
2014 Warden's Forum
Amos Presbyterian Church, Dromore
Thursday, April 24, 2014, 4:15 p.m.

Present: Warden Brian Milne, Paul Allen, Ellen Anderson, Gail Ardiel, Alan Barfoot, Carol Barfoot, John Bell, Ian Boddy, Dwight Burley, Jan Chamberlain, Darcy Chapman, Barb Clumpus, Kevin Eccles, Dennis Evans, Pat Franks, Bob Gamble, Judy Gay, Stewart Halliday, Deb Haswell, Selwyn Hicks, Norm Jack, Lynne Johnson, Dave Kell, Carol Lawrence, Scott Mackey, Kathi Maskell, John McKean, Jim McManaman, Paul McQueen, Kim Peeters, Bob Pringle, Bob White, Tom Wiley, Arlene Wright, Colleen Purdon, Lynda Stephens, Lynn Silverton, Bill Twaddle, Francis Richardson, Geoff Hogan, Debbie Robertson, Reg Russwurm, Mike Kelly, Grant McLevy, Dave Milliner, Holly Morrison, Denyse Morrissey, Mike Muir, Randy Scherzer, Troy Speck, Robert Thompson, Sharon Vokes, Glenn Walker, Ashleigh Weeden, Kevin Wepler, Barb Fedy, Rod Wyatt, Luanne Phair, Lance Thurston, Penny Colton, Secretary

Opening Remarks

Warden Brian Milne welcomed everyone to the 2014 Warden's Forum and highlighted the agenda for the evening.

The Haldimand Tract and County Relations

Warden Milne introduced Chief Ava Hill, Lonny Bomberry and Phil Monture of the Six Nations of The Grand River.

Chief Hill provided a brief overview of the history of the Six Nations of the Grand River, including background and details of the housing, sporting, arts and culture, community centres and facilities available to the residents. The Chief reviewed ongoing issues in working with the Provincial and Federal Governments ie. education is still run by Indian Affairs, infrastructure is poor due to lack of funding, health coverage cut backs. The Six Nations are looking into working with companies such as Samsung, Nextera Energy to generate more partnerships and funding for the community.

The Chief extended an invitation to come to their community and enjoy the area.

Lonny Bomberry provided a history of the area and the original peoples/owners of the lands which were the Huron Indians. He then provided an explanation of the Haldimand

Treaty land area and their rights including how the history has progressed until present day.

Phil Monture provided a geographical picture of the land mass across Ontario from the 1700's. Brochures providing this detailed review were made available for all.

Phil also provided a history of the filing of claims to the federal government for the Haldimand Treaty land tract of 275,000 acres of land. Mr. Monture explained how the revenue generated from blocks of the Haldimand tract was used to build various Canadian institutions. Findings have been made that mortgages were collected on the land and never returned to the First Nations. The government provided an offer to the Six Nations including the terms take it or leave it; the First Nations decided to leave it and are now in legal proceedings.

The floor was opened to questions from attendees. The major indication appears to be to try to initiate ventures with local municipalities and other community groups and to try and engage the provincial and federal levels of governments. There have been good experiences ie Brant County, but unfortunately when these types of initiatives fail, the last resort often is direct action ie. OKA, Caledonia etc.

The Chief and her staff will continue to visit many of the communities along the Haldimand Tract to provide information with the intention of educating people of the issues past and present facing the Six Nations of the Grand River.

Brian thanked the speakers for their presentation today.

Adjourned for dinner Break 5:40 p.m

Reconvened 6:35 p.m.

The County Level of Government – Its Role and Opportunities

Lance Thurston introduced Dr. David Siegel, Professor of Political Science at Brock University.

Dr. Siegel provided a presentation on the various levels of government and their roles. The presentation reviewed the various historical facts on how we got to where we are today and then the options and opportunities available in the future.

[County Level of Government its Roles and Opportunities Dr David Siegel](#)

Municipal Roundtable

Due to the considerable discussion during the two presentations the majority in attendance agreed to forgo the roundtable and adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned 8:10 p.m.