

**KINNA-AWEYA LEGAL CLINIC
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
Saturday, April 30, 2022
Valhalla Inn, Thunder Bay, Ontario**

Present: Alta Fenton, Candace Davies, Audrey Achneepineskum, Robyn Medicine, Beth Ponka, Sally Colquhoun Guest: Diane Walker

Elder: Nathaniel Moses, Knowledge Keeper/Elder

Regrets: Mary Day, Michael Deschamps, and Jamie McGinnis

1. Welcome

Alta welcomed everyone to the meeting. Nathaniel Moses did an opening drum song with a prayer in Ojibwe and English.

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

None declared.

3. Review/Acceptance of Agenda

Motion#1 To accept the agenda, as presented.

MOVED BY: Candace Davies

SECONDED BY: Robyn Medicine

CARRIED.

4. Review/Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting

4.1 January 29, 2022

Motion#2 To accept the minutes of the Board of Director's meeting for January 29, 2022, as presented.

MOVED BY: Audrey Achneepineskum

SECONDED BY: Candace Davies

CARRIED.

5. Reports

5.1 Coordinator of Legal Services Report

Motion#3 To accept the Coordinator of Legal Services report.

MOVED BY: Candace Davies

SECONDED BY: Audrey Achneepineskum

CARRIED.

5.2 Statistical Report – period ended March 31, 2022

Stats are still down from pre-COVID however we are responding to all requests for services. The numbers are coming up gradually. We're in the midst of income tax season and that will result in an increase in summary advice numbers.

Alta commented that it's nice to see that 50% of clients identify as Indigenous. She also commented on the financial outcomes of \$782,563, which is a huge amount of money going to the lowest income people in our economy.

5.3 Director of Administration Report

Beth reported on a complaint that is in process. She will provide an update at the next Board meeting prior to final disposition of the complaint.

Beth added to her report a situation where a man came into the entrance bleeding. Policies will be reviewed and updated to provide guidelines about cleaning up blood.

Motion#4 To accept the Director of Administration report.

MOVED BY: Robyn Medicine

SECONDED BY: Candace Davies

CARRIED.

5.4 Financial Report – Fourth Quarter – March 31, 2022

Motion#5 To approve the Fourth Quarter financial report for the period ending March 31, 2022, as presented.

MOVED BY: Candace Davies

SECONDED BY: Robyn Medicine

CARRIED.

5.5 Staff Reports

Reports were received from Esma Haider, Lauren Aho, Kim Facca, and Chantal Walterson. The Board requested that Beth thank the staff for sharing their work with the Board.

5.6 Executive Committee Report

Items discussed at the Executive Committee are on today's agenda as specific agenda items.

5.5 Community Updates

Nipigon

Candace shared that NOSP continues to have a mask mandate. They are open. They have some staff vacancies that are affecting the availability of children's services. There is limited access to low income housing. In Schreiber, there's a meeting planned to try to address their lack of affordable housing. Red Rock Indian Band is starting to build a women's shelter. NOSP is part of a District collaborative that is

providing coordinated counselling services by phone; other service providers include Children's Centre Thunder Bay and Thunder Bay Counselling.

Geraldton

Audrey is the Pandemic Coordinator for Matawa FNM. She provides PPE and assistance to clients to access housing, ODSP, and IDSCA applications and is helping a lot of people in the area.

Thunder Bay

Robyn shared that they are still following a mask mandate at Thunder Bay Public Library. The CEO has resigned and they are looking for a new CEO. They are creating a community care corner to provide basic necessities to people, such as snacks, water, as well as mental health supports. They used to have a social worker and street nurses coming in regularly to provide supports to patrons, and they are trying to get that reinstated (post pandemic). They've hired a librarian that focuses on equity, diversion and inclusion. They've also hired translators to translate signs at the library into Indigenous languages. They are moving towards safer and equitable spaces.

Alta gave an update on the Advocacy North for Elders and Seniors project. Madeline Hebert is retiring and Megan Stucky has been hired. They are both planning to be in Thunder Bay in June, TBA.

Alta also shared that she participated in the webinar organized by Legal Aid Ontario on clinic insurance. Directors are responsible to exercise their duties in order to be covered by the insurance. Areas where there is a higher potential for claims include wrongful termination, harassment and discrimination issues, and unfair competition when applying. The limits for the clinic insurance coverage is an aggregate limit for all 71 clinics. LAO staff indicated that they review the policies and the coverage every year prior to renewal, and they have only ever paid out up to 50%.

Armstrong No update

Marathon No update

6. Business Arising

Diane Walker joined the meeting and we moved ahead in the agenda to item 6.3 (see below).

6.1 2022 Board & Staff Annual Strategic Planning Session

Diane Walker will be providing us with a summary that will be sent to the Board for further discussion.

6.2 Board Work Plan

Items being worked on will be brought to the Executive for review and discussion.

The Board Work Committee will be discussed under item "7.2 Board Policies".

6.3 Board Policies

Diane Walker presented on risk and oversight - managing risk so that the services can be provided today and in the future. The Board has a fiduciary responsibility to ensure that the management team is clear about their responsibilities. Policy is the way to do that – writing down the decisions of the Board. Without good policy, you can't have good governance. There was a discussion on Management Team Standards being written in either "negative" or "positive" language. Directors are to inform Alta as to which way they would like the Board Work Plan Committee to proceed in regards to these policies. Alta will send out an email and Directors are requested to inform her of their decision so that the Board Work Plan Committee can proceed with the policies at their next meeting on May 24, 2022.

6.4 2022-23 Service Agreement

Beth forwarded an email to all Board from Rod Strain, that Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic has received a 2% increase to funding plus an amount for Knowledge Now that will be forwarded to ACLCO. The updated Service Agreement has been signed by Alta and returned to LAO.

7. New Business

7.1 2022-23 Annual Budget

Motion#6 To approve the Annual Budget for 2022-23 in the amount of \$1,966,105.

MOVED BY: Candace Davies

SECONDED BY: Robyn Medicine

CARRIED.

8. Correspondence

See schedule attached to the minutes.

9. Next Meeting

The next Board of Director's meeting will be Saturday, July 23, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic

Item #8 - Summary of Correspondence

for the Board Meeting on April 30, 2022

DATE	FROM	SUBJECT
April 28, 2022	Shane Matheson	2022-23 Updated Service Agreement
April 20, 2022	Cindy Johnson	KINNA Quarterly Statistical Report
April 22, 2022	General- Clinic Law Services	2022/23 Clinic Funding Update
April 22, 2022	Lenny Abramowicz	Materials Regarding Increased Legal Aid Funding
April 13, 2022	Lenny Abramowicz	Provincial Clinic Meeting on Legal Aid Funding – April 20, 4:00 p.m
April 12, 2022	Melanie Mackenzie	George Drazenovich’s Biography and summary of research project: <i>The impact of income support surveillance practices on social assistance recipients’ capabilities</i>
April 8, 2022	General – Clinic Law Services	CLSD Board Insurance Webinar – April 27 at 4PM
March 17, 2022	Robin Roy on behalf of Rod Strain	2022-23 Service Proposal and Service Agreement Amendment Update
March 15, 2022	General – CLSD Communications	2022/23 Service Agreement Amendment
February 28, 2022	Julia Capobianco	KINNA 2022-23 Service Agreement Validation Document
February 23, 2022	Beth Ponka	March 23 Diversity Thunder Bay Event – Jody Wilson Raybould