

'Namgis First Nation Council Meeting
May 28, 2025 5pm Learning Centre

Council: Victor Isaac; Irene Speck; Kelly Speck; Brian Wadhams; Molly Willie; Robert Mountain
Regrets: Ernest Alfred;
Zoom Ivy Peers; Jessica Bardin; Interim Senior Administrator Denise Administrator
Staff: Interim Assistant Administrator Naomi Bob
 Council Executive Assistant Gina Wadhams

5:15pm	Molly Willie
Agenda Approval	2025-May-28 (01): KELLY SPECK/MOLLY WILLIE Agenda approved with the following additions: Governance Meeting (IP). CARRIED
Council ToR	<i>Administration to search for draft Terms of Reference for Council.</i>
Contribution Agreement #9435	2025-May-28 (02): IVY PEERS/BRIAN WADHAMS That we approve signing Contribution Agreement #9435 for \$25,000.00 for the Opioid Agonist Therapy (OAT) program. CARRIED
CA – Amendment #72	2025-May-28 (03): BRIAN WADHAMS/MOLLY WILLIE That we approve signing Contribution Agreement #72 in the amount of \$4,817,808.00: \$ 242,460.00 Construction – ICMS #9-00132481 HSP (MLG) 2-Units \$ 280,771.00 CFS Prevention: 2025-2026 FNCFS Prevention Remoteness – K'wak'wala't'si \$ 61,995.00 CFS Prevention: 2025-2026 FNCFS Prevention \$ 2,316,514.00 CFS Prevention: 2025-2026 FNCFS Prevention – K'wak'wala't'si CFS \$ 329,630.00 CFS Prevention: 2025-2026 FNCFS Prevention \$ 1,330,720.00 Initial Allocation – CFS Operations \$ 355,718.00 Initial Allocation – FNLM Operational CARRIED
BATI	Request to move budgeted expenses from this fiscal year (2024-2025) to next fiscal (2025-2026). 2025-May-28 (04): IVY PEERS/IRENE SPECK That we approve moving monies approved for the DFO Agreement #2 (\$200,000) from this fiscal (2024-2025) to next fiscal (2025-2026). CARRIED • <i>Administration to contact the other nations ASAP</i> • <i>Administration to direct Comptroller to reconcile the BATI funds ASAP</i> • <i>Timeframe: How much funds are left? AND letter to nations</i> • <i>DFO – strong letter on delay, we're accountable – cc to all nations</i>
Strategic Plan	Two versions of the 'Namgis First Nation Strategic Plan 2025-2030 from Dan George TABLED - Councillor Willie will connect with Dan George on the spelling. <i>Kwak'wala keyboard should be shared with all staff.</i>
Election	Close to the six-month mark on next election. Special Election for the vacant seat and then the regular Election in December or add the vacant seat to the December Election? Discussion: • <i>Add together would be giving time for call out of contact information from members.</i> • <i>Membership wants on-line voting</i>

	2025-May-28 (05): KELLY SPECK/IVY PEERS Council's decision is to move the Special Election with the regular December Election. CARRIED <i>Administration to look at Electoral Officer options.</i>
Park Street	Council questions the paving work on Park Street – strip in middle of road? Unfinished. <i>Administration to look into Park Street paving.</i>
Retaining Wall	Gatu Road slope stabilization project is a critical infrastructure initiative aimed at protecting the structural integrity of the road and ensuring long-term safety. The project will involve installing a retaining wall. Request approval for a preferred retaining wall system for the Gatu Road slope stabilization project. Three options presented to Council: Option 1: \$1,936,000.00 – Geosynthetically Reinforced Soil (GRS) Retaining Wall Option 2: \$1,455,000.00 – Gravity Retaining Wall Option 3: \$1,854,000.00 – Mechanically Stabilized Earth (MSE) Retaining Wall 2025-May-28 (06): IRENE SPECK/KELLY SPECK That we approve Option 3 – MSE Wall as the most balanced choice. It offers a strong, long-lasting solution with design flexibility and a smaller footprint, making it ideal for the space-constrained slope along Gatu Road.
Funding Request	Anthony Alfred: Requesting assistance with hotel accommodations (May 21 – June 7, 2025 (18day)); travel expenses to and from Ladysmith and daily food allowance (18 days). Discussion: • Councillor contacted Orca Sand and Gravel employee Tyson McKay. They will provide \$2,500. • Occupational Skills Training was in place in the past for this type of request – no longer exists • Ideal to develop new pot of money for these types of requests. <i>Administration will redirect the funds from Orca Sand and Gravel; and draft letter to Anthony Alfred, explaining where the funds have come from and explain Council's position on funding.</i>
European Green Crab Crisis	Request from Natural Resources to approve adding nation to regarding European Green Crab Crisis. 2025-May-28 (07): KELLY SPECK/MOLLY WILLIE That we approve adding 'Namgis First Nation to letter to Honourable Joanne Tompson, Director General Rebecca Reid and Director Neil Davis at the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) outlining the ecological threat, the success of European Green Crab (EGC) control programs, and the need for immediate federal and provincial investment. CARRIED
Water System	Cormorant Island's core infrastructure – its wastewater treatment plant and freshwater supply system are both in serious risk due to insufficient oversight, aging assets, and lack of technical staffing. A formal compliance warning has been issued by the province regarding the wastewater system, and our aquifer, which supplies drinking water to all residents, is vulnerable to contamination and depletion. These systems underpin every aspect of life in the community. Without decisive action, we risk serious public health consequences, major fines, and long-term sustainability. The funds are available. Discussion: • Highly qualified, certified person need immediately • Housing/accommodations would not be free. • Hands-on training would be very beneficial.

	Hire on term to be negotiated TABLED – Council tentatively approves and are requesting Samantha Webster attends the Council meeting on June 4, 2024.
6:44PM	Brian Wadhams leaves meeting
Child Care Agreement	2025-May-28 (08): IRENE SPECK/KELLY SPECK That we approve signing the Funding Agreement for Amlilas Daycare – NVIATS funding - \$70,468. CARRIED
Overlapping Letters	2025-May-28 (09): ROBERT MOUNTAIN/KELLY SPECK That the letter to Tlowitsis be edited to include Dallas Smith; that we approve Victor Isaac signing overlapping letters and that the letters and map are sent to: K'omoks, Kwakiutl, Mamalilikulla, Mowachaht/Muchalaht and Tlowitsis Nations and request meetings with each nation. CARRIED
7:19pm	Brian Wadhams on Zoom
TV Filming	Gail Starr from Seabird Island First Nation request. Gail is works with an Indigenous film company on children's animation TV film project. Seeking First Nation communities on the west coast to be involved. Looking for traditional stories and artwork. <i>Information has been forwarded to the Tłislagi'lakw School.</i>
Island Health	Long-Term Relationship Agreement: Negotiation Approach <i>Priority – mental health coordination, harm reduction, addictions. How do we want to approach this? Negotiation Team – how will that be resourced? Revisit next week. Will need direction soon – who constitutes the negotiation team for the long run? Suggestions that health leads meet and bring back to Council.</i>
Minutes March 19, 2025 Business Arising eDNA <i>Doctors</i> <i>Students School Damage</i> <i>OSR</i> <i>Elk</i>	2025-May-28 (10): ROBERT MOUNTAIN/MOLLY WILLIE That we approve the minutes of March 19, 2025. CARRIED Was the power point presentation received? <i>Administration to look into.</i> Meeting took place this week. Proceeding to second meeting with doctors. Intent – two doctors to sign contract. Agreement to be created for their use of our medical records in their own primary clinic. Funds for operating clinic will be sent to the nation. Third doctor to locum under MacLeod (7 days a month). Goal is to have contracts signed mid to end of June. <i>Health Director needs to nail this down. Invite Health Director to June 4, 2025 Council meeting.</i> Are the students made aware of the tutoring funds available? What is the condition of the school? <i>Request information from Director of Education.</i> <i>What are the spending requirements of OSR funds?</i> Distribution for elders' elk meat? <i>Administration to direct Director of Natural Resources to work with Food Security Committee to get the elk meat distribution completed.</i>
8pm	Jessica Barudin signs off Zoom.

Minutes May 7, 2025	2025-May-28 (11): KELLY SPECK/IRENE SPECK That we approve the minutes of May 7, 2025. CARRIED
Business Arising	<i>Administration to get information on board conflicts from Stan Ashcroft.</i>
<i>Board Conflicts</i>	
<i>Wage/Salary</i>	<i>Salary Grid – overdue on being reviewed. Administration to request Director of Human Resources at the June 4, 2025 Council meeting.</i>
<i>NBDC</i>	Meeting held on May 12, 2025 with NBDC. Discussion on board member conflicts was not discussed. <i>Administration to get in advice from Stan Ashcroft.</i>
<i>Kwak'wala</i>	<i>Meeting setup for June 2, 2025. Suggestion that Post-Secondary Committee applications.</i>
<i>Hiring/Council</i>	<i>Council has not been on the Hiring Committee since 2024. If Council wants to make changes, changes must be made to policy.</i>
Gathering Wisdom	2025-May-28 (12): IVY PEERS/ROBERT MOUNTAIN That we approve Irene Speck's participation at Gathering Wisdom on June 4-6, 2025 in Vancouver. CARRIED
Website	<i>Administration to reach out to Communications Manager to set time to meet with Council.</i>
MTG: All Chiefs	2025-May-28 (13): IVY PEERS/IRENE SPECK That we approve Victor Isaac's Zoom participation on May 15, 2025: All Chief's Bill 14 & 15, 2025. CARRIED
MTG: ISKUM	2025-May-28 (14): KELLY SPECK/IRENE SPECK That we approve Victor Isaac's participation on May 16, 2025: ISKUM on May 16, 2025. CARRIED
MTG: Kwagis	INFO – Kwagis Tour and lunch on June 10, 2025. If Council is interested in attending, confirm with Executive Assistant to Council.
MTG: Kwakwaka'wakw	2025-May-28 (15): IRENE SPECK/ROBERT MOUNTAIN That we approve Ivy Peers' participation Kwakwaka'wakw Governance meeting on May 28, 2025. CARRIED
In-Camera	2025-May-28 (16): ROBERT MOUNTAIN/MOLLY WILLIE That we go In-Camera. CARRIED 2025-May-28 (17): IRENE SPECK/MOLLY WILLIE That we go out of In-Camera. CARRIED
Cannabis	INFO
Alert Bay Harbor	INFO
RCMP Report	INFO
FNHA Report	INFO

Meeting adjourned at 4:10pm

Signature

Date