

Gogama Local Services Board  
2020 – 21 Election  
Nominations & Election Process

TRANSCRIPT

1. Call meeting to order and Roll Call

Present

Absent with Regrets

Daniel Mantha – Chairperson  
Gilles Veronneau – Vice Chairperson  
Andre Jodouin – Board Member  
Rachelle Minarik – Board Member  
Paul Derkacz – Board Member  
Christine Bedard – Secretary Treasurer

2. Declaration of conflict of interest – As the meeting progresses.

3. Acceptance of agenda  
The Chairperson asked for a motion to accept the agenda.

The motion to accept the agenda was moved by Rachelle Minarik and seconded by Gilles Veronneau.

Motion Carried

4. Acceptance of minutes **NONE**

5. Disbursement: **NONE**

6. Grants Update: **NONE**

7. New Business

- 7.1 Correspondence: **NONE**

- 7.2 Administrative Portfolio:

**7.2.1 2020-21 Election Process**

The Chairperson advised the Board that with the current COVID-19 situation continually changing, this year's election process would need to be held within the restrictions implemented by the government during this current declared state of emergency. With restrictions seeing constant change and movement, the Board needed to devise a method to hold and run the Board's annual election while maintaining the safety of all community members.

The Secretary Treasurer offered the following recommendations stemming from discussions with the Board's MENDM representative on the matter;

1. Creating and adopting an election by-law
2. Holding nominations ahead of election day
3. Ballots created in advance of voting day
4. Voting day extended to a designated block of hours
5. Results of voting published on the day following the election

The Board discussed the matter and agreed that this method would allow the Board to meet both, the emergency order restrictions and the requirements as set out in the NSBA. The Board also agreed that the process should mirror the historical process as closely as possible so that the change in process would appear next to seamless for the inhabitants.

The Secretary Treasurer provided the Board with a draft election by-law to review. This document was drafted from several election by-laws belonging to other LSBs.

The Board reviewed the draft as prepared by the Secretary Treasurer and found it to be suitable.

The Chairperson asked for a motion to accept the election by-law.

The motion to accept and approve the election by-law was moved by Gilles Veronneau and seconded by Rachelle Minarik. **Motion Carried**

The Board further discussed the nomination process and agreed that the Secretary Treasurer would prepare a poster outlining the nomination process. The poster should include nominations to open on July 1, 2020 and close on July 15, 2020 at 5:00PM. The Board also agreed that nominations by proxy would be allowed providing all proxy nominations were received within the described timeframe.

The Chairperson asked for a motion to approve the Secretary Treasurer to prepare a nominations poster.

The motion to approve the Secretary Treasurer to prepare a nominations poster was moved by Paul Derkacz and seconded by Gilles Veronneau. **Motion Carried**

The Board then discussed and agreed that Board quorum would meet on July 16, 2020, at the Board office to open all nominations received and the Secretary Treasurer would record all nominations on a signature sheet so that the Chairperson could meet each nominee to record whether they accepted or declined their nomination.

Once every nominee was consulted and their signature obtained, the signature sheet would be returned to the board office so that the election ballots could be made and a nominee poster prepared.

The Board discussed and agreed that the actual day of election on which the inhabitants would present themselves to vote would be August 5, 2020. The voting time would be from 9:00AM through to 7:00PM. At voting close, two pre-selected volunteer scrutineers would retrieve the ballot boxes and proceed to count the votes while being observed by an MENDM representative. Once all ballots are counted, the results would be provided to the Secretary Treasurer who would then contact each newly elected Board member and prepare the public announcement to be posted the following day.

The Chairperson asked for a motion to approve the process as outlined in the Board discussions.

The motion to approve the process as outlined in the Board discussions was moved by Andre Jodouin and seconded by Paul Derkacz. **Motion Carried**

### 7.2.2 Nominations Process

The following process is the document outline of events of the Nominations Process;

July 1, 2020 Notice of Open Nominations poster was posted in 6 conspicuous places within the community and mailed to all inhabitants. The nominations process was held from July 1, 2020 and closed July 15, 2020 at 5:00PM.

July 16, 2020 The Board convened at the Board office and opened all nominations. The following is a list of the nominees in the order they were received;

1. Andre Jodouin
2. Gilles Veronneau
3. Rachelle Minarik
4. Daniel Mantha
5. Paul Derkacz
6. Bernard Souliere
7. MaryAnn Dean
8. Claude Secord
9. Therese Talbot
10. Luc Veronneau
11. Carole Beaton
12. Pauline Secord
13. Natalie Searles-Beland
14. Nicole Constant
15. Richard Gravelle
16. Donald Beauchamp
17. Alain Constantin

Between July 16, 2020 and July 20, 2020, the Chairperson met with each nominee individually and advised them of their nomination and asked each nominee whether they accepted or declined their nomination. The following list of nominees who accepted their nomination was posted including the signature sheet;

1. Andre Jodouin
2. Gilles Veronneau
3. Rachelle Minarik
4. Daniel Mantha
5. Paul Derkacz
6. Bernard Souliere
7. MaryAnn Dean
8. Natalie Searles-Beland
9. Richard Gravelle
10. Donald Beauchamp
11. Alain Constantin

On July 17, 2020, the notice of Election poster was posted and mailed out to all inhabitants announcing the election voting date to be August 5, 2020. Voting polls to open at 9:00AM until 7:00PM.

August 5, 2020, the Chairperson and the Secretary Treasurer opened the voting polls at 9:00AM and closed at 7:00PM.

At 7:00PM, scrutineers, Helene Beauchamp and Paul Veronneau retrieved the ballot boxes and, observed by MENDM representative, Heather Chertow, counted the votes.

At 9:15PM, the election results were presented to the Chairperson and Secretary Treasurer. The following is the names of the 2020-21 newly elected members of the Gogama Local Services Board;

1. Bernard Souliere
2. Richard Gravelle
3. Daniel Mantha
4. Alain Constantin
5. Gilles Veronneau

The Chairperson asked for a motion to destroy the ballots.

The motion to destroy the ballots was moved by Paul Veronneau and seconded by Helene Beauchamp.  
**Motion Carried**

At 9:30PM, the Chairperson announced the 2020-21 election proceedings closed.

August 6, 2020, the poster outlining the newly elected Board for the 2020-21 fiscal year was posted in 6 conspicuous places within the community.

All supporting documents and sign-in sheets have been filed and are available for public viewing if requested.

  
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Christine Bedard – Secretary Treasurer

  
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Daniel Mantha - Chairperson