

Asset Management Project Steering Committee September 13th, 2018- Meeting Minutes

General Agenda:

- Proposed 2019/2020 project and funding strategy
 - Includes concerns about the funding and strategy

Scott- Review last steering committee meeting:

- Discussion about GPS unit:
 - Nipissing is interested in buying it at the discounted price associated with the rental already done by WBAFN under the FNPARS project.
 - Nipissing will potentially rent for another month? We could provide the training and pole.

Scott- Project status

- C) The concern is that most data is in people's heads and not on paper. We want to populate at minimum band owned building data.
- Q) How do we work out the finances in an asset management environment? There will need to be a transition between the finance department and asset management worlds.
- A) –
- C) We need to consider how specific assets like a ramp, for example will be defined in the asset management system. There are levels of complexity to a band asset, if funding for a ramp was provided through the band, who is liable for the maintenance? Where does the maintenance and funding go into band funding dollars? Data like this needs further consideration. We also need to know the data that each individual first nation would find important and add these to the form.

Gary: In Dokis landfill, we have polylined some of the piles, burn lines, fences, etc. But it could also be beneficial to gain some understanding of the actual size of these piles.

Scott: Data will need to be collected for each First Nation continually throughout the project as we look at the data and get a better understanding of what should be in our systems.

Scott: We don't have a lot of web communications done yet, but it will eventually include PowerPoints and meeting minutes, links to GIS, calendar, etc.

Asset management implementation strategy 2019/2020 funding

Scott: Asset management program should start to provide warning about when a roof needs to be replaced etc. Acres only looks at about 30% of it, it only looks at funded deficiencies. It lacks the three components: what is the asset, replacement cost and when it needs to be replaced.

When an assessment is made, and a cost is given of replacement there are no specifics on each individual asset needing to be replaced, they just throw out cost for the whole road. It will be a lot of work dealing with the complexities of financials.

Randy: We can establish with the unique IDs, a paper trail to each asset tie in expenses to each asset or its components. The new finance laws for first nations should help us guide what we need to be doing.

Adam: But changes in price occur from one First Nation to another. We can establish a fairer cost somewhere like Magnetawan if we are able to do things in bulk. E.g. having an idea of all the signs that need to be replaced in the entire community, should help drive price down.

Scott: We expect that each community has different needs. We need the time from each first nation to help with the asset management and getting the inventory up to speed.

Gary: We can only populate certain areas so much, and then it may be helpful if more specific departments take the data from us and supplement it.

Q) How do we get people like the finance department to sit down and look at all this when they are already over extended in tasks?

A) Look at an intern position for data collection or something in the finance world who can be in constant communication with finance people from each first nation and still do a lot of the work but gain an understanding from them. We should also consider looking into consulting services for a person who knows about First Nations finance and have them provide more insight as well.

C) We also need to get people more on board with the idea that this project will provide reform to everything to do with the assets, therefore it is going to take a lot of effort to change the way everyone does their work and we should expect resistance.

Q) How do we get accurate information about as built for water infrastructure?

A) There is no consistency in diagrams and reality, it is costing a lot more money and effort to do work when you have to look for these pipes everywhere. Even in terms of getting the information from people who are "sure" about where it is they may not actually remember it the way it is.

C) There may be more willingness to help determine the exact locations if the people can see an example of how the asset management will help maintenance of these systems. The results of these drawings being wrong greatly affects the financial side of things in the end.

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Scott- Asset management inventory for technical services Presentation

Discussing the data being captured.

Gary: In the drawings we had the wrong type of air release valves etc and this will affect our financials in the end.

- There is a Segway into another project through the water distribution like swabbing and pressure gauging. The information was going into the *maximal*. But ultimately needs to go into our project.

Scott: It is not asset management, maybe needs to go into a GIS.

Adam: We need to know does it work? When was the last maintenance on this? What is the flow? Etc. this should be supplemented in the data.

Gary: CMMS is not asset management, it is mandatory in an asset management.

- Q) Historical assets, and environmentally sensitive areas determine the areas in first nations where there should be no buildings going on it. There needs to be an area where we know in the community that cannot be torn down or is important to people. Because the change may represent an uproar. How do we put this into the asset management system?
- C) There are areas that are just for sacred medicines that need to be kept. Nipissing is making a map of these areas. If the maps have already been done, then it helps in their funding projects knowing endangered species and where they are as well as environmentally sensitive areas. We must verify that we are not harming the environment in areas be conscious- even environmental studies need to be taken sometimes.

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This proposal is in the permission to submit phase. We are looking for the written support of the document, which is more for the phase 2, where we have contributed and assessed everything we need.

- Q) In terms of level of service, how specific do we want to go?
- A) In terms of the snow and ice policy, for example, we want to look at the policy for how processes are done and how it affects financials, like going out to salt, plow, and shovelling driveways, etc. but we don't need to go into the health and safety policies associated with each truck and their circle checks.
- C) The statement of level of service comes down to the finances
 - o This is the challenge, when you look at having bare pavement for example this may change the cost of maintaining it, there suddenly needs to be only salt on it to keep the snow off.
 - o We need to consider the state of the land. CP lot, common band lot, CMHC home with band owned underneath and how that affects the finances.
 - o Need to be aware of how maintenance changes based on the types of roads. How changing services in one season changes services in another for O&M expenses.

Northern Communities Investment Readiness program

- Q) We need someone financial to help them do tasks so we can look at move a long on the project. The finance people will have limited time, how do we get the information?
- A) We need the right resources and plan.

- Tough to scope out because there will be a lot of new information to process, we will not be able to find people with experience. We just need to find people who aren't going to be overloading themselves (the reality is though that this cannot happen)
- This reform associated with the asset management will provide a new way to do things, but everyone will have to follow this soon because it is necessary.

Financial administration law: 4 of 6 communities are still not ready for it.

Q) Is it worth while for the steering committee to put a group proposal together?

A) Spending money in time wont be hard, coles notes are needed really quick to bring this into chief and council. Plan on a month of negotiations, and at the council level. If you don't have the buy in from the other communities. What if the outlook is through tribal?

- Timing will be an issue either way.

C) There can be greater community profiles from the list on NCIR slide, more we can include:

- Fire protection (consider how fire code and sprinkler systems need to be included under new codes)
- Health and safety inspections
- Addressing

These all tie into health and safety and should be an easy sell to chief and council as well as helping ensure the funding comes through.

We should also be sure that we aren't competing with the bands for this money and circulate this information to a wider range of people to get feedback on their ideas.

Wrap up

Next meeting?