

Saugeen First Nation Councillor Report

Dwayne Nashkawa | September 2026

The first month of Council work was busy and very informative for me as a new Councillor. I really appreciate the effort that Melissa Snowden and Roy Perreault put in to prepare Council at the start of the term. The many orientation sessions helped get all of us off on the right foot and provided opportunities for Council to come together as a new team.

Council spent the first half of September in orientation. We had briefings on finance, administration, Zaag'idiwin, the legal files, the SON Environment Office and the joint energy files. Regular business started on 2026-09-14.

Portfolio Work

Council confirmed me as Chair of Finance and Audit on 2026-09-14, with Councillor Lester Anoquot as Co-Chair. I met with the Band Administrator and Finance on 2026-09-22 to set the committee's direction. We agreed to focus on strategic planning and on making Saugeen's finances easier for members to understand, with clearer reporting from directors and better budgeting tools for program managers.

The 2026-27 budget is a priority. I've committed to convening the committee as often as it takes. The procurement policy is also on our list, so that quote requirements are followed the same way on every purchase.

Councillor Anoquot chairs Infrastructure and I'm Co-Chair. The capital plan study, the beach washroom design, the fibre network audit and the Blue Box recycling agreement are all items that are actively being developed. Roads came up at the 2026-09-16 deputation meeting, and the roads needs assessment is being built for the capital plan study.

Councillor Anoquot also chairs Economic Development and I'm Co-Chair. The committee's first tasks are putting the business grant eligibility rules in writing, sorting out how Saugeen Driftwood and the economic development corporation fit together, and assessing other opportunities in the territory. I continue as Council's appointee on the board of the Chippewas of Saugeen Community Limited Partnership. I look forward to working with Adam Kahgee and Chad Hope to develop new business opportunities for the nation.

On 2026-09-28 Council appointed Councillors to Joint Council committees. I will be supporting the Nuclear Advisory Committee and Medical Isotopes work and participating actively on the Land Claims committee and new Renewable Energy Committee.

At the 2026-09-16 deputation meeting I asked for a way to track the issues members raise so nothing gets lost, and the Band Administrator is bringing a tracking tool to Council.

Meeting Summary

Date	Meeting	How I attended
2026-09-01	Council orientation, finance	In Person
2026-09-02	Council orientation, administration	In Person
2026-09-08	Council orientation, Zaag'idiwin	In Person
2026-09-09	Council orientation, policing, landfill and housing	In Person
2026-09-10	CSCLP board prep for Council	In Person
2026-09-10	Council orientation, economic development [no notes]	In Person
2026-09-14	Council Meeting, regular agenda	In Person
2026-09-15	Council orientation, SON FC and B2M LP, Medical Isotopes	In Person
2026-09-16	Council orientation, legal	In Person
2026-09-16	Community deputation session	In Person
2026-09-17	SON Environment Office briefing	In Person
2026-09-21	Council Meeting and Zaag'idiwin orientation	In Person
2026-09-22	Finance and Audit planning with the Band Administrator and Finance	Remote
2026-09-22	Capital plan, asset management, policy review [on the calendar, no notes]	Postponed due to funeral
2026-09-23	Special Council Meeting	Remote
2026-09-24	Joint Council, Nawash	Remote
2026-09-28	Council Meeting, regular agenda	Remote

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Dwayne Nashkawa

Councillor, Saugeen First Nation