Specific Claims {Next Mtg}: [Vancouver] Nov 21**

Advisor (Acting Band Manager) Boyd Clark in absence of the Lead Negotiator at the meeting shares with Council the happenings of recent meetings and the schedule of upcoming meetings.

2024.10.17:11: Motion to Change representatives to the Specific Claims Negotiation Team for Acho Dene Koe First Nation and to notify the Government of Canada. The decision is due to cost restrictions.

Remove: Lead Negotiator Steven Steeves

Add: [As an Alternate when Chief Hope can't attend] Sub Chief Donny Bertrand

Brenda Berreault  
Vanessa Villeneuve  
Carried.

## **Management**

### 6. **First Nations Financial Management Board**

Advisor (Acting Band Manager) Boyd Clark notifies the Council that he will be pursuing on behalf of Acho Dene Koe First Nation *Financial Nations Financial Management Board Certification* as this will create higher level of financial management accountability and open opportunities to funding opportunities and lower interest loans through the First Nations Financial Authority. To accomplish we need to complete the March 31, 2024, and ensure that all financial reports due to Canada are filed. He is currently working to complete it. Once completed he will be working with the First Nations Financial Management Board get the Band certified with the first steps requiring the passing of a Financial Administration Law and the passing review of the last five (5) years of Audited Statements. Presently there are no First Nations in Northwest Territories meeting this level of standard but will be an expectation with Self-government agreement to be complying and thus beginning the process.

2024.10.17:12: Motion to Accept as Information and file.

Dennis Nelson  
Brenda Berreault  
Carried.

### 7. **Government of Northwest Territories: Intergovernmental Council**

Advisor (Acting Band Manager) Boyd Clark shares with Council the agenda for the Government of Northwest Territories Intergovernmental Council for November 19-20th in Yellowknife. He [as an Official] and the Chief [as an Indigenous Leader] will be attending the meeting on behalf of the First Nation.

2024.10.17:13: Motion to Accept as Information and file.

Dennis Nelson  
Brenda Berreault  
Carried.

### 8. **Government of Northwest Territories: Intergovernmental Council Secretariat**

Advisor (Acting Band Manager) Boyd Clark shares with Council the minutes and agendas for the Intergovernmental Council Secretariat for 2024. The Secretariat is the officials table of the Intergovernmental Council and is where consultation occurs of Indigenous governments by the public government at a working level.

2024.10.17:14: Motion to Accept as Information and file.

Dennis Nelson  
Brenda Berreault  
Carried.

## **Management**

### 9. **Acho Dene Koe Group of Companies: Organizational Chart**

Advisor (Acting Band Manager) Boyd Clark reviews with the Council the current Organizational Chart for the First Nation's Group of Companies. There have been several editions to limited partnerships and joint venture businesses in the last two years.

2024.10.17:15: Motion to Accept as Information and file.

Dennis Nelson  
Brenda Berreault  
Carried.

### 10. **ADK Holdings Ltd: Directors Election**

Advisor (Acting Band Manager) Boyd Clark reviews with Council the status for the need to hold an election for the three (3) community positions on the Board of Directors, the appointment of an election officer and the establishing of a date for the election following the rules of the Shareholders Agreement between Acho Dene Koe First Nation and ADK Holdings Ltd. A Band Council Resolution was included for approval.

Specifically, the Shareholders Agreement describes the Election and Removal of Directors, and that the Shareholder shall appoint Directors through the two (2) groups with one group of three (3) to be elected from the members of the Shareholder and the second group of three (3) to be appointed by the Shareholder. The Shareholder shall require that the three (3) Directors shall be elected from candidates each for a three (3) year term and two (2) of three (3) elected Directors must be a Resident and none of the Directors shall be a current member of Council or Chief. On the candidates Director's Application, the candidate shall confirm, in writing (a) that they meet the eligibility criteria set out in Section 4 of the Bylaws of ADK Holdings Ltd; and (b) whether they are a Resident.

The Band Council Resolution confirms that the Shareholder wishes to approve to convene the election of the three (3) community Director positions of ADK Holdings Ltd., as described by the Shareholders Agreement, and to hold the election on Wednesday, January 15, 2025, with nominations commencing November 6, 2024, closing December 4, 2024, and that the Shareholders wish to appoint Killick Leadership Group as the Election Officers.

2024.10.17:15: Motion to Accept as Information and file Killick Leadership Group's Proposal "Scope of Work – Administration of Voting for 2024 ADK Holdings Ltd. Director Election."

Dennis Nelson  
Brenda Berreault  
Carried.

### 6. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

None

### 7. **BAND COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS**

#### **Financials**

1. **BCR 2024-01-1017:** Accounts Payables: Period Ending 2024.09.12
2. **BCR 2024-02-1017:** Accounts Payables: Period Ending 2024.09.19
3. **BCR 2024-03-1017:** Accounts Payables: Period Ending 2024.09.29
4. **BCR 2024-04-1017:** Accounts Payables: Period Ending 2024.10.13
5. **BCR 2024-05-1017:** Accounts Payables: Period Ending 2024.10.17

2024.10.17.16: Motion to Table to the next meeting due to time.

Eugene Hope  
Brenda Berreault  
Carried.

6. **BCR 2024-06-1017:** Approval to Withdraw \$1 Million from TD Wealth Management Investments and to Sign the Instruction Letter [2024-10-17] to Account Manager, Carlos Cruz, The McCarthy Cruz Meabry Group

2024.10.17.17: Motion to Approve Band Council Resolution 2024.06.1017  
 Sub Chief Donny Bertrand  
 Vanessa Villeneuve  
 Carried.

### **Band Transfers**

7. **BCR 2024-07-1017:** Approval for membership, Brent Kotchea with transfer from Sambaa K'e Dene First Nation

2024.10.17.18: Motion to Approve Band Council Resolution 2024.07.1017  
 Dennis Nelson  
 Sub Chief Donny Bertrand  
 Carried. No Conflicts Declared.

8. **BCR 2024-08-1017:** Approval for membership, Ethan McLeod with transfer from Liidlii Kue First Nation

2024.10.17.18: Motion to Approve Band Council Resolution 2024.08.1017  
 Dennis Nelson  
 Brenda Berreault  
 Carried. No Conflicts Declared.

9. Approval for membership, Blake Bellefontaine with transfer from Siksika First Nation

2024.10.17.19: Motion to Table as Blake is a minor and the application failed to have all the appropriate documentation (consent of the father to transfer).  
 Vanessa Villeneuve  
 Brenda Berreault  
 Carried. No Conflicts Declared.

### **Operations**

10. **BCR 2024-09-1017:** Approval for Notice of Layoff for assigned Staff

2024.10.17.20: Motion to Approve Band Council Resolution 2024.09.1017  
 Sub Donny Bertrand  
 Dennis Nelson  
 Carried.

### **Acho Dene Group of Companies**

11. **BCR 2024-10-1017:** Approval for Calling of Election of Directors for ADK Holdings Ltd by the Shareholder

2024.10.17.21: Motion to Approve Band Council Resolution 2024.10.1017  
 Sub Donny Bertrand  
 Chief Eugene Hope  
 Carried.

### **Governance**

12. **BCR 2024-11-1017:** Approval of Bison Tag: Kathy Hardisty

2024.10.17.21: Motion to Table.  
 Sub Donny Bertrand  
 Brenda Berreault  
 Carried.

13. **BCR 2024-12-1017:** Approval of Bison Tag: Dale Diamond C

2024.10.17.22: Motion to Table.  
 Sub Donny Bertrand  
 Brenda Berreault  
 Carried.

14. **BCR 2024-15-1017:** Approval of Bison Tag: Trevor McLeod

2024.10.17.23: Motion to Table.

Sub Donny Bertrand  
Brenda Berreault  
Carried.

15. **BCR 2024-16-1017:** Approval of Bison Tag: Triton Diamond C

2024.10.17.23: Motion to Table.

Sub Donny Bertrand  
Brenda Berreault  
Carried.

16. **BCR 2024-16-1017:** Approval of Minutes: 2024-09-09

2024.10.17.24: Motion to Table to next meeting due to time.

Sub Donny Bertrand  
Brenda Berreault  
Carried.

17. **BCR 2024-16-1017:** Approval of Minutes: 2024-09-17

2024.10.17.24: Motion to Table to next meeting due to time.

Sub Donny Bertrand  
Brenda Berreault  
Carried.

## 8. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **Assembly of First Nations**

1. Special Chiefs Assembly Meeting: Long-term Reform of the First Nations Child and Family Services Program [Oct 16-18: Calgary]
2. Dene Nation: Antoine: Northwest Territories Council of Leaders (Response: GNWT)

### **Harvester Permits**

1. Nahanni Bison Capture and Collaring Program

2024.10.17.24: Motion to Table to next meeting due to time.

Sub Donny Bertrand  
Brenda Berreault  
Carried.

➤ Items not requiring discussions were included for Information in Schedule A of the Council Package.

## 9. **DATES OF IMPORTANCE**

1. Oct 29-30/24: 2024: NWR Water Stewardship Conference [Yellowknife] – No Attendee
2. Nov 4-6/24: 2024: LGANT Conference & AGM [Yellowknife] – Attended by: Band Mgr/Advisor (Boyd Clark)
3. Nov 5-7/24: 2024: NWT Tourism Conference: [Yellowknife] – Attended by: Mgr. Business Development (Brad Morrissey)
4. Nov 7/24: Government of Northwest Territories: Bi-Lateral Meeting [Yellowknife]
5. Nov 13-14/24: 2024 Annual Wildlife Act Section 15 Meeting [Yellowknife] – No Attendee
6. Nov 19-20/24: 2024 Intergovernmental Council Elected Leaders Meeting [Yellowknife] – Attended by: Chief Eugene Hope & Band Mgr/Advisor (Boyd Clark)
7. Nov 28/24: 2024 First Nations Major Projects Coalition AGM [Virtual] – Attended by: Executive Chair/President & CEO (Boyd Clark)
8. Nov 25-28/24: Geoscience Forum [Yellowknife] – Attended by: Mgr. Business Development (Brad Morrissey)
9. Jan 20-23/25: AME Roundup 2025 [Vancouver] Attended by: Chief Eugene Hope & Band Mgr/Advisor (Boyd Clark)
10. Mar 2-5/25: Mineral Resources Conferences: PDAC 2025 [Toronto] Attended by: Chief Eugene Hope & Band Mgr/Advisor (Boyd Clark), Mgr. Business Development (Brad Morrissey)
11. Jan 21-22/25: BC Cabinet and First Nations Leaders Gathering [Vancouver] Attended by: Chief Eugene Hope, Lead Negotiator Steven Steeves, Garry Wouters (Technical Advisor to BC Negotiations), Nancy Morgan (Legal Counsel to BC Negotiations), Ross Hamilton (Forest Advisor), Andrew Baigent (Land Use Advisor – BC), Band Mgr/Advisor (Boyd Clark), Mgr. Business Development (Brad Morrissey),
12. May 20-22/25: 2025 National Aboriginal Opportunities Conference [Vancouver] Attended by: Mgr. Business Development (Brad Morrissey) & Executive Chair/President & CEO (Boyd Clark)

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

2024.10.17.25: Motion to Adjourn the October 17th, 2024, meeting of Council.  
Chief Eugene Hope  
Dennis Nelson  
Carried.

11. **NEXT MEETING DATE:**

Thursday, November 21, 2024

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the undersigned being of most of the Council of Acho Dene Koe First Nation, do hereby confirm that Council hereby approves by this Band Council Resolution **BCR 2024-12-1128** the approval of the Minutes of Council "As Information" and this was done at a duly convened meeting of the Council on **November 28, 2024**.

**Councillor – Brenda BERREault**

**Councillor – Dennis NELSON**

**Sub Chief – Donny BERtrand**

**Councillor – Morris MCLEOD**

**Councillor – Vanessa VILLENEUVE-TIMBRE**

**Chief – Eugene HOPE**

**Quorum** 4

## SCHEDULE A.

### INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Assembly of First Nations
  - Agenda: October 16-18, 2024 [Calgary]; Attended by Chief Eugene Hope
    - Revised Final Settlement on Compensation for First Nations Children and Families
    - First Nations Child and Family Services, Jordan's Principle, and Trout Class Settlement Agreement
    - Final Agreement on Long-term Reform
    - National Assembly of Remote Communities Mission Statement
    - First Nations Child and Family Caring Society et al. v. Attorney General of Canada Tribunal File: T1340/7008
    - Suggested talking points: Court approval of FNCFS Child Compensation Class Action FSA
    - Key Messages for Supreme Court Decision on An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Metis children, youth and families
    - Estimated Regional Funding Allocations 2025-2029
    - Evaluation of the Key Elements of the Final Settlement Agreement on First Nations Child and Family Services
    - Continuation of Funding at Actuals for Capital for Child and Family Services and Jordan's Principle
  
2. Dene Nation
  - Arctic and Northern Framework Policy
  - National Assembly of Remote Communities
  - Letter to Premier: Concerns Regarding the Child Welfare Compensation and Long-term Reform Agreement
  - 52<sup>nd</sup> Dene National Assembly: Resolutions Dettah, Denendeh, July 24-26, 2024
  
3. Government the Northwest Territories:
  - Environment:
    - (Lands Office Response): Participate in the Amendment Process for the NWT Lands Regulations
  - Health
    - Proposed Dental Hygienist Profession Regulations under the Health and Social Services Professions Act – Key Elements for Public Engagement
    - Extended Health Benefits
    - Addictions Prevention and Recovery Services Work Plan
  - Infrastructure
    - Next Steps – Rail Line from Enterprise to Hay River
  - MLA Office
    - Negotiated Contracts
    - Youth Ambassadors Program Call for Applications
    - Update: Fort Liard / Nahanni Butte - Accessing Fort Nelson Hospital
  
4. Province of British Columbia
  - Water, Lands, and Resource Stewardship
    - Medzih Interim Habitat Protection – Boreal Caribou (Lands Office Response)
  - Energy Regulator
    - Chevron Canada Ltd (Lands Office Response): Short-term Water Use
  
5. Government of Canada
  - Environment Canada:
    - Changes affecting administration of the Environmental Effects Monitoring Program
    - Consultation and Engagement: Salmon Aquaculture Transition plan for BC
    - Updated Status of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Canada
  - Indigenous Services Canada:
    - Indigenous Health Equity Fund
  
6. Yukon
  - Environment
    - Parks Strategy Progress Report
  
7. Dehcho First Nations
  - 2023-2024 Dehcho Land Use Planning Committee Annual Report
  
8. Other
  - A. Paramount Resources: Potential Liard Basin Water License