



I am pleased to have been nominated to run for Chief and Councillor for the upcoming election that will be held Saturday, July 3, 2021. I am the current Chief of Magnetawan.

I am a citizen and resident of Magnetawan First Nation for the past 30 years. I am the widowed father of 5 children, 9 grandchildren, 9 great grandchildren and 1 great-great grandchild.

I have had the honour to serve our Nation since 2000, representing our Nation on various Boards, as Councillor during the 2 years I stepped down to attend to my wife and son and Chief for 4 terms. I am proud of the accomplishments achieved during my tenure on Council along with the support of council and dedicated staff of our Nation. Together, we accomplished many of the goals and priorities we outlined in the last number of years.

If given the honor to continue serving on Council as chief or councillor, I commit to continue to work towards moving toward self determination and government and pursuing a progressive path towards **strengthening our community to ensure we are looking after the best interest of all citizens and our seven generation to follow and the economic and social well-being of all citizens** (members). We will continue to improve communications and **increase transparency and engagement** with all citizens and make every effort to create offer **more opportunities** for all citizens.

We will continue to maintain and enhance our program services by ensuring proper program and financial management. Compliancy to the funding contributor's agreements will continue to be maintained to ensure continued program availability for our citizens.

It has been a challenging year for us all, and while the Covid pandemic slowed us down we all dug in together and overcame covid in our community and continue to do so.

I have and will continue to have all citizens of Magnetawan Anishinabek Nation best interest at heart.

Economic & Infrastructure

Goal is to secure opportunities, funding, employment, community growth.

Water Plant Replacement – our water plant has reached its lifespan. **Funding has been committed to us to build a new water plant.** A request for tender has been sent out and we are currently in the design and build phase. In the meantime, we have **secured financing** to do the repairs required to ensure we continue to have **good quality water** for our community.

Wastewater Plant – our water plant has also reached its lifespan. An application has been submitted to obtain funding for a new wastewater plant. In the interim, we have applied for and **received funds** to complete the maintenance needed to repair the deficiencies that have been identified.

Community Complex – we continue to seek funding from a variety of sources and are very optimistic that our applications will be **positively received**. We are in the design phase, have a business plan, and look forward to obtaining funding to build and hope to achieve **completion in the next few years**. This project is very important to us, it will help us be a stronger, healthier, safe, inclusive community.

Day Care Centre – a daycare centre was included in our 25-year plan, our application for a **license has been received** and we have been assigned staff to assist us moving forward. We continue to work on acquiring funding to move forward with this plan.

Early Years Program - two large trailers have been installed for our early years centre and program. We continue to **receive funding to operate this program**. During COVID we provided home support for daycare and will continue to file for additional COVID funding in this area.

Fish Hatchery – we have received the funding and the **approval to move ahead** with the design and build to develop a Trout Fish Hatchery. This will improve the trout population, have significant benefits in our ecosystem while providing us with **increased revenue dollars** and **employment opportunities** within the community.

Quarry – we are working in an **accelerated manner to get the green light** to blast and crush material in the quarry. Henvey has committed to buying our aggregate to supply their road rebuilding project this year. In the past two years, we have **sold some materials**, but the plan is to become a fully operational business and be prepared to supply aggregate for the Highway 69/400 widening project and to the local area as well as for the needs of our Nation.

Esso / Hortons – we have maintained a combined profit for the last few years. We have applied for **additional COVID funding** to help compensate for the decrease in revenue and the costs associated with Covid health and safety measures required during the pandemic.

Economic & Infrastructure continued

Niijaansinaanik – NIIJCFS acquired funding to renovate 14 Village Road to accommodate office space for staff that will serve our community. A trailer has also been set up to house employees to service First Nations in the surrounding areas. Each project **generates leasing revenues** for the duration of the organization.

NIIJCFS also provided a tower for WIFI from Net Spectrum and ; turned ownership over to MFN. We have an agreement with Net Spectrum that provides us **free WIFI** service to the store, band office, and lands department as well as monthly leasing income.

Housing – 16 new housing units have been added in the in the last 10 years. We continue to lobby for additional funding to build more homes.

Greenhouse – one of the initiatives we are undertaking is to build a greenhouse to service our community and possibly surrounding areas that will provide year-round abundant and healthy food. We are proceeding with a feasibility study. This initiative will provide a **new revenue stream**, provide **employment opportunities and most importantly fresh food**.

Species at Risk – we continue to maintain the funding for these programs. They have done an amazing job at developing new programs and ensuring we maintain the **high values that protect our environment and species at risk**. This group has established excellent credibility across Canada!

5 Year & 25 Year Economic Plan

Our 5-year plan is at its lifespan and are ready to undertake and develop a new 5-year plan with our citizens.

Our 25-year plan is **completed and approved** - we are working towards this plan.

Education & Well Being

Education - As part of Anishinabek Nation and the KEB we manage the finances and administration of our own education needs. We acquired funding to buy a **new school bus and a second extended school vehicle**. We continue to receive funding for an after-school programs. We offer all citizens (on and off-reserve) the opportunity for post secondary **funding to pursue their education**. Many of the initiatives we have secured come with great opportunities for new jobs. Our goal is always to hire our citizens. We need qualified people who need to be job ready and want to **learn new skills and put them to use**.

We **have always and will continue to have education funds** to support our citizens who wish to get into the labour force within or out of our community.

Education & Well Being continued

Band Representation Program – Anishinabek nation with government funding provides us with a person to support our families and children in the child and family services area. This includes representation and support required dealing with CAS and/or CFS organization, court systems. Legal representation in dealing with the courts for our citizens on and off-reserve.

Food Bank – we partnered with Britt church that receives support from local partners in providing groceries to surrounding areas including our on-reserve citizens. We utilize band dollars and capitalize on COVID funding dollars to obtain food for the community and stock a food bank service.

Youth - We had our youth program stalled because of the effects of the fight against COVID. We will reactivate it as soon as possible and continue receiving support provided by Niijaansinaanik through the youth support program as well as the Anishinabek Nation Camp program.

Elders/Seniors – a group was formed by the elders/seniors themselves. When this group revitalizes, they have 100% support of chief and council.

Communications – as we work towards greater transparency, we recently hired a citizen to update our website and Facebook site more frequently and also research opportunities, and file applications for COVID funding. Our goal is to fill this position permanently, so we continue to develop more clear, concise communications to all citizens to ensure transparency.

Claims

Robinson Huron Treaty Annuity Claim – this is underway, the trust is working very passionately on this. Ontario appealed the court ruling made in our favour and the matter is in process with the court.

Sovereign Wealth Fund / OFNLP MFN along with 130 other First Nations in Ontario are stakeholders as shareholders in Ontario Hydro. Ontario provided a loan to purchase the shares. When financial thresholds are reached (approx. 5years) from now there will be profit and disbursement to participating First Nations, like OLG.

Boundary Claim –We have engaged Nahwegahbow Corbierre – Stephen O’neil to represent MFN in all our claims with Canada and Ontario. The Boundary (leagues vs miles) claim has been re submitted to Canada and a separate claim has also been opened and submitted to Ontario. Both Canada and Ontario acknowledged receipt of the claims and indicated that they will be addressed in approximately 2 years.

Claims continued

Highways, hydro & railway - Canada is prepared to address negotiation on these 3 claims together. We are looking for settlements not only from the land and resources used from the past but what will be used in the future. This is in the hands of our legal team. We hope to complete these 3 claims this year.

Highway – 69 / 400 expansion we have begun talks on moving forward with negotiations with the Ministry of Transportation Ontario. We will be addressing Bell with MTO as they allowed Bell to put lines within our territory without any consultation and approval nor compensation to MFN. Again, we are negotiating for present and future compensation.

Hwy 645 – this will continue to be addressed with MTO

Leases / Land Use

HIWP – Henvey Wind Power lease program began in September 2020. We receive an annual payment of \$200,000.00 annually paid out Quarterly. The funds are in our First Nation restricted account. This lease is ongoing for 20 years.

Niijaansinaanik's lease for the trailer has been in place since July 2020 and generates \$2,000 per month. This lease is in place for the lifespan of Niijaansinaanik. We will also receive rent from NIIJCFS for the 14-village road office location once the office renovations are complete. The amount is under negotiations.

Spectrum – we receive \$200 per month, plus 3 free location services for the lifetime of the lease. As a result of COVID, every person on the reserve is receiving free WIFI service with unlimited data for one year. After the 1 year is complete the individual will be responsible for the services payment if they wish to continue. We will look for funding options to continue free service. Approximately half of our on-reserve citizens have received these services to date.

Governance

2014 we signed on to the Lands Framework Agreement with the government of Canada which gave us the ability to create our land code and generate laws pertaining to the land use on our First Nation.

2018 – We signed onto the **Anishinabek Nation KEB** education agreement

June 4, 2021 - Child & Family Wellbeing law. A Draft agreement was signed with Canada .

Governance continued

April 2021 – Niijaansinaanik CFS – officially became an Indigenous designated operational CFS agency replacing CAS.

February 2021 - Anishinabek Nation Governance Agreement ratified – another step forward for our people to have a say in the creation of our laws in these areas: *Leadership Selection, Citizenship, Culture and Language, Management and Operations.*

The agreement will become finalized in mid 2022 and we will be fully funded and operational. We will be provided transition funding this year to plan and move toward implementation.

Affiliations

Magnetawan Anishinabek Nation is a stakeholder in the organizations below. Chief and council actively take part in all aspects of these organizations:

- ✓ **Waubetek** – funding
- ✓ **Shkagamik kew** – health
- ✓ **Gezhtoojig** – employment and training
- ✓ **Waabnoong Bemjiwang** – tribal council
- ✓ **Niijaansinaanik** – child and family services
- ✓ **APS** – policing
- ✓ **OFNLP** – gaming
- ✓ **Sovereign Wealth** – investment
- ✓ **Annuities Trusties**
- ✓ **Zaagi'idiwin** – health

For more information feel free to contact me: William Diabo (705) 346-1719