



Saugeen First Nation #29

Saugeen Band Chief and Council Meeting

Tuesday February 17, 2026

Meeting Highlights

Department Updates

Carbon Tax Briefing Note

Chief presented a proposed allocation plan for the Carbon Tax Rebate funding, which Council had previously earmarked for Fire Hall renovations, Recreation Centre renovations, and the purchase of a new fire pumper truck. The pumper truck has already been purchased.

Farm Leases Briefing Note

Council approved the renewal of a 5-year leases of Saugeen Band Farmlands.

This was carried.

Surveys Briefing Note

Chief reviewed a briefing note from Kirk regarding potential land and survey projects, noting that housing lots in the main village are becoming scarce as most suitable land has already been used. As a result, future housing developments may need to shift toward multi-unit styles to maximize available space. The briefing notes also highlighted opportunities for unused Tobermory lands, which could potentially be developed for seasonal business opportunities for Band members, tourism-related parking, camping/parking for Band members visiting Tobermory or hunting, and cultural programming.

This was acknowledged.

MOU with Neoen Briefing Note-SON EO

Chief and Council in concurrence with Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation, give the direction to Chief Conrad Ritchie and Janet Gallant to execute the memorandum of understanding with the Neoen to further participate in the potential partnership with Neoen.

This was carried.

Committee Minutes

Economic Development Committee

Cheree shared that Melissa Stewart, a Band member, submitted a request to operate Sally's Kitchen Food Truck on Saugeen First Nation beach property. The request requires a formal permission letter from the First Nation so the food truck company can proceed. The committee discussed that, historically, Band member food or vendor businesses have had minimal requirements, typically including liability insurance, food safety certification, and location details. The proposed food truck location is in Zone 1, near the former Crowd Inn site, an area

designated for food businesses. Utilities such as hydro, water, and waste services would not be provided and would be the operator's responsibility. The request aligns with the broader beach revenue plan, which aims to establish designated vendor spaces, event areas, and opportunities for community businesses while balancing environmental protection and beach access. Committee members also emphasized the need to establish limits and guidelines for food trucks, retail stands, and other small businesses to ensure fairness and prevent overcrowding. Future vendor and food truck approvals are expected to move to an administrative process once a beach coordinator is in place.

This was carried.

Beach Advisory Committee

Cheree reported that the committee discussed several beach-related matters, including employment, gate installation, beach by-laws (noting differences between the north and south sides), band member access terms of use, beach permit applications, permits for weddings, bathroom facilities, a beach sign contest, SON signage, and overall beach readiness. Staff are currently working on beach by-laws, and Brad is handling permits and wedding-related matters. No recommendations were brought forward at this time.

Finance and Audit Committee

There was a Finance and Audit Committee meeting on February 3, 2026.

Travel Acknowledgements

- a. **Theresa to attend the Emergency Conference in Collingwood.**
- b. **Chief Conrad Ritchie to attend the First Nation Policing Enforcement Symposium with the Chiefs of Ontario, March 12-14, 2026.**