

**KINNA-AWEYA LEGAL CLINIC
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
Saturday, November 27, 2021
Court House Hotel
Thunder Bay, Ontario**

Present: Alta Fenton, Audrey Achneepineskum (via Zoom), Michael Deschamps, Mary Day, Robyn Medicine, Candace Davies, Jamie McGinnis (via Zoom), Sally Colquhoun, and Beth Ponka

Elder: Helen Young Brizard

1. Welcome

Alta welcomed everyone to the meeting. Helen Young Brizard did an opening prayer and smudge.

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

None declared.

3. Review/Acceptance of Agenda

Motion#1 To accept the agenda as presented.

MOVED BY: Robyn Medicine

SECONDED BY: Candace Davies

CARRIED.

4. Review/Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting

4.1 October 23, 2021

Motion#2 To accept the minutes of the Board of Director's meeting for October 23, 2021, as presented.

MOVED BY: Candace Davies

SECONDED BY: Michael Deschamps

CARRIED.

5. Reports

5.1 Coordinator of Legal Services Report

The correct meeting date for Sally's report is November 27, 2021, not July. Sally presented her report, which is in the Board packages. Candace asked if there would be an ID clinic in Nipigon soon. PACE has an office in Nipigon and we could partner with them to support an ID clinic.

Motion#3 To accept the Coordinator of Legal Services report.
MOVED BY: Candace Davies
SECONDED BY: Mary Day
CARRIED.

5.2 Director of Administration Report

Beth presented her report, which is in the Board packages. Alta asked about the placement student through the paralegal program - the student will be starting in mid-December. The vaccination policy will be updated in the next few weeks. The Board is welcome to participate in any of the clinic's cultural teachings. The ACLCO pay equity committee does not have representation by any Board members.

Beth presented an updated budget for consideration by the Board. It was decided that the Board will look into what other organizations do for reviewing budgets mid-way through the fiscal year.

Motion#4 To accept the Director of Administration report as presented.
MOVED BY: Michael Deschamps
SECONDED BY: Robyn Medicine
CARRIED.

5.3 Staff Reports

Reports were received by Melanie Mackenzie and Miriam McCutcheon. The Board very much appreciates receiving these reports and would like their thanks to be passed along to the staff members.

5.4 Executive Committee Report

The Executive met on October 19 and November 23. Relevant items discussed at those meetings are specific items on the Board meeting agenda.

A Board working committee comprised of Candace, Audrey, Robyn, Alta and Diane Walker met to discuss a board work plan to March 31, 2022. The Board work plan is on the agenda as a specific item that will be discussed later in the meeting.

5.5 Community Updates

Nipigon The township did a survey on community needs that included questions on homelessness. Service providers are finding that clients have multiple needs and one big issue is that income tax returns haven't been completed. OW is putting people up in motels temporarily and trying to help people get back to their home communities. Some refuse to go to shelters or to Thunder Bay, so they're left to couch-surf or stay outside under the new bridge.

Armstrong No update

Marathon No update

Geraldton Booster shot clinics and vaccinations for youth are being held in the area. Barb Rabbit from Matawa First Nations Management (tribal council) was supposed to travel to Greenstone to do an

ID clinic for the 9 Matawa First Nations communities. There is a desperate need for housing and rents have increased dramatically – minimum \$1400 rent in Geraldton. A number of people are being arrested for B&Es, lots of people are homeless. People are squatting in abandoned houses with no heat, no water, etc. There are Christmas dinners and gift cards being given to people from the Friendship Centre and ONWA.

Thunder Bay No update

6. Business Arising

6.1 Board & Staff Annual Strategic Planning Session

A sub-committee comprised of the Board Working Committee and Beth and a staff member from one of the branch offices will meet to organize the session. Candace, Mary, Jamie, Audrey and Alta are on the committee as well as Diane Walker. It was agreed that Diane Walker would be asked to facilitate. The Board agreed to have the session at the Court House Hotel.

6.2 Board Work Plan

The Board is working on a Board Work Plan for 2022-23. The work plan will be structured on a fiscal year basis and the board self-evaluation timing will be adjusted to coincide with this (after the strategic planning session). Therefore, it will be at the April Board meeting, with the work plan developed shortly after that. A draft plan for the period October 1 – March 31 was circulated. Additional suggestions were made and these will be added to the workplan by Alta. The revised work plan will be reviewed at the next Board Meeting

Algoma CLC approached our Board regarding work on the Calls to Action from the TRC. It was agreed that our Boards should connect to discuss this and work together. A draft report for the Indigenous Legal Needs Assessment has been developed and the final report will hopefully be available soon.

Board training is a priority area and there is surplus available to spend.

A management evaluation team will need to be struck for the 2022 evaluations.

6.3 Clinic Modernization

We are waiting to hear about the new applications for funding/service proposals for 2022-23.

6.4 By-Laws

The proposed by-law changes were approved by the membership at the AGM and have been updated for signature by the President and Secretary of the Board. Final copies will be scanned and sent to Board members and printed copies can be provided for everyone's Board Policy Manual.

A short break for lunch was taken at 12:10 and Michael excused himself from the meeting to return to Marathon. The meeting re-convened at 12:30.

7. New Business

7.1 2022 Clinic Calendar of Events

A Clinic Calendar of Events has been prepared for 2022 and copies were circulated and reviewed. Candace suggested having the Nipigon ACM in the evening rather than at lunch. The calendar will be updated and circulated to everyone.

7.2 Insurance Coverage

An email was sent by LAO's General Clinic Law Services division regarding the insurance that is provided by LAO for clinics. LAO will be organizing an information session with the insurance brokers for clinics.

7.3 Christmas and New Years

Alta stated that since December 25 falls on a Saturday this year, Friday December 24 will be deemed to be a statutory holiday in lieu of December 25. Therefore the office will close at 5 p.m. on Thursday, December 23, for the Christmas holidays. Similarly, because January 1, 2023, falls on a Sunday, the office will be closed on Monday, January 2 in lieu of New Year's Day, and the offices will re-open on Tuesday, January 3, 2023. This follows the Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic policy on statutory holidays.

8. Correspondence

Beth reviewed the correspondence and will include a list with the minutes.

9. Next Meeting

The next Board of Director's meeting will be Saturday, January 29, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. Executive meetings are held the Tuesday preceding the meeting, at 5:30 p.m. Therefore, the Executive will meet on Tuesday, January 25 at 5:30 p.m.

Helen Young Brizard did a closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.