

# WASKESIU COMMUNITY COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES



## AGENDA TOPICS

**DATE:** Friday, October 4, 2019  
**TIME:** 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** Hawood Inn, Waskesiu – Boardroom

**Attending:** Jim Kerby, Bryan Matheson, Rob Phillips, Bentley Crozier, Jennifer Wood\* (\*attended by phone)  
**Also Attending:** From PCA – Acting Field Unit Superintendent Cal Martin, Townsite Manager Gregg Rutten  
**Regrets:** Darryl Fox

1. **Call to Order** 9:00 a.m.
2. **Motion to move the Council Meeting “In-Camera”**  
*Bryan Matheson/Rob Phillips* *Carried Unanimously*
3. **Motion to terminate “In-Camera” portion of the Council Meeting** 10:00 a.m.  
*Bentley Crozier/Rob Phillips* *Carried Unanimously*
4. **Adoption of Agenda for the Public Meeting of Council**  
*Rob Phillips/Bentley Crozier* *Carried Unanimously*
5. **Review and Adoption of Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2019**  
Motion to adopt the Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2019 as circulated  
*Bryan Matheson/Rob Phillips* *Carried Unanimously*
6. **Review of Outstanding Action Items/Related Status Updates** – a review of each of the Action Items and their status was undertaken by Council, and the Action Items were updated by the Administrator accordingly.
7. **Other Business Arising from the Minutes/Status Updates**
  - Waskesiu.org website – status update  
The Council Administrator reported that the newly updated Waskesiu.org website is now live after a quiet launch this week as final tweaks were being worked on. The Administrator reminded Council that the Waskesiu Chamber of Commerce website information was merged with the new website to create a truly “Waskesiu website” where most visitors searching Waskesiu on the internet are directed. The five Waskesiu premier hoteliers, responsible for funding this initiative, are launching a \$50,000 marketing campaign (with partial funds coming from Council and the Chamber) this fall and winter with a very strong social media presence. ACTION ITEM: Council and PCA were asked to take some time to go through the new Waskesiu.org website and forward any suggestions/comments to the Administrator.
  - Cabin area swales – status update  
This item was covered under Action Items.
8. **Community Council Sponsorship & Donation Policy (2019)**  
A motion was made to accept the Community Council Sponsorship & Donation Policy (2019) in the form as

presented to Council on the understanding that the Policy is to be treated as “work in progress” to allow for changes to be made by Council in the future as may be deemed necessary or appropriate.

**Rob Phillips/Bryan Matheson**

**Carried Unanimously**

**9. Determine an appropriate financial reserve to be maintained by Community Council**

This item has been moved to the next Council meeting agenda.

**ACTION ITEM:** The WCC Audit and Finance Committee are to consider and recommend to Council an appropriate financial reserve to be maintained by Community Council.

**10. Townsite Report – Gregg Rutten, Townsite Manager, Parks Canada Agency - (See Appendix I attached to these Minutes for a copy of the Townsite Report.)**

**11. Correspondence (*for information only unless otherwise noted*):**

- a. Email from Laura Lacoursiere regarding the 2019 AGM format
- b. Email from Gregg Rutten regarding the Sandy Lake Campground and Day Use Area Improvements
- c. Thank you message from Myrna Nagy
- d. Email from G. Young of Lake Edith Leaseholders Association
- e. Email from Gord Bueckert, Vice President, Waskesiu Chamber of Commerce (re: SaskTel High Speed Internet - Re-instatement of 8-Month Disconnect)
- f. Email and attached letter from Kapasiwin Bungalows (Jake Burlet) to Parks Canada received on September 23, 2019\*

\*Discussion between Council and Parks Canada Agency ensued regarding this letter. Councillor Jennifer Wood declared a conflict of interest and left the meeting at 10:45 a.m. for the entirety of such discussion (and re-joined the meeting at 11:05 a.m. at the commencement of “Other Business” on the agenda). Following a full discussion, it was determined that, while Council was willing to continue receiving information if the parties (i.e. both PCA and Kapasawin Bungalows) want to keep Council informed or jointly seek Council’s opinion or guidance, this matter should, in Council’s view, continue to be dealt with directly as between Kapasawin Bungalows, as the developer, and Parks Canada Agency, as the landlord.

**12. Other Business**

- Waskesiu 2028 and Beyond - next steps  
Councillor Wood suggested Council and PCA jointly communicate with the key Waskesiu community stakeholders by sending a letter requesting that they meet and/or communicate with their respective groups, and gather suggestions for their vision of “Waskesiu 2028 and Beyond” over the next 6 months. They would then send those suggestions back to Council before the new season starts in 2020. She also suggested we could then hold a meeting with community stakeholders in the spring where they could contribute their suggestions to Council, who in turn would then hold a community open house in the summer to present all the Waskesiu 2028 and Beyond suggestions.  
**ACTION ITEM:** Council Chair and Councillor Wood, with help from Council Administrator, will prepare and distribute a letter from Council (perhaps jointly with PCA) to the key Waskesiu townsite stakeholders as soon as possible.

- Re-cap of the 2019 Council / WSRA AGM format  
Council members agreed with the new format and PCA supported it as well and would like to continue with the same format next year.
- Council Vice Chair Position  
This item has been deferred to the next Council meeting agenda.
- Council 2020 By-Election date  
A motion was authorizing the Council Chair and Administrator to set the date for the summer by-election to fill the current vacancy on Council, including the deadline for nominations.  
**Bryan Matheson/Rob Phillips** **Carried Unanimously**
- 2019 Contract for Services – Council Administrator  
A motion was made to accept the Council Administrator 2019 Contract for Services as presented.  
**Rob Phillips/Bentley Crozier** **Carried Unanimously**
- WCC meeting dates through to June 2020  
The date for the December Council meeting was set for Friday, December 13, in conjunction with the Waskesiu Winter Festival. Council Chair and Council Administrator are to select suggested meeting dates through to June 2020, and poll Council members for their decisions. An additional meeting will need to be set for the Waskesiu 2028 and Beyond stakeholders meeting. That meeting could possibly be held in Saskatoon, Waneskewin or Prince Albert. A date will also need to be set for the Waskesiu 2028 and Beyond community open house to be held later in the summer.  
**ACTION ITEM:** Council Chair and Council Administrator are to select suggested meeting dates through to June 2020, and poll Council members for their decisions.
- PANP Visitation Statistics **Discussion Item**  
Council Chair voiced his disappointment that the vehicle counter at the east gate was not working for the month of August, the busiest month of the year for visitation.  
Park Superintendent Martin also expressed his disappointment, especially about not knowing this had happened until well after the fact. He has done follow up to find other options to prevent this from happening in the future. Fortunately, there are other stats available to base visitation on such as bookings in the campgrounds, hotel rooms, and paid visitors through the gate.
- Council Committee Assignments  
A motion was made to accept the realignment of Council Committee assignments as presented.  
**Rob Phillips/Bentley Crozier** **Carried Unanimously**  
**ACTION ITEM:** Council Chair to send the realigned Council Committee assignments to the rest of Council and to PCA.
- Bank signing authorities for Council  
Motion to confirm Council's Bank Signing Authorities in the standard form provided to Council by the Conexus Credit Union based on all actions (other than deposits) requiring signatures from any two (2) of the following: Chair-Jim Kerby, Secretary/Treasurer-Jennifer Wood, Director-Darryl Fox, and Administrator-Noreen Matthews.  
**Bryan Matheson/Rob Phillips** **Carried Unanimously**
- Committee Terms of Reference  
**ACTION ITEM:** Chairs of each committee are to bring any changes to their Committee Terms of Reference to the next meeting.
- Request to elect Jennifer Barber to the WRA Board of Directors  
A motion was made that the Waskesiu Community Council approve the appointment of Jennifer Barber to the Waskesiu Recreation Association Inc. Board of Directors with effect as of September 30, 2019.  
**Bentley Crozier/Rob Phillips** **Carried Unanimously**  
**ACTION ITEM:** Council Chair to notify the WRA board and Jennifer Barber

- Parks Canada's - date of installation of new Terrace Gardens signage  
The Townsite Manager reported that the work order was sent in. The Asset Shop reported they are working on the sign but it has not been completed.  
**ACTION ITEM:** Superintendent Martin will follow up with the PCA's Asset Manager and report back to Gord Bueckert, Waskesiu Chamber of Commerce Vice-President.
- Councillor Matheson brought to PCA's attention the importance of maintaining the historic looking Recreation/Chamber Building and the need to improve the foundation of the building, especially now that it is one of the most visited buildings in the townsite. Once this is done, repairs and upgrades to the interior of that building can be undertaken, and all of the upgrades to the entire recreation area will be complete.

### 13. Committee Reports

- **Budget & Finance Committee** – Darryl Fox, Chair  
No report
- **Business Relations Committee** – Darryl Fox, Chair  
No report
- **Community Planning & Development Committee** – Jim Kerby, Chair  
No report
- **Communications & Community Relations Committee** – Rob Phillips & Bentley Crozier  
No report
- **Essential Services - Policing & Fire Committee**
  - Fire Chief report for May/June – previously circulated
  - Fire Chief report for July/August – previously circulated
- **Vegetation Management/FireSmart Committee** – Bryan Matheson, Chair  
Councillor Matheson has not heard from the committee and questioned what the next steps are for the committee. He also asked what the process is to make the Waskesiu Golf Course more FireSmart, especially holes 6, 7, 8 where the most dead fall exists?  
Councillor Matheson asked about the process of thinning the vegetation in the area where the discussion of an off leash dog park would be created.  
Superintendent Martin stated that he will follow up on all these questions and report back to Council.

### 14. Next Meeting Date(s) – Friday, December 13th

### 15. Adjournment

1:48 pm

*Rob Phillips – Carried unanimously.*

APPENDIX I  
Waskesiu Community Council Meeting Report  
October 4, 2019  
Prepared by: Gregg Rutten, Townsite Manager  
Meeting Location: Hawood Inn, Waskesiu

\*Please note – new information is highlighted in **bold**.

### **Cabin and Cottage Areas**

#### 1. Waskesiu Townsite Parking Strategy

Parking issues in Waskesiu can be divided into two separate areas – one street parking and cabin/cottage area parking. PCA has initiated a street parking strategy for the townsite to address some of the issues that arise from inappropriate parking. The main issues are congestion and public safety.

- Further work is required on a strategy for the cabin and cottage subdivisions in Waskesiu. Such a strategy will be developed with input from the Waskesiu Seasonal Residents Association and the Waskesiu Community Council for implementation post 2017.
- PCA asset staff installed 4 signs (“30 minute parking”) around the fish shack on Lakeview Drive. Remaining signs to be installed in 2-3 vehicle stalls in front of Waskesiu Trading Company in spring.
- Townsite manager will meet with representatives of the WSRA to determine next steps regarding a parking strategy for the cabin and cottage subdivisions.
- PCA and WSRA Representatives will meet to discuss cabin/cottage area parking on February 8, 2019.
- PCA and WSRA representatives will be meeting in late April to discuss parking, potential amendments to the Cabin Development Guidelines, and National Energy Code requirements.
- PCA confirming a meeting date with the WSRA.
- **Waskesiu Marina has been issued a building permit for development of additional dry boat/trailer storage that will be offered to seasonal residents at discounted rates.**

### **Commercial Development/Business Licencing**

#### 1. Kapasiwin

A development permit has been issued for the re-development of the Kapasiwin Bungalow Camp. The developers completed a detailed impact assessment (including public consultation) as part of their application for the development permit.

- a. A demolition permit was issued for six cabins at the Kapasiwin Bungalow Camp. 5 of the 6 cabins have been removed and relocated to Montreal Lake Cree Nation. Contractors / movers are waiting for provincial permits to move the final (largest) cabin.
- b. Developers working to complete submissions required prior to the issuance of a building permit for 6 new rental cabins at the Kapasiwin bungalow camp.
- c. Permit has been issued for the replacement of 6 new rental cabins at the Kapasiwin Bungalow Camp. Permit also includes the replacement of on-site sewer and water utility infrastructure.
- d. PCA working with developers to determine the best route/method of moving RTM cabins into PANP. The width of the RTM cabins is posing some challenges.
- e. PCA met with developer and building mover. A strategy has been developed which will allow the RTM cabins to be moved through the Park East gate.

- f. Two cabins are scheduled to move into PANP. One on June 24, and the other on June 28, 2019.
  - g. A move/safety plan is in place and approved by PANP management.
  - h. Engineer stamped plans have been received by PCA for a staff accommodation building. These plans are currently being code reviewed by a third party contractor.
  - i. **3 RTM cabins have been moved onto the Kapasiwin site this fall.**
  - j. **A building permit has been issued for one of the staff accommodation buildings. Construction is expected over the fall/winter.**
  - k. **The Leaseholders are exploring the installation of deep water and sewer to the Kapasiwin site.**
2. Development Proposal from Lakeview Hotel  
 PCA has received a development permit application from the owners of the Lakeview Hotel to develop a commercial accommodation building on the currently vacant lot at 811 Lakeview Drive.
- The proposed development includes five commercial accommodation units, one staff accommodation unit and a main floor office/retail space fronting Lakeview Drive.
  - Council has voiced a concern over the potential loss of availability of hotel type accommodation in Waskesiu.
  - PCA continues to work with the leaseholder on details of current operations and requirements for subdivision of the property.
  - **No update at time of Report.**
3. Staff Accommodation Strategy
- PCA will be seeking feedback on proposed strategy from the WCC and Chamber of Commerce.
  - PCA awaiting results of Elk Street property appraisals for determining release fee in the case of lease issuance.
  - PCA is working with the Lobstick golf course to explore the feasibility of relocating their trailer sites on the golf course leasehold, thereby freeing up six spaces.
  - Appraisals of the Elk Street lots have been received from PWGSC. Elk Street lots have been appraised at \$65K. PCA will be reviewing this information and producing a new draft of the staff accommodation strategy for discussion with the WCC and Chamber of Commerce.
  - An updated strategy document has been provided to WCC for review/discussion.
  - **Due to distance to utilities and the lack of washroom/shower facilities, the creation of RV sites on the Lobstick leasehold has been deemed too costly.**
  - **An alternate location has been identified adjacent to the Recreation Hall that will accommodate 8 RV sites.**
  - **PCA is currently working with our contracting department to tender out this work.**
4. Townsite Noise Complaints
- On April 30, 2019 a meeting was held with the PCA townsite manager, law enforcement supervisor, RCMP staff sergeant and the president of the Waskesiu Chamber of Commerce.
  - At this meeting it was confirmed that for noise complaints in the Waskesiu commercial area and the staff housing areas, complainants should contact the RCMP for response.
  - The RCMP would appreciate support from the PCA law enforcement branch when responding, but it is not mandatory.

- PCA townsite manager committed to meeting with commercial operators prior to the operating season to outline expectations and discuss past issues.
  - PCA has confirmed that a business licence may be suspended in the case of repeat complaints.
  - **All commercial business licences will have an 11:00pm quiet time requirement for 2020 (not just restaurants/bars). This requirement will allow the RCMP and Park Wardens to shut down noise disturbances at a commercial leasehold.**
5. Cannabis Consumption – Restaurant Patios/Decks
- PCA has received confirmation that as per Provincial laws Cannabis consumption is prohibited on commercial restaurant/bar patios and/or decks.
  - This is the case even if the business allows the smoking of tobacco products on the patio/deck.
  - **No update at time of report.**

## Events

6. Waskesiu Lakeside Music Festival  
 Meant to be a “signature community event” that provides quality entertainment and activities to increase visitation and business for local operators at a time of year that sees visitation start to decline, the 4th annual Waskesiu Lakeside Music Festival took place on August 24-26, 2018.
- WRA has agreed to take on the organization of the music festival for 2019 and beyond. A committee has been formed for this purpose. Planning is going well. 6 bands have been confirmed.
  - PCA has initiated a contribution agreement with the WRA to provide \$25K in funding to assist with festival costs for 2019 and the same contribution for up to 2 subsequent years.
  - The festival dates are Friday- Sunday August 23-25, 2019. The main stage music is scheduled for Saturday August 24, 2019.
  - Contribution agreement signed off and funding in place for the PCA portion of the funding for the event.
  - **The 2019 Festival attracted approximately 3500 people throughout the day.**
  - **PCA has received several pieces of correspondence supportive of this year’s event and asking for the event to continue in the future.**
  - **No complaints received by PCA at time of report.**

## Infrastructure

7. Waskesiu Townsite Dock and Breakwater
- a. Renewal of these structures is included in the vision 2020 document as part of the main beach renewal plan.
  - b. Divers completed an assessment of the breakwater and paddle wheeler dock in 2017. Results indicated that the breakwater is in good condition and requires minimal recapitalization. The paddle wheeler dock is at the end of its useful life.
  - c. A draft conceptual map of main beach area was discussed at the January WCC meeting.
  - d. Parks Canada will provide an updated map based on that discussion at the April meeting of council.

- e. Revised maps have been provided to Council. Final updates to maps pending. PCA will provide updated maps to council at the June 22 meeting or prior to that if available.
- f. Updated maps included with June 18, 2018 townsite report
- g. Possible that dock will be removed before end of March 2019 pending internal PANP approval of funding. Work would take about 2-3 weeks. The project would completely remove both the dock and the subsurface components.
- h. Dock removal is complete.
- i. Communication about boat use in the area, mooring and future plans for upgrades to the breakwater have been posted on Waskesiu.org and will be included in the PCA update in the WSRA newsletter.
- j. **PCA is discussing options for this. Any upgrades would be done as part of the breakwater re-capitalization scheduled for 2020.**

8. 4 Way Stop Flooding

Winter flooding at the intersection of Waskesiu and Lakeview Drives has been a problem for several years as the storm sewers freeze and cannot take runoff that occurs throughout the winter.

- Funding of \$650K has been obtained to address this problem.
- Engineers have recommended a force main system inside existing storm sewer with a heated catch basin and service building located at the 4 way intersection as well as improvements to the outfall at Waskesiu Lake.
- Detailed design underway, construction anticipated in the fall.
- Construction estimates received are significantly higher than the available funding. Additional funding is being sought internally.
- Timelines on approvals are uncertain and will result in the project being pushed to 2019.
- **This project is expected to go to tender within the next 2 weeks.**

9. Recreation Area Renewal (Lawn Bowling/Sport Court)

- The WRA board has a question regarding the remediation of contaminated material at lawn bowling green. The question is in the context of preparing the site for the installation of a sport court facility. PCA is working with the WRA to determine scope of work required and next steps. The environmental assessment specialist from PCA has been engaged in the project.
- Meeting with WRA to discuss options for remediation scheduled for Oct. 11.
- "Capping" of the contaminated lawn bowling site is considered a low risk and economical remediation solution.
- The contaminated area is a legacy issue caused by past park management practices. Therefore PCA will contribute the cost of remediation should funds be available in 2019 (following a Feb. Management Team review of all 2019 budget pressures).
- PCA is working closely with the WRA to determine the required amount and type of soil for the capping process (based on specifications for the sport court surface, and to determine the appropriate timing of the remediation work.
- **PCA is waiting for an engineered design of the capping and drainage for the sport court area that will support an asphalt subsurface for the sport court area.**
- **Once the design is finalized, the project will go out to tender.**

10. Beach House Washroom and Shower Replacement



- Similar situation to 4 way stop project. Construction estimates received are significantly higher than the available funding. Additional funding is being sought internally.
- Big and Little beach house will remain in service for the 2019 summer season.
- Demolition and replacement of Big Beach House likely to begin in Sept. 2019.
- The contract for this work has been posted on the Government of Canada "Buy and Sell" website.
- Work is planned to commence immediately after labour day in September.
- There will be disruption to the walking path adjacent to the shower building and main parking lot that will require events such as the Outter Limits fun run to alter their normal routes. Event coordinators have been informed of this situation.
- **Demolition of the main beach shower/washroom is well underway at the time of this report.**

#### 11. Crean Lake 4 Season Camp Kitchen

- **PCA and the Waskesiu Foundation have partnered on the construction of a 4 season camp kitchen at Crean Lake, at the site of the former Warden cabin.**
- **Construction of the camp kitchen is well underway, with completion expected by mid-October.**
- **PCA has also installed picnic tables and fire pits in the area to create a new day use area for winter and summer use.**

### **Emergency Services**

#### 12. Fire Chief Contract

- The contract for the current fire Chief will expire in January 2020
- PCA Townsite manager exploring options for a new contract or contract extension.
- **Townsite manager is working with PCA contracting to extend the contract for the current fire chief.**

# Fire Department Report



To: Waskesiu Community Council  
From: Les Karpluk (Fire Chief)  
Date: June 30, 2019  
Report: FIRE Report 11-2019 (May-June Activities)

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## Background

This report will provide a summary of the activities for the Waskesiu Fire Department (WFD) and Fire Chief for May-June 2019.

## Discussion

As new recruits join for the high use visitor season, the training program continues to be focused on the Job Performance Requirements (JPRs).

We are using our Class A&B foam to practice with and from an operational stand point, we will be moving forward with using the foam at the majority of fires as it knocks down the fire quickly and allows the department to make efficient use of the water on the Pumper.

Captain Ferrie and I met with the officer manager of Kapasiwin Bungalows to discuss water supply concerns as new cabins are being added to the site. The discussion was informative and it was recognized that the Waskesiu Fire Department does not have a secured water source at that site, and we are unable to draft from the lake due to a lack of access to the lake. The officer manager understood our concerns and we all felt that the best option would be to install a fire hydrant onsite, but this would be determined by the size of the water main supplying the site with water. To date, no new information is available to advise the Waskesiu Community Council regarding this concern.

The tender process was finalized for a new air compressor for the Fire Department. As mentioned in my September 2018 report to Parks Canada and provided to the Waskesiu

Community Council, the existing air compressor for our Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus is failing. A date has not been finalized when the new air compressor will be installed, and hopefully it will be within the next 4-6 weeks.

Information on some equipment needs was provided to the Waskesiu Foundation which was to be addressed at their June 30<sup>th</sup> meeting. The equipment needs identified were the same ones as provided in the March-April activities report to the Community Council.

The annual pump and ladder testing occurred in June and the pump and ladders passed their annual testing. Two valves had to be replaced on the truck in order to pass the test and it was noted that there was a slight decline in performance, but the Pumper still passed with few issues. One of the benefits of using a reputable vendor is that they keep track of the annual pump tests results and they are able to provide upon request a breakdown of whether the pump is reaching a point where a full pump rebuild will be necessary. I have not requested a pump analysis from Rocky Mountain Phoenix as the fire pump is easily passing the annual pump tests. New pump repairs are costly and can range anywhere from \$10,000-\$40,000 so regular maintenance and testing are a great preventative measure in prolonging the service life of the pump. The annual pump and ladder testing are designated in the operating budget and was a proactive measure by the previous Fire Chief.

As noted in my September 2018 report, E171 (Pumper) is a 2001 Pearce Contender and the Fire Underwriters Survey states that frontline pumpers need to be replaced after a 20-year service life. I will continue to monitor this for Parks Canada and advise of any change in pump effectiveness or overall performance of the truck.

### **Moving Forward**

An initial scene operation performance requirement was implemented in June and consists of 4 different Pumper and fire hydrant evolutions. The four evolutions are based upon the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) *Standard 1410 Training for Emergency Scene Operations*. The more we practice these four evolutions the more it becomes second nature for everyone involved. The intent is to have specific evolutions to not only secure a water source but to lay out our attack lines for fire extinguishment.

At the Saskatchewan Association of Fire Chiefs (SAFC) conference held in Moose Jaw this past April, I was voted in as the Zone 9 representative on the SAFC Board of Directors. My role is to work with the SAFC fire chiefs in Zone 9 and attend SAFC Board meetings in person and monthly through teleconference. I have also taken on the file regarding Blue Lights on Fire Department and EMS vehicles in the Province.

The Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs provided a position paper to their Provincial government and were successful in getting legislation passed that permits blue lights on all emergency vehicles in Ontario. Currently in Saskatchewan only law enforcement is allowed to use blue and red lights on emergency vehicles. It has been proven that under low light conditions, an individual's vision shifts toward shorter wavelengths, which are blue or violet and away from longer wavelengths which appear as red. The SAFC is committed at this time to strive for legislation to be passed in Saskatchewan that permits blue and red emergency lights on fire and EMS vehicles and not just law enforcement. As the representative on the SAFC Board of Directors, I am committed to working on this file for the safety of all First Responders in the Province.

### **Conclusion**

This report is a summary of training, administrative duties and planning in the Waskesiu Fire Department for the months of May and June 2019.

Respectfully submitted



Les Karpluk  
Fire Chief

Cc: Gregg Rutten Townsite Manager



# Fire Department Report



To: Waskesiu Community Council  
From: Les Karpluk (Fire Chief)  
Date: September 9, 2019  
Report: FIRE Report 13-2019 (Jul-Aug Activities)

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## Background

This report will provide a summary of the activities for the Waskesiu Fire Department (WFD) for Jul-Aug 2019.

## Discussion

The newly implemented Job Performance Requirements (JPRs) for our firefighters and more specifically for the summer firefighters was successful. The only challenge that occurred was the different dates that new members would join, and as a result of this we had a few obstacles making sure that all of the summer firefighters were at the same level. A meeting will be scheduled in the near future with the captains and firefighters to discuss some strategies for next year.

This summer we had a high female/male ratio in the fire department. During our regularly scheduled training nights we would have about a 70-80% turnout of female firefighters as compared to male firefighter attendance. It was great seeing the passion and enthusiasm in all of the firefighters this summer.

A discussion was held earlier this summer with Lakeland Fire Chief Chris McShammock regarding a mutual training session and we both agreed it was a great idea. Training together allows us to build up camaraderie as well as get acquainted with each other's equipment. Unfortunately, we were unable to formally schedule a session this summer, but I will continue to pursue this and strive to make this happen.

As far as an update regarding Kapasiwin Bungalows goes, the Waskesiu Fire Department is not a part of the infrastructure operations of the Town of Waskesiu, but we will

continue to work with the Kapasiwin Bungalows management and Parks Canada to reduce risk for visitors.

The new air compressor for the fire department was approved but a delay has occurred for the installation. We were cautious this summer with our use of air and there will definitely be relief when the new compressor is installed.

The Waskesiu Foundation and Parks Canada partnered and provided the much-needed funding for a set of Ready Rack lockers and a Hydrovent nozzle. All of the Ready Rack lockers have now been installed and to say it was an improvement would be an understatement. The Hydrovent nozzle is a great addition to the WFD and we will continue to train on it to make sure that all firefighters can quickly utilize it if needed.

The initial scene operation performance requirement that was implemented in June is a great addition for the department. It allows us to focus on what works for us and to strive to be efficient in those evolutions.

### **Moving Forward**

Some of the contractor responsibilities required by Parks Canada is to ensure that the Captains are properly trained to perform the duties of the Incident Commander and to maintain a leadership response capability with the Captains when I am unavailable. As I am in my second year of my contract, I have started to design and implement a list of required skills for a WFD Captain. The plan is to implement this into the regularly scheduled training this winter and conclude in May 2020.

In late May or early June of 2020, we plan to host members from the Community Council, The Waskesiu Foundation and Parks Canada for a BBQ and show off our new Ready Racks, Hydrovent nozzle and tour the fire station.

Overall, the summer was busy from a training and administrative standpoint. We had two responses with one being cancelled while firefighters were already at the fire hall. The second incident involved carbon monoxide and the attending Captain requested Sask Energy to attend to assist us as our gas detector was not reading correctly. At both incidents we had a good compliment of firefighters respond to the fire hall.

One of the weak links in our training is the lack of live fire training. I will be investigating the cost of a used Seacan to see if it is viable to have one for “small” live fire training for our firefighters and I plan to discuss this further with Townsite Manager Gregg Rutten.

I am also pursuing plans for a vehicle prop so we can have live burns and train our firefighters on how to properly attack a vehicle fire. At the end of the day our firefighters need to get much more exposure to live fire training.

**Conclusion**

So far, 2019 is passing quickly and there is still much to do regarding training, policy and procedures and ensuring that our delivery of service is meeting the needs of the Town of Waskesiu. This report is a summary of training, administrative duties and planning in the Waskesiu Fire Department for Jul-Aug 2019.

Respectfully submitted



Les Karpluk  
Fire Chief

Cc: Gregg Rutten Townsite Manager