

TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2017

KITSAKI HALL

LA RONGE COMMUNITY MEETING

COUNCIL: Ann Ratt, La Ronge Councillor
Sam Roberts, La Ronge Councillor
Dennis Sanderson, La Ronge Councillor
Mike Bird, La Ronge Councillor

STAFF: Gladys Christiansen, Executive Director
Anna Sanderson, Executive Secretary
Teco Bird, ICFS
Kevin Roberts, Director of JRMCC

MEMBERS: **Sign in Sheet** (attached)

John Halkett, Blessed the meal & opened meeting at 4:45 P.M.

AGENDA ITEMS:

- 1) Crime Reduction
- 2) Security Services
- 3) Youth Programming

Meeting commenced at 5:20 PM

1) CRIME REDUCTION:

- Councillor Ann Ratt gave history on the new LLRIB initiative. Met with all 3 jurisdictions to discuss the crime reduction in our tri communities.
- 2 extra police officers – RCMP
- RCMP will get the SERM Conservation officers as well.
- More police coming in.

2) Thanked community members for attending the meeting tonight we are concerned about crime in our communities. We held 2 meetings with the crime reduction committee, invited associate minister of justice. Air Ronge want to continue meeting. Russell Mirasty worked for the RCMP for many years, he is doing work for the Ministry of Justice. Internal council set aside money for us to develop a crime reduction strategy. He has a lot of experience and a lot of contacts with federal and provincial governments.

- Russell has agreed to work with us, help us to make our communities safer.
- A subcommittee to develop a crime strategy.
 - i. Larry Ahenakew, Teco Bird, Kevin Roberts, Russell Mirasty and Internal Council.**
- Kids are getting into more crimes has to be more consequences especially if child is under 12 years of age. 40 times they do a crime and re-offend. Judge has no choice but return to the community.
- We need volunteers
- 7 security officers for 3 communities (Hall Lake, Sucker River and La Ronge) volunteers to ride along with Security.
- Parents that neglect their children, develop programming to help these families.
- Need some ideas from community members.
 - Big Brother/Big Sister
 - Children's Haven
 - Sentencing Circle – make children responsible show they care.
 - Youth Groups
 - Resource People – Mr. Burnstick “I am Alcohol”
 - Telephone help line
 - Find the root of the problem
 - Parental training
 - Parents go to support groups
 - Family gatherings
- Children not being cared for by the parents.
- We heard about gangs in our communities. They go to the communities with a trailer and sell drugs on family allowance days.
- We are at the beginning of this initiative. We wanted to bring this to your attention. Help us to deal with this situation.
- We scheduled this meeting a week ago, we are in shock with the accident that happened with the 3 children. It is the parents that are neglecting their children. We need the parents to be more responsible for their children. It has got to the point where kids are going to kill each other.
- We want to be more proactive. Red tape that we have to follow with ICFS and Health the policies within our departments we need to change. We need ideas from community members
- Need Crime Watch in our communities.
- We have addressed these incidences and talked to the people involved.
- CTV here today but they just want LLRIB to look bad.
- We do not want to look bad we want to work for the community on this issue.
- Help us prevent things to happen to the kids.
- We know drug dealer on the reserve and selling to children.
- With our housing policy we cannot do anything until the member is convicted. 20 vehicles go to the house within an hour we know who the drug dealers are.
- We need to make the changes here from the people.
- Nice to see so many people out for this meeting. Thank you.
- Allocated funds for this initiative. We hired Russell Mirasty he wants to help LLRIB. He has ties with Justice system.

- Remove parents from town instead of taking the kids, they do this in Alberta.
 - Basically evicting the parents
 - We are looking into this program
 - Monitoring program only been their 1 year
- Russell Mirasty will be working with us, and have a subcommittee Education, ICFS, Health, each department he will lead this committee in crime prevention.
- Neighborhood Watch Program last few years first meeting we had a lot of people by end of year only 3 were left. We walked around Bells Point community every weekend same people volunteered.
- Jude Ratt is not here but he wants the Neighborhood Watch Program.
- Let us know if you would like to volunteer.
- Percy Mirasty – A lot of first nations addressing issues, the first thing they do is make a statement, leadership has to take ownership that this is what LLRIB wants to do. Send out the information, post. They can say a scare tactic. 1:00 am. 5-10 year olds we see walking around. We need to have information of who we can contact so we can follow up instead of waiting 24 hours. Need declaration from Chief and Council for each community.
- Sylvia – do we get signs to say we are Neighborhood Watch if we are then that home is a safe place for children to go to. Had children come to my door 1:00 a.m. because their dad was beating their mom. Will there be a criminal check? Yes.
- 2014 Child Abuse Protocol – a lot of people do not know when you should call ICFS, when RCMP and/or school get involved when a child is being abused. Can be charged up to \$25,000 dollars.
- In the future early July set up another meeting to set up neighborhood watch.
- Jaime: We need to help the kids find something for them to do, yard work around the reserves. Get a group of kids together clean up elder's yards. Come have free meal at Cravings. Find a way to feed them. Make their management skills point in different direction.
- a sign on your window do, they get a list of contact numbers? Yes
- Start a big brother program for youth
- Sarah V – how often does ICFS utilize the Youth Haven? It is under Education now. ICFS have a winter camp in morning lake, summer camp is at Weyakwin for children/families in care.
 - When kids get into trouble send the whole family out their cultural based program.
 - Make sure the families agree
 - There are people willing to change.
- Kristy Todd: tragedy in our family a month ago, hasn't been a lot of follow up after we try to assist. We came back after we sent our family member away for drug abuse. He fell back into the same ways. Tri Community find people that they can look up to and feel comfortable with. Went to the school to voice my concerns, they said they just kick the bullies out of school. Need to encourage them not kick them out! Tough love does not work, we need to be compassionate, work as a family as a whole. I pick up a kid take them on trips. I have my life too; this is what I've reflected on this passed month. Take the

- time to get to know people see what is going on with that kid. What happened this weekend is outrages.
- This is happening across Canada.
 - Feel hopeless some days, what do you do? Reason I came here tonight is to help, need mentorship, find out what is going on with the troubled mother.
 - Angie Sanderson: Children's Haven a safe place, cause the parents just don't care. Or a group home like they have in PA.
 - ICFS need individual foster homes, we service all of northern Saskatchewan. Our biggest foster home base is Pinehouse. 5 homes in Beauval. La Ronge we have 1 home.
 - Pay well for foster homes, open your homes. We pay more than provincial social services; incentive program we give person \$1,000.00 if they find a foster home. Unique to ICFS 425-5511 ask for foster care team. Training is intense
 - We had problems with the group home here in La Ronge
 - Sylvia: Kids getting into trouble need to teach the parents how to raise their kids properly. The way they talk to their children is not good they swear at them. Teach parents how to be parents again.
 - ICFS have parenting classes we cannot force people to take it.
 - A lot of difficulties that our workers face with parents.
 - Common courtesy to build the trust
 - Never follow up when you help a young family. Must continue to visit and help them all the way through.
 - Trust needs to be there.
 - Connie: When child comes back to the community, just told they committed a crime if the child, all the people that love him, RCMP, ICFS in a sentencing circle. They use to do this years ago. Sentencing Circle for the young kids just so they know that they are loved.
 - Support system for the child. Gives that child ownership for what he/she done.
 - What is the age group of children walking around at night time? Range from 5 to teenagers. Some are walking around at 5:00 am.
 - Where are the parents at 5:00 am? Are they looking for them? It goes back to the parents.
 - What about the grandparents, uncles, aunties, where is the family values? Cannot expect the community to raise the child, it is the family that has to help. Nice to see band members here, means you care.
 - Jenna Roberts – every weekend pay days go visiting on reserve, parents are drunk partying all weekend long, can we do something within the schools, can we do something with Education if they do not attend school take away the welfare.
 - We looked into this I was told it was against human rights to take away a person's welfare. Reward the good parents.
 - Another avenue in Mistawasis they have programs IA clients that take classes to improve themselves. Looking into this program right now.
 - LLRIB is trying to get more funds for social development but we are required to follow the Provincial policies and procedures.

- Jenny: Can we come up with a curfew system, alarms to go off kids must go inside their home. If the child is picked up several times, then that child's gets a penalty.
- We need things in place before we can enforce it. Cannot just call ICFS to pick them up. What do we do if the parents are not home and family doesn't want them? We need things in place.
- Youth group many years ago with Sol Mirasty, kept kids busy. Took us to concerts, movies, ball, good program that they did on their own. Start youth groups.
- Big brother/sister mentorship
- Christian Cook: Is there any life skill programs for 10-15 year olds? In the schools?
- Elder Miles Charles – grew up in La Ronge, everything was good up to the 90's everything started happening, people getting killed. Had a crisis with the evacuation commend Chief and Council for all the services they got ready for us. Now in a suicide crisis still not out of this yet. Red Cross to leave something to prevent this type of incidents. Person killed at the restaurant and now the incident this past weekend involving children. If we all work together as a band membership, we should be able to come up with something. If children are looked after in their homes they will like school. Young parents make the children listen to elders respect their schools. Need a safe place
- We can't expect Chief and Council to take care of this alone. Need the community to work together.
- It is up to young people to do something
- Eleanor: Happy to see all the people here, all caring the parents do not have skills, 28-year-old have 8 kids, asking for stuff. I can't help them I have 25 kids in my classroom. We care at Morin's Hill let's take it back make it a safe, clean place for kids. Where you live take pride in your community to make changes. We can meet 1/month take charge of your community, have a fish fry a lot of people want to hear that you care.
- These people want to know that you care. Girls strung out, leaving school. They come to my house for smudge. We do it with no money all you have to do is care. We have to take control of our lives our kids. Drunks all weekend Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Let's deal with this issue.
- We want to utilize the Kitsaki Hall, who is in charge of this area? A lot of elders want this place back. Have issues with these kids all the time. If you go tell the parents, they get mad.
- Asked for a sweat lodge in the Kitsaki field.
- If we can help a little it works.
- Drop in center to leave children over night.
- John: Bring in resource people to talk about guidance, Mr. Burnstick "I am Alcohol". All the death we seen and lost family friends due to alcohol. People taking their own lives. Take back our children.
- Lynn McKenzie: Telephone help line, if they have problems get someone to talk to.
- We need something of our own.

- Many times the kids contemplating suicide 2-3 am in the morning where do they turn if they don't have a phone. If you have a sign like neighborhood watch then the kid will know it is a safe place for them to go.
- Karen: Crisis line and crisis intervention worker to set up community safety plans throughout the area. This will be on the radio. It is at Piwapan Women's Shelter the **Crisis line 24 hours/7 days a week 306-425-4090.**
- Hillary: Get to the root of the problem, residential school is one. Drugs and Alcohol, look at the problems concentrate on the families and bring them together. If you tell on the kids to their parents. Because of neglect no aunt and uncles to take care of a child because parents are drunk.
- Tackle the root of the problem.
- There is a crisis on our reserves.
- Melissa: The root of the problem is the parents too. Set up a group for the parents.
- Teco: We have this service at ICFS parenting classes. Give us a call. We expanded our recreation worker services. This program was so successful the government expanded our program we now have 3 recreation workers. Rather than have 1 to do all our communities. Corbin Parada is the Recreations Worker in La Ronge
- SMVS, JRMCC have given us incentives for ICFS children in care. ICFS Prevention Services – check the web site. We provide rides as well. **Every Wednesday 306-425-5511**
- Should have more advertising
- The Saskatchewan Government have funds you must submit a proposal for these funds Ralph Goodale
- Banning the drug dealers in La Ronge, so much less drugs on the reserves.
- LLRIB housing policy if a person is convicted of trafficking they will be evicted. We have been telling the RCMP but they want the big drug lords. We have people on house arrest and was charged for drugs, if that does happen we can call RCMP and they will tell us what the charges are for. We will evict.
- What about rewarding students? Senator use to give out cheques
- Fair Tickets this year if your child is not in school, is 1 way we are rewarding our children that do go to school. Teachers will be giving us a list of attendance.
- Evicting people off the reserve – Council did pass a BCR it is possible to ban people off the reserve. This person was a non-band member and we can ban band members as well. Deliver door to door that this is possible.
- Evict the drug dealers
- LLRIB working on lands code, plebiscite we can state that NO drug dealers on our reserves.
- We are trying to establish a lands code, to get more control of our reserve lands.
- Reached out for help for my sister Nicole, I signed up with ICFS no one helped me, LLRIB helped me with a fence. I have been taking my anger out by doing my yard. I signed up with you guys I need to help my 17-year-old son. ICFS turned me away, your kids are not bad enough to be with ICFS I struggled for years. A gun was pointed at my eldest son head, I am very scared I need help. We need more help with these teenagers. I'm a mother, on welfare but I listen

- to the teenagers I am able to help them by feeding them and listening to them. A lot of them don't feel loved. More family gatherings.
- I wanted to get to know my sons, their fathers were not there for us.
 - Teco will talk private with this band member.
 - Parents need help with drugs and alcohol. They need to be welcomed need to be understood.
 - Thank you takes a lot of courage to say that! I hope you find the help you are asking for.

2. SECURITY SERVICES:

- Chief Tammy Cook-Searson in attendance
- Thank you for coming here tonight and raising your concerns, to help us out with the issues.
- Gang activity, crime in our communities.
- Have a special constable officers here, we have security they are the eyes and ears. We are grateful with our security.
- We need to work together
- June 20, 2017 – RCMP, tri-community meeting in Air Ronge Village Office.
- First community meeting for this term
- We have security services here Rizwan Ahmed is the Supervisor of this program. We make it a priority to fund our security services.
- There are liabilities that are there for our employees we want them to be safe. There are policy and procedures that the Security Services employees must follow.
- Procedure: Chelsey McKenzie
 - When people ask for a ride, we are required to call our Supervisor
 - Most of the time it is No! We cannot give rides
 - We make a phone call to our Supervisor and she tells us what we can do. We call RCMP and they show up right away.
 - We do incident report – name, time, who was there, who responded?
 - Is it child tax day, welfare day, pay days, etc.
 - We type up all incidence monthly, over 100 reports for April and May.
 - Chief and Council get reports and we go to Housing department and review which houses are hosting bar parties. Our housing authority decide on who gets the letters. We let them know which houses are the problem homes.
 - There are some houses at least 5 -7 parties' a month.
 - We have ICFS make house visits.
 - Recommend that all of you read the housing policy
 - Write a letter stating your concerns. Kids being neglected we will have a paper trail with Security Services.
 - What is the age limit for ride alongs?
 - **Security Services: 306-425-9821, 425-0311 and 425-0043**
- We can make amendments to the Housing Policy
- We have to meet with the Housing Authority

- Verbal, Written and Eviction. We have evicted members because of parties and abuse to the house.
- Security Services is very short staffed.
- I noticed that I have not seen Security around as much as we use too. Did not mean to offend anyone
- 5 full time workers – 3 workers are casuals
- We hope that more people apply it is our hours 10:00 PM – 6:30 AM
- To apply for a job at Security Services you require:
 - Advertisement for anyone to apply
 - Clean record,
 - drivers abstract,
 - and a resume hand in to Rizwan Ahmed.
- Same kids every night
- When Security first started they had a training program? It is on the job training as it is limited.
- Training should be a priority for the employee's safety.
- Crime Watch Program
- We need each other to alleviate some of the things happening in our communities.
- Members can call security when we see kids walking around late at night. Very good idea Crime Watch
- Security training – Rizwan Ahmed, Director of Support Services at our meeting we discussed training we are looking for 2 Security Officers, this will be held at the band office. All must have to Criminal Record Check then they do the training and we will recruit more employees. We are definitely working on that.
- We should have put a list of people that want to do ride alongs with Security.
- **Action: Put on LLRIB website for interested band members.**
- Probably be quicker if we call Security instead of 911.
- When you drive around see a lot of kids walking around late at night? Can we pick them up and take them home? You probably have to notify ICFS.
- A lot of people complaints about kids, we don't know about them **ICFS - 425-5511 24 hours/7 days a week.**
- What is the age limit for Curfew? There is no curfew, we had Irwin Hennie developing the curfew but we have to work with Air Ronge and Town of La Ronge. What do we do with these kids if we pick up late at night and parents are not home?
- Kids playing by themselves no parents around. I tell parents if I witness something.
- Summer now the kids want to go to the water and swim.
- Splash Park at Bell's Point - \$80,000.00 we want to build another one at Fairchild. We have to try find more funds.
- Have Family Gatherings – we need to heal somehow. Do something in all the areas. Talk about healing, we lost so many people in this area. Show the kids we care about our history.

- We have to reconnect our children so they know their identity, even the parents don't know. Our history who are we? Listen to ourselves and pass it on to our grandchildren and children so we can reclaim our children.
- Support our leaders they cannot do it alone neither can the children.
- Thanked Security for being here, I feel safe when they drive by.
- See kids running and hiding on Security when they see them coming.
- We have 2 security cameras on our house but people still come into the yard and steal things.
- I think we need more RCMP
- You can call Security and have them check on homes when you are away. Leave your house lights on both front and back so we can see at night.
- Police don't really care, when my cabin burned down they never called me back. They don't seem to care.
- Asked Sgt. Price if he had any answers for youth committing crimes? He said he is so frustrated, 1 kid with 38 charges took in front of the judge and the kid is released.
- When you have complaints about RCMP you can write letter to Chief or Councillors we can forward to Staff Sergeant or send to Prince Albert.
- There are ways to resolve things. Concerns like that RCMP should follow up.
- Special Constable Program – Dale McPhee will meet with Security and they will put 2 more RCMP Officers here in La Ronge
- We have to recognize the impact of residential school
- We all feel scared in our own homes, we should feel safe
- Does Security know where all the elders live? Some are scared to stay alone. Maybe it will be good for Security to know where all the elders live as they are vulnerable.
- Gladys read letters from band members that could not attend this meeting tonight.
 - Elder recommended that we do traditional healing
 - Do something about young children that walk around late at night
 - What to do about drug lords?
 - We need to work together
 - Drug dealers selling to children
 - Leadership to work with Security, ICFS.
 - Parents need to be held responsible.
 - Drunk drivers on reserve roads, our community at high risk.
 - Drug dealers banish from our community
 - Children are the ones that suffer not the parents.

Thank you to all for coming out to support these issues. Anything that you can do to help in your own sections of the reserve it will go a long way to improve our community.

Mike: Thanked everyone for attending meeting tonight

Youth Workers here – Modeste McKenzie, Supervisor (Angie Hall Lake) Crystal from La Ronge and Christian from Little Red River

- Working with Red Cross
- Training us to talk to Youth about healthy relationships
- Dances we held
- Trips
- Beading
- Done end of June
- Everything we done we did community consultation try to provide everything we've learned and hopefully Health and LLRIB will use what we learned.
- Youth Workers are based out of our schools, during the day and evening programming.
- Youth worker at Bells Point School – host all kinds of programs generally run by myself. Open to ideas for more events. I have a budget that I can utilize and accommodate any requests. As long as I have volunteers and any suggestions.
Jodi Franks, Recreation Worker contact at: 420-5730 for volunteers.
- Have been at Bell's Point School to help Jodie and good to see the kids enjoying their time at the school.
- Youth Haven when is it open? Education runs the programming in July Youth programs it is busy this month.
- Councillor Sam Roberts working on utilizing SMVS and Youth Haven
- Role Model Posters – all six communities 2 students from each high school male/female. Members in community recognized as a role model. Inspirational quotes. Amanda Roberts
- Chief Tammy Cook-Searson: Wellness Recovery Healing Center – we need a location; one possible site is where the old hospital site. We set aside 1 day to meet and discuss a location. Health Canada has contributed funding for this initiative. We went to a few treatment centers. Council does not want this initiative to be paid from LLRIB funding. If the liquor is taxed the funds can go towards operation of this facility. 10 beds wellness center, circle model. We have to meeting on June 26, 2017 anyone can attend meeting if you want to learn about it. July 15, 2015 is when the report was done, we were in a State of Emergency due to the forest fires. LLRIB has not contributed funds to this initiative. We received \$75,000 to do the proposal.
- Health Services had a surplus and they got permission from Health Canada to contribute \$2.2 Million dollars for this project.
- We want Woodland Cree model (45-day treatment center). Council want a certain amount of beds for LLRIB members only. It is a facility for the whole North.
- We got a call from AREVA and they want to contribute.
- Little Hills Gathering annually – they take people from Bigstone landing in August.
- LLRIB is hosting the Woodland Cree Gathering in Stanley Mission July 17-20, 2017.
- Elders Gathering Pinehouse this week. Councillors Mike and Ann will be taking elders tomorrow June 14, 2017.
- Councillor Dennis Sanderson thanked everyone for coming to meeting tonight we have to help the children. Community been lost we have lost many youths. When we grew up the alcohol was always there. New drugs in town now, cocaine, crystal

meth, marijuana was not laced. Glad you shared your comments and you love your community.

NEXT MEETING: Mid July

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM with Lord's Prayer led by John Halkett