



WASKESIU COMMUNITY COUNCIL

DATE:	Monday, June 15, 2026
TIME:	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (Saskatchewan Time)
LOCATION:	Public Meeting – PCA Meeting Room and Virtual Meeting (Via Zoom & Teams)

Attending in person from Council: Jim Kerby (Chair), Councillor Linda Lavallee, Councillor Jacqueline Archer

Attending virtually from Council: Councillor Bob Cyr and Councillor Bentley Crozier

Attending in person from PCA: Scott Nesbitt, Acting Townsite Manager

Attending virtually from PCA (for presentations): Alex Kolesh, PCA Interim Head, Emergency Management Coordination and Jennifer Costa, Indigenous Relations Manager, Northern Prairies Field Unit

Regrets from Council: Councillor Jennifer Wood (Secretary/Treasurer) and Councillor Rob Phillips (Vice Chair)

Regrets from PCA: Jennifer Duquette (Northern Prairies Field Unit Superintendent)

MEETING MINUTES

- 1. Call to Order** **9:00 a.m.**
- 2. Motion to move the Council Meeting “In-Camera” (via Zoom)**
Jacqueline Archer/Linda Lavallee *Carried*
- 3. Motion to terminate the “In-Camera” portion of the Council Meeting** **10:00 a.m.**
Jacqueline Archer/Bob Cyr
- 4. Land Acknowledgement**
On behalf of the Waskesiu community, we acknowledge that we are on the traditional lands of the Cree Peoples, signatories to Treaty 6, and the Homeland of the Métis. We pay our respect to the First Nations and Métis ancestors of this special place and reaffirm our relationship with one another.
- 5. Motion to Adopt the Agenda for the Public Meeting of Council**
Jacqueline Archer/Bob Cyr *Carried*
- 6. Motion to Adopt the Council Meeting Minutes of May 11, 2026 as circulated**
Linda Lavallee/Bob Cyr *Carried*
- 7. Review of Outstanding Action Items & Related Status Updates** - a review of each of the outstanding Action Items and their status was undertaken by Council and the Action Items were then updated by the Council Administrator accordingly. (See attached list of updated Action Items.)



- 8. Townsite Report – Scott Nesbitt, Acting Townsite Manager** - See the June 15, 2026 Townsite Report accompanying these Minutes.

Note – the following two (2) presentations (Agenda items 9 and 10) were recorded. The recording has been shared with Council and Parks Canada and can be made available upon request.

- 9. Parks Canada’s Emergency Management Program - Presentation to Council** - Alex Kolesh, Interim Head, Emergency Management Coordination - 10:45 a.m. (30 minutes plus brief Q & A)

- 10. Indigenous Relations, Stewardship & Centennial Planning - Presentation to Council** - Jennifer Costa, Indigenous Relations Manager, Northern Prairies Field Unit - 11:25 a.m. (30 minutes plus brief Q & A)

- 11. 2026 Townsite Water, Sewer, and Garbage Fees & Charges** - Meeting Requirements and Next Steps
- A meeting with the WCC Finance Committee is tentatively planned for Thursday, June 18. The Finance Committee will review the relevant Water, Sewer, & Garbage financial information received from PCA, the amortization schedule options, and the proposed 2026 fees and charges. Thereafter, a recommendation will be made by the Finance Committee to Council.

- 12. Repairs to Lakeview Drive / Highway 263 on Prospect Point** – Council indicated that it was good news that the repair work on this portion of the highway leading to/from Prospect Point was (after many years of study) scheduled for completion. However, the Council Chair expressed concerns regarding (1) the short notice given to the community regarding this project, and (2) the general timing of projects like this. If possible, projects that will have a negative impact on public access and/or business operations should be scheduled and completed by PCA or its contractors during the shoulder seasons to reduce the adverse economic impact (in this case affecting the Waskesiu Golf Course and Stanley’s restaurant).

13. Structural Fire Protection Services in Waskesiu – 2026/2027 & Beyond

- a. PCA Discussions with the Lakeland Fire Department – Status update for Council**
- The Acting Townsite Manager reported that, at this time, he is still continuing as Interim Fire Chief for the Waskesiu Fire Department.
- He also reported that the Lakeland Fire Department has determined that it will not be supporting Waskesiu this year. A follow up meeting with Lakeland Fire Department representatives is, however, scheduled this week. The Acting Townsite Manager also confirmed that the Waskesiu Fire Department will, unfortunately, be unable to host the traditional fundraising BBQ after the WCC and WSRA AGMs on Sunday, August 2nd, due to lack of volunteers. Discussion ensued.

b. Continuation of discussions between PCA & Council –

- The Acting Townsite Manager indicated that we need to find a way to get the Waskesiu community to help with recruitment for the fire department and its volunteers, and to get away from relying so heavily on PCA staff.

One other approach, if the Lakeland Fire Department does not assume management of the Waskesiu fire department operations, would be to create a new legal entity with a mandate to operate the volunteer fire department.



c. Next steps:

- i. Advance the draft Terms of Reference for the new Committee
- ii. Consider timing of involvement of other organizations (initially WSRA & Chamber, potentially add Elk Ridge in the near future if there's interest on both sides)

ACTION ITEM – The draft Terms of Reference prepared for the new Committee are to be further advanced by the Committee members for review by Council at the July meeting.

14. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) - Phase 2 Update and Discussion

- a. Next steps / community engagement / communications – - Council Chair asked if anyone within PCA (including perhaps Tom Perry, PANP Resource Conservation Manager), had any near term plans to hold an AIS working group meeting or provide an update to keep that working group informed? Discussion ensued.

ACTION ITEM: Council requests that PCA provide an update to the AIS working group regarding (1) the Phase 2 program status & implementation; and (2) next steps leading to Phase 3 in 2027.

15. Access to PCA National Funding for PANP Centennial (Events, Activities, and/or Capital Projects)

- Cassandra Paccanaro from Parks Canada National Office responded to Council's question. PCA does not have national funding (B-Base Budget funds) for National Park/National Historic Site centennials (such as the upcoming PANP Centennial).

16. Additional Items for Information

- a. **Jason Halkett** - Arson Charge relating to the Ditch Fire – sentencing delayed again (to September)
- b. **Waskesiu Lakeside Music Festival (Base Funding Renewal Request)** – Request for PCA funding renewal has been submitted to the Field Unit Superintendent (i.e., a request to continue Parks Canada's support of \$15,000 per year over a three-year term primarily geared towards Indigenous artists and suppliers). Awaiting PCA response/meeting with Field Unit Superintendent.
- c. **Waskesiu.org** – Annual website sponsor invoices will be distributed this month. Council Administrator will circulate a sample copy of the letter to Councillors. The Tourism Saskatchewan general awareness marketing campaign continues.

17. Next Meeting Dates for Council:

- a. Monday, July 13, 2026
- b. Annual General Meeting (AGM) -Sunday, August 2, 2026 at 8:00 a.m. (hall set up) Terrace Gardens

18. Other Business (if any)

- There was no other business.

19. Adjournment

12:45 p.m.

A Motion to adjourn was made by Councillor Archer

Carried

Action Items (From the June 15, 2026 Council Meeting)

ACTION ITEM – The draft Terms of Reference prepared for the new Committee are to be further advanced by the Committee members for review by Council at the July meeting of Council.

ACTION ITEM: Council requests that PCA provide an update to the AIS working group regarding (1) the Phase 2 program status & implementation; and (2) next steps leading to Phase 3 in 2027.

ACTION ITEM – Council Administrator and Chair to canvas the Waskesiu non-profit groups to see if there is any interest in hosting a BBQ after the AGM August 2nd

ACTION ITEM – Council Administrator to circulate the PCA Emergency Management & Indigenous Relations slide Decks from the June 15th PCA presentation to Council.

ACTION ITEM – Townsite Manager to provide Council with the Parks Canada's Emergency Management Program documentation.

Action Items (From the May 11, 2026 Council Meeting)

ACTION ITEM: The Acting Townsite Manager will be involved with working on the terms of reference for the new Fire Protection Services Committee and will advise Council about the potential PCA Co-Chair to serve on the Committee. *Ongoing.*

Action Items (From the April 13, 2026 Council Meeting)

ACTION ITEM: Council Administrator to include the "Waskesiu Community Plan" document in all future Council meeting packages until at least the fall of 2026. *All Councillors have been asked to read the Waskesiu Community Plan. The focus should be to familiarize Councillors with the Waskesiu Community Plan's content so they are equipped to identify any necessary changes, items that are out of date, or other concerns they would like to bring up. Ongoing.*

Action Items (From the January 9, 2026 Council Meeting)

ACTION ITEM: (1) Status of PANP "shared governance" discussions with Indigenous groups to be included at a future Council meeting when the Superintendent and Indigenous Relations Manager are both available to attend (potentially May of 2026). (2) Parks Canada to update the Council Chair regarding any upcoming meetings with Indigenous Partners where Council may be invited to participate. *Ongoing.*

Action Items (From the October 30, 2025 Council Meeting)

ACTION ITEM: The Acting Townsite Manager to provide Council with the final version of the Tree Removal Policy and Permitting Process & Application documents including the changes requested by Council. Following receipt by Council decisions will be made with PCA regarding

circulation to other stakeholder groups, posting on Waskesiu.org, etc. *Ongoing - delivery by PCA to Council is expected by Fall or early winter of 2026.*

Action Items (From the September 22, 2025 Council Meeting)

ACTION ITEM: Parks Canada to develop a Statement of Work for a conceptual redesign of the Waskesiu breakwater. *Ongoing – this needs a Project Manager within PANP.*

ACTION ITEM: Subject to certain specified conditions and restrictions, PCA has approved the potential use of the concrete coating material suggested by Councillor Phillips. PCA (via the Acting Townsite Manager and his designated team) will follow up with Councillor Phillips on whether, how and/or when this particular product might potentially be tested and/or utilized on the breakwater. *Parks is considering coating a portion of the breakwater to help prevent further deterioration. Ongoing.*

Action Items (From the May 12, 2025 Council Meeting)

ACTION ITEM: PCA and Council to set up a committee to visualize and develop a plan for potentially refurbishing/enhancing the breakwater as a 100th Anniversary commemoration project. *To be revisited after the Statement of Work is completed and related potential design proposals have been received. Ongoing.*

STANDING ACTION ITEMS

ACTION ITEM: PCA to provide regular status updates on all major Commercial Developments in the Waskesiu townsite.

ACTION ITEM: PCA to send the Compliance Report on water quality annually to Council, typically in March each year. Upon receipt, it is then posted by the Council Administrator (under the “Our Community” section of the Waskesiu.org website).

ACTION ITEM: If there are any projects PCA is prepared to have the WCC add to the Community Action Plan, PCA to promptly provide to Council so that the Community Action Plan can be updated.

ACTION ITEM: Council to do an annual check of the “Waskesiu Vision 2028” document and the Community Action Plan and see what needs to be added or changed.

ACTION ITEM: PCA/Council/WSRA (as applicable) to continue to consider a plan to put real and/or fake security cameras at the entrance to the park, or in other locations (including the entrances to the cottage and cabin areas).

Waskesiu Community Council Meeting Report
June 15, 2026
Prepared by: Scott Nesbitt, A/Townsite Manager
Meeting Location: Virtual - Teams

Townsite Staffing

- Townsite Manager – Scott Nesbitt
- Realty and Compliance Advisor – Coralee Foster
- Realty and Development Officer – Michael Obe
- Administrative Services Officer – Sheldon Salzl

Note: On June 4 it was announced to Parks Canada Staff that the Agency is entering the first phase of Workforce Adjustment. At this point, there are no immediate changes affecting our field unit. Further workforce adjustment measures will come later this year as broader transformation and expenditure review work continues.

Cabin and Cottage Areas

- All services have been restored, and water is potable.
- There were several breaks in subdivision 3 that resulted in a water outages and extended biol water advisories.

Regulations, Policy, Directives & Guidelines

Land Use Planning Regulations

- No Update

Cottage Development Guidelines

- PCA Realty & DoJ review of guidelines is incomplete.
 - Will be sent to the working group this week.

Commercial Development/Business Licencing

- Waskesiu Foundation / WRA Centennial Garden
 - Met with Waskesiu Foundation and have discussed Engagement expectations.
 - Parks Canada Indigenous Relations Manager / team will provide some additional direction and support through the 100 year / centennial planning work with Indigenous Partners.
- SaskTel Fiberoptic Upgrades
 - Parks Canada Impact Assessment is on standby and waiting on final underground installation methodology from SaskPower/SaskTel. –
 - The impact assessment team is still waiting on some of the excavation details related to this project.
 - Once details are received, final mitigations / conditions can be established and the work can be permitted.
- SaskPower Pole Replacement Maintenance
 - A few poles are left to replace as part of this project. Completion has been delayed until fall.

- Any claim for damages to private property caused by this work will need to be filed directly with SaskPower but we ask that claimants copy the townsite office (waskesiuadmin@pc.gc.ca) on claim correspondence so that we might bring them to the SaskPower project authority collectively to support Parks Canada and individual property owners claims. – **No claims have been reported or copied to the townsite office.**
- Sask. Crown Corp Utility agreements
 - We are now engaged in discussion with both SaskPower and SaskTel
 - **Given that we are hoping, to the greatest extent possible, standardize the utility agreements with Sask. Crown Corps, we have gotten as far as we can in the discussion with SaskPower and SaskTel until we can advance a discussion with SaskEnergy.**

Infrastructure and PCA Utilities

Waskesiu Breakwater

- Parks Canada will move forward with conceptual design for discussions purposes only. This will be initiated in the new fiscal year. – **No Update, no project manager.**

Waste Management Options Analysis & WCC Sub-committee

- **Last meeting, June 5, 2206 – minutes attached.**
- **Summary / Highlights**
 - **Michael Obe is being brought in to support admin. and project scoping (options, logistics, cost, etc.) for committee recommendations.**
 - **Small amendment to TOR and Committee Name, Waste Reduction and Management Committee – requires motion and vote.**
 - **Formal Requests sent to Chamber and WSRA for board level input on waste management issues.**
 - **Potential “Soft Launch” of sub-committee work to be shared at AGMs**
 - **Parks Canada placed an additional recycling bin behind the shack to accommodate the volume of material generated by all businesses in that area.**
- **Second large garbage is expected to be purchased this fiscal, 2026/27.**
 - **Funds are in place, and we are finalizing contract**

Townsite Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation

- This winter, PCA will replace a defective pump in sewage Lift Station #3. Contract is awarded. Est. cost \$105K. – Pump has been delivered. Installation by PCA staff to follow. – **Waiting for installation**
- **Asset team is preparing a tender for additional sewer line maintenance (cast in place lining) for the Subdivision 3 in fall of 2026. Fall work will include CCTV imaging of beaver Glenn system. - Funded**
- **The plan for the Waskesiu Sanitary Sewer rehabilitation is estimated at \$2.6M over the next 3 years. However, it should be noted that this funding is under review and must be approved, year over year.**
- **The 2027/28 fiscal year plan is rehabilitation / lining of the Beaver Glenn lines with CCTV imaging in the cabin area. - Unfunded**

- **2028/29 would see rehabilitation in the cabin area and Cabin CCTV imaging in commercial core.**

Water Treatment Plant

- **UV filter replacement - Design work is complete, and the new estimated cost of the UV filter replacement is \$760K.**
 - **Tender package should be posted this week.**
 - **We are hoping that the work will start this fall after the seasonal shutdown.**
- **Raw water pump replacement contract awarded (lakeside pump house). Est. cost \$100K – delivery scheduled for Apr. 30, installation by PCA staff to follow.**
 - **Installed and complete!**
- **Water characterization study in Fall 2026 - \$100K engineering consultation**
 - **Includes analysis of raw water, chemical optimization and other recommendations to improve water quality and reduce THMs.**
- **Road slump repair scheduled this week - \$65k**
 - **Slump study to investigate the cause and scope stabilization requirements anticipated this season - \$40K**

Townsite Compliance

- **Snow Fences and Flower Bed Mesh – No Update**
- **Storage of boats off leasehold property.**
 - **Compliance strategy in development. – No Update**
- **Commercial Kitchen Fats, oils and grease (F.O.G.)**
 - **F.O.G. updates delayed until a conversation can be had with the chamber of commerce.**
- **Wildlife Attractants within the Commercial Core**
 - **Initial Round of inspections is complete**
 - **5 businesses were found to have wildlife attractant on site, but these were described as minor issues that did not require significant effort or investment to correct.**
 - **Anecdotally, this campaign is working as there has been less bear activity within the commercial core this season.**

Park Management

Spring Start-up

- **Park operations are “back to normal” following the late spring.**

Emergency Services

- **EMS**
 - **KPS Medic is under contract to provide first responder service from June 27 to Sept. 7 and weekend coverage through the month of Sept.**
- **Waskesiu Fire Dept.**
 - **Lakeland and District Volunteer Fire Department decline Parks Canada’s request for oversite of the Waskesiu Fire Department this**

operational season (May – Thanksgiving). Based on legal, jurisdictional and capacity concerns

- **Lakeland is still open to discussion on a long-term operational arrangement.**
- **Volunteer recruitment is also a concern of Lakeland. Parks Canada produces the majority of volunteers for WFD but the long-term sustainability of structural fire service in Waskesiu will depend on community volunteers (likely from the private commercial sector).**

Disposal of Overburden Material (Emerging issue)

- **To date, Parks Canada has been able to provide space for developments within the park to remove and dispose of overburden material (soil, granular, and clay materials). However, the space used for this at the Bear Trap staging area is beginning to fill up.**
 - **Development permit holders may be required to remove these materials from the park.**
 - **There may not be a suitable, alternative site within the park.**

Bicycle Safety – No Update

Blue Green Algae - **No update, waiting on final version to be submitted to FUS office.**

Vegetation Management

- **Final Tree Removal Protocol**
 - **Most tree permits for 2025 season were processed in a timely manner. Residents can expect a similar level of service this year and apply for tree permits at waskesiuadmin@pc.gc.ca – No Update**
- **Resource Conservation Team is continuing Canada Thistle Monitoring and Control within the Waskesiu Community this season. Email pnpa-conservation-panp@pc.gc.ca for more information.**
- **Adopt-A-Patch volunteer program.**
 - **Visit <https://parks.canada.ca/pn-np/sk/princealbert/activ/benevolat-volunteer> or email pnpa-conservation-panp@pc.gc.ca for more information.**

Lobstick Maintenance Compound Decontamination

- **Parks Canada Environmental and Sustainable Service centre is seeking the additional funding to complete the location and decommissioning of the remaining well sites in fall of 2026. – no update**

Refundable Recycling Request for Proposals

- **On going, no issues related to collection so far.**

Red Deer Electrical Upgrade Project

- **Construction planned for the fall 2026 (Post Labour Day)**