

GESGAPEGIAG COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



Volume 3, issue 4

February 2005

Public Advisory

Dangerous dogs on the loose

January 26, 2005



The Micmacs of Gesgapegiag Band would like to warn community members and especially parents of small children that there are three dangerous dogs running loose in the community.

The dogcatcher and the police department are looking at various alternatives to catch and dispose of these dogs, but the dogs run so far from the authorities and their owners that it has been impossible to catch them.

Please keep your children under close supervision when they are playing outside. Rest assured we will continue to try to catch these dogs in a safe

and humane way.

Pet owners are reminded that there is a by-law in place which stipulates that dogs are to be tied at all times. This month alone we have had at least 15 complaints about dogs chasing people, not just cars. A number of dogs have been identified as threats to public safety, and dogs have caused two accidents on Highway 132 in the past year.

We appreciate the excellent cooperation we have had from some dog owners in respecting the by-law, but others have not taken the issue seriously. We strongly encourage people to make written complaints to the police about dogs and their owners who are not respecting the by-law.

Furthermore, we will set in motion a special project to inform the community of the importance of dog control, and respect of the regulations by dog owners. The capture and disposal of untagged dogs will be part of this project.

Community members are further advised that anyone interfering with the dog catcher or the police in carrying out their duties in dog control will be charged with an offense.

P.O. Box 1280, Gesgapegiag, Qc., G0C 1Y0

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This spring we are planning a neutering clinic in the community with the cooperation of veterinarian Linda Plourde. We will inform community members as to when this clinic will take place as soon as the details are available.

Chief John Martin

Gesgapegiag Health & Community Services.

To: All Community Members: Please take note that effective immediately in order to get services from the Medical Transportation Department **YOU MUST CALL AT LEAST 24hrs** before your scheduled appointment unless in case of emergency.

Also, for long distance travel, for example to Montreal; **YOU MUST CALL AT LEAST 1 WEEK BEFORE** your scheduled appointment.

Respectfully yours,

Jimmy Martin, Medical Transportation Coordinator

Appeal Policy now in place

The Band Council finalized the new Complaint and Appeal Policy in November, and this policy goes into effect on February 1, 2005. The aim of the policy is to ensure that Band members or community members who are eligible for Band services can make a complaint and have it handled in a professional, fair and efficient way. The complaint and appeal process can help the Band improve its services, and help Band members ensure that they understand why a certain decision has been made. Copies of the policy are available at the Band office.

The complaint process involves four steps that are laid out in the policy document and will be included in a pamphlet to be made available at all Band Council offices. The fourth step is a formal appeal process, which allows the person making the complaint to have the situation reviewed by a committee of three people independent of the Band administration.

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An Appeal Officer will be at your disposal at the Band office to help you fill out the form to make a formal complaint. **Doris Jerome is serving as Interim Appeal Officer** until the new Human Resources Director has been hired. Do not hesitate to contact Doris at 759-3441 if you believe you have grounds for an appeal.

For more information about this new policy, contact the Director of Operations, Cynthia Dow.

Policy on Membership

January 2005

Individuals with criminal records

Background:

The Micmacs of Gesgapegiag Band is willing to accept new members into the Band as transfers from other First Nations. However, in order to protect the Band membership from criminal activity within the community of Gesgapegiag, the Band Council reserves the right to refuse transfers to individuals with criminal records, or to impose conditions on such individuals.

Character inquiry:

When an individual applies to become a member of the Micmacs of Gesgapegiag Band, a character inquiry will be undertaken with the help of the Gesgapegiag Police Department. The results of the inquiry will be communicated to the Council before a decision is made on the application for membership.

Conditions:

The Micmacs of Gesgapegiag Band will not process a request for transfer when an individual is incarcerated or under restrictions due to a probationary sentence. In such cases, the Council may

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impose conditions, such as the successful conclusion of a probationary period or a period of time without any further criminal charges and the demonstration of good citizenship.

A motion was passed to accept the membership policy as presented.

Proposed by: Councillor Clement Bernard

Seconded by: Councillor Armand Martin

Against: Councillor William Jerome

Motion Carried.

01-17-05/647/BC/MEMBERSHIP POLICY

Job Analysis Program: Lands and Estate Membership program and Council secretarial duties.

Executive Assistant, Corrine Caplin presented the report that was done by Maxime Lambert, Ressources Humaines Lambert. The report explains the mandate or objective, methods used, meetings, schedules, references made, the state of the general situation, work hours, responsibilities, stats taken, documentation, mapping of the jobs, recommendations and the conclusion.

After a lengthy process, Council accepted the recommendations as presented.

The Interim Lands & Estate Membership Clerk and Council Secretary will now become a permanent position due to the analysis explained in the report and sanctioned by Council. The lands & membership program does not require a full time position, the report clearly indicates that the position is at 59.64%, however when you include the secretarial duties which are 41.28%, it is therefore concluded that the two positions in one make one complete position. The overall percentage of the job analysis positions came to 100.92%.

Receptionist Position: With regards to the Receptionist position, the replacement receptionist has taken upon herself to apply for a client-based program from GCDC of up to 52 weeks. After our discussion at the administration level, we have decided to support this individual and will sponsor the

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position should GCDC approve the request. Should the request be granted, the individual will have to take further training to upgrade her skills in the administration department due to the results of the job analysis report. Extra duties will be required of the Receptionist.

Depending on the workload of the Executive Assistant and as per need basis, a part time secretary will be hired. This is again a recommendation from the report.

A motion was passed to accept the Job Analysis report of the Lands & Membership Program and Council Secretarial duties as presented.

Proposed by: Councillor William Jerome

Seconded by: Councillor Luc Martin

Motion Carried.

01-17-05/646/BC/LANDS/MEMBERSHIP/COUNCIL SECRETARY-JOB ANALYSIS

Council approved that Carolyn Larocque is transferred into the position of Lands & Estate/Membership Clerk & Secretarial duties.

Micmacs of Gesgapegiag developing the Electoral Code

The Micmacs of Gesgapegiag Band is in the process of developing a new electoral code so that the community, and not the Department of Indian Affairs, will control Band elections for Chief and Council.

A process of consultation of community members is beginning this month, and it is vital that Band members living both on and outside the reserve have the opportunity to make their comments known. For that reason, we will be holding consultation meetings in the community over the next month, and we are posting our current draft on the website. Updated drafts will be available at the Band office and will be posted on the website to keep you up to date on the code as it goes through the consultation process. For those living off reserve should have a deadline to submit any comments maybe the end of this month or early March.

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Hopefully by the end of March a final version of the code will be submitted to the community. The final step will be when Band members -- both on and off the reserve -- vote on the adoption of the code. We are planning to hold this vote at the same time as this summer's election.

The Band Council has named Virginia Martin as the staff person responsible for the development of the code. If you have questions or want to make comments on the code, you can reach Virginia by email at ginia@globetrotter.net or by phone during the day at 418-759-1303.

Please participate actively in this important step towards self-government!

Community Consultation: *Please join us, as we will begin consultation sessions on the Micmacs of Gesgapegiag "Electoral Code".*

Your Opinion Matters:

- An opportunity to voice your opinion on our Band Elections.
 - Be a part of the development of the Electoral Code.
 - Everyone is Welcome.
 - A light lunch will be provided.
 - Explanations will be done in both English & Micmac.
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- For further information please contact Virginia Martin at 759 - 1303.
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Location: Galgoasiet Natural Resources

on February 16th & 17th, 2005 from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM.

New Policy on Midshore TRY-OUTS

Fishing Season 2005

For those interested in trying out for the Midshore fisheries in the new season, we would like to inform you about our new at-sea policy. We no longer have access to Marshall training dollars and there will be no training allowances for the try-outs.

Candidates for the try-outs will be sent out to sea for four to six days without pay. The captains will evaluate their performance and should we need someone in the future, we will choose the ones who have had the best evaluation.

In addition, we will be offering the MED course once again for those who are interested in Midshore fishing, however, the details have yet to be worked out such as the date and the number of seats available for this course. Once we receive all the details from the Centre Spécialisé des Pêches we will make this information available to the community.



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NOTICE TO THE COMMUNITY

DATE: 2/3/2005

RE: RECYCLING AND GARBAGE COLLECTION

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SORT YOUR GARBAGE AND USE YOUR BLUE RECYCLE BIN WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

The community of Gesgapegiag had a very difficult time locating a site to dump our garbage following the closure of the New Richmond dumpsite.

Fortunately, we have been able to enter into a 3 year contract with the municipality of St. Alphonse. It is now as important as ever to recycle our garbage when possible. The more we recycle, the less we have to take to St. Alphonse. Not only will recycling help our environment, but it will minimize the per ton garbage dumping bill we will have to pay.

PLEASE HELP OUT AND REMEMBER TO RECYCLE!

Luc Martin - Director of Gesgapegiag Public Works

Month of February 2005

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Schedule of Meetings		
Date	Resources	Description
Feb. 1-3	John-Danny-Christianne	CEDO meeting in Quebec City
Feb. 4-5	Victoria Labillois & John	Senior residences expenses at 10:00 AM
Feb. 7	Chief & Council	Band Open Meeting at 6:00PM
Feb. 8	Directors/Managers	Regular meeting at 9:00 AM
Feb. 9	Nancy & John	Jurisdiction- at 1:15 PM
Feb. 10	John call Lisa at MMS	Consult. Mt. With Council & D. Jeanotte
Feb. 15	John and Clem	Taxation at 11:00 AM
Feb. 15	John & Serge Leblanc	Land issue at 7:00 PM
Feb. 16	Chief & Council	Preps for Police Meeting at 9:00 AM
Feb. 17-18	Chief John Martin	FNEC- Hull, Qc.
Feb. 21	MMS & Chief John Martin	District Meeting in RedBank NB
Feb. 22	Directors/Managers	Regular meeting at 9:00 AM
Feb. 28	Chief & Council	Council Meeting at 9:00 AM
Month of March 2005		
Schedule of Meetings		
Date	Resources	Description
1-2 Mar	Chief John Martin	Meeting in PEI
7-8 Mar	Chief & Council	Budget Meeting
9-Mar	Directors/Managers	Tech Table
10-Mar	Chief & Council	Council Meeting with Police Dept.
14-Mar	Chief & Council	Band Open Meeting at 6:00 PM
15-Mar	Directors/Managers	Regular Meeting at 9:00 AM
16-18 Mar	MMS in Gesgapegiag	Meeting in Gesgapegiag
22-Mar	Directors/Managers	Tech Table
24-Mar	Clem-Luc-Armand	Away for 10 days
28-Mar	Chief & Council	Band Council Meeting at 5:00 PM
29-Mar	Directors/Managers	Regular Meeting at 9:00 AM
31-Mar	All Resources	Deadline for newsletter

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Month of April 2005		
<i>Schedule of Meetings</i>		
Date	Resources	Description
Apr. 4	Chief & Council	Council meeting at 5:00 PM
Apr. 4-11	John-Management	Negotiations Training in Redbank
Apr. 25	Chief & Council	Band Open mt. At 6:00 PM

Month of May 2005		
<i>Schedule of Meetings</i>		
Date	Resources	Description
9-May	Chief & Council	Band Council Meeting at 5:00 PM
24-May	Chief & Council	Band Open Meeting at 6:00 PM
27-May	All Resources	Deadline for Newsletter

Month of June 2005		
<i>Schedule of Meeting</i>		
Date	Resources	Description
June 13th	Chief & Council	Band Council Meeting at 5:00 PM
June 27th	Chief & Council	Band Open Meeting at 6:00 PM

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