

YEAR IN REVIEW

MNO 30th AGA

Name of PCMNO Councilor	Region	Date
Tim Sinclair	Region 2	July 14, 2023

Introductory Message about the Work within the Region

It has been a challenging year. I want to thank the people on all the Councils who make it all worth while. We made a lot of decisions some small some large. We learned a lot and took in a countless number of opinions from proponents to special interest groups and everyday citizens.

We fought and won a few battles as well as got handed a few set backs which included the loss of two prominent members of our Regional Council Committee. They will be very sorely missed as they were a huge part of who we are. That said we will find a new way forward on.

We had a very successful AGM with dignitaries from the provincial and local political sides as well as different Police executives, several of our Proponents who sponsored and attended. I would like to thank Sharon Cadeau for her comments and lending her expertise while attending, Sharon made sure that the messages to the media we are sending out were understood.

Highlight of Key Achievements

- Hiring a Regional Manager to work towards Self Government. Karli Broche is one of the biggest assets we now have. Karli's background and the amount of work she does for not just for the Self Government end of things but the rest of the functions she has made us that much stronger. Karli was in charge of the Grow your Business Fund which is going along nicely.
- We were able to get some technology to the Council members so that they would be able to attend meetings and do the MNO council work. This included Laptops or iPads. We were able to get Shirts and Jackets for the members so now we all look more professional when we are putting on events.
- We are still waiting for the MOU template for the City of Thunder Bay as well as having talks with some of the other Local Municipalities. Whom we hope to sign as well this is still ongoing after more than a year. It is not on the Councils end as we have been waiting as well as other Regions have for this.
- Sponsorship of a number of Events including Fishing Tournaments as well as a Concerts for Cultural events. An example is the Mother's Day event in Geraldton and Crafting workshops in the Region.
- Getting on to a number of different boards both Medical and Education and locals that were shut out of in the past.
- All the Councils have stepped up and have taken on a lot more this year. We have had three successful elections. With the Loss of Torch this is leaving a huge hole in our RCC and the Region. We are following the MNO procedure and will appoint an interim president once the notice has expired. Allan Gordon is going to stay on as chair of the Greenstone Métis Council.
- Old Fort William had invited us to attend the 50th Anniversary on short notice so we were not able to do what we would have liked but the big thing is we actually got invited for the first time. So maybe next year we will be able to get MNO Canoe up for the event. Again, Sharon has come up to help with the messages that need to be put forward.

Highlight of Meetings / Conferences

PDAC was larger this year and important due to the contacts we were able to develop. As well, we renewed with old acquaintances that proved to be most valuable.

The Rendezvous was also a success more so than in other years for me myself personally. Being able to talk face-to-face with our co-workers and just to be with those whom we miss meeting on these occasions really was a huge highlight. I can add that we got a lot accomplished at the all the events.

I was at the microphone as one of the seconders for our Special Assembly. Just being able to speak to the others including going to the House for our legislation. The meetings with the MNC was both an eye opening and a great learning experience. As an example of networking President Froh and I had a great chat walking back to the office after this. These networking sessions make all of the travel headaches worth while.

HONI Waasagin Line is an uncomfortable subject for us. For the first time in quite a while I have some hope that we will reach some sort of an agreement. Here we are a year later still negotiating. Region 1 has the lead on this and I have and will continue to back them in the major decision making.

We are still hoping to meet with the Minister of Mines assistants to discuss Permits for mines and how to get them moving on a better timeline. This is making sure our Due Diligence is maintained and out Stewardship to the land is also maintained at the high level that it is.

Projects Undertaken /Partnerships / Other Committee Participation

Self-Government is going to be a huge undertaking for us all. Still in the beginning stages of working with Regional Manager to develop what projects we will use to bring out the Métis to events to learn about Self Government.

A number of projects around the City and area we have advised and commented on this is also new that the municipal governments are now approaching us for comment which we take very seriously. The revamping of street areas green spaces and youth housing as well as Art Gallery and other projects in the whole Region.

The MNO building in Thunder Bay is getting renovated. This is something I have been keeping track of and I have pictures that I have been taken to show the progress.

Some of us are in the Great Lakes Advisory Group (GLAG) where we had a very successful fish survey which the data is still being worked on and will be for some time. We recently met in person and are putting the final touches on our Terms of Reference for the GLAG.

The R2CC worked on a number of different Forest plans for several months this year one forest alone I believe were at over 20 meetings alone on. But the FMPs are now completed for the time being.

Meetings with both the colleges and University in Thunder Bay we have renewed these relationships as well as some of our Métis businesses. There is work on a data base for the Region as well as work towards other Indigenous business databases as well.

Other Comments

We have had a chance to take different stages in the past year. Some of us have done radio/virtual interviews as well as in-person events where we were able to get the MNO message across. I myself attended the large gathering at Old Fort William and gave opening comments. Something that has not been even attended by any of the Councils in the past several years. A couple of us have also sat with other Indigenous delegates on Residential Schools, Louis Riel and Education, as well as other subjects. This is going to become a larger part as we move forward. Relationship building is one of my biggest priorities and does involve all Council members and Councils.

I can not express and stress how much our LRC team has helped us out in so many ways. If we lose funding for them this will be disastrous for the Region. There are a number of plans and ideas of how and what can be deferred and changed to save these important positions. All the proponents that they help us with and without their expertise we will set back at least a decade with their loss.