

Aanii/Hello band members!

My name is David Migizance Big-Canoe and I'm excited to introduce myself as one of the candidates running for Council in Georgina Island's March 16, 2021 Election.

If you are not familiar with me personally, my parents are Claire Big-Canoe and the late Dr. John Big-Canoe. I am one of seven children in my family raised on Georgina Island before moving off-reserve in my teen years so that my mother could continue to work.

I'm excited for this opportunity as I've always known that I wanted to return home one day and give back to the community that has always supported me in good and in hard times. Well, after going to school and spending almost a decade accumulating skills related to business and government, I believe I am now ready to return home to share my skills and actively contribute in the strengthening of our community.

The three main pillars of my campaign for council are Economic Development, Building a Sense of Community, and Community Health and Well-Being:

Economic Development - I've been fortunate enough to be in a position to hear about what other communities have done and how they have generated their own revenues to achieve self sufficiency. As a Councillor, I would help get Georgina Island to a point where we're able to create enough quality jobs for our community members to come back and work should they choose to. In addition, I have a goal of our community reaching a level of success where Georgina Island is not dependent on any government dollars, but rather is in a position to share excess revenues directly with members through regular dividend payments.

Building a Sense of Community - Georgina Island has over 900 Band members and most of which are off reserve. I know that many people move away from the community to pursue higher levels of education or career opportunities. Other community members have never had the opportunity to grow up at home, some as a result of government policies which displaced their families. We need to make sure that all band members feel as though they are part of our community. As a Councillor, I would push to ensure our entire community is meaningfully engaged and provided with regular updates with an unprecedented access to information that will allow everyone to know what is happening in the community. I would also see efforts be made to bring our off-reserve members back for community events.

Community Health and Well-Being - I believe that no one should be left behind when they fall on hard times. Part of being a Proud First Nation individual is knowing how important community is and our community's health is ultimately reflected by the people struggling the most. As a Councillor, I would put effort into ensuring adequate programs are in place to help those struggling with mental health, housing, and debt. I would also ensure that proper programs are in place to support our Elders and youth; two vital groups of our community which represent our history, culture, future, and hope.

If you would like to discuss my ideas for the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation, I would be happy to meet with you either virtually, by phone, Facebook, or by emailing (contact info below).

Chi-Miigwetch/Big Thank you!

David Migizance Big-Canoe

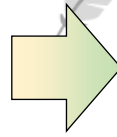
David Migizance Big-Canoe Campaign Platform

Immediate Actions

Long-Term Goals

Economic Development

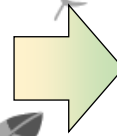
- Develop a “Strategic Economic Development Plan” to better coordinate business expansion and growth.
- Continue down the path to develop the Georgina Fixed-Link project (Bridge).
- Explore options to increase broadband internet capabilities to expand community opportunities.



- Community is completely self-sustained through own-source revenues.
- Excess Profits are shared with membership through Per-Capita Dividend Payments
- Community has well established supports for entrepreneurs and small businesses.

Building a Sense of Community

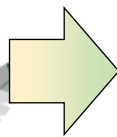
- Push to open Council meetings to the band membership and post annual financial statements on the Georgina Island website.
- Provide monthly updates to the membership on portfolio initiatives and progress.
- Continued band member outreach and engagement.



- Every band member has access to information on community developments.
- All members are engaged in community decisions and outcomes.
- Annual community events are well-attended by membership.
- All band members feel apart of the community.

Community Health and Well-Being

- Develop a “Community Care Strategy” which will outline processes to coordinate and identify gaps in existing supports for health concerns (Mental Health, Illness, Addictions, etc.)
- Propose an Elders Council, which would support the Elected Chief and Council in making sure every decision is culturally and historically informed.
- Develop a “Youth Strategy” that would serve to provide essential learning and development opportunities for youth from the community (on and off reserve).



- No band member is living below the poverty line.
- Community has a robust health care support network to immediately address any health concerns.
- Youth are able to grow up with countless opportunities and purpose.
- Our Elders and culture are cared for and protected.



Have questions about my platform?

Reach out and I'll be happy to answer!

CONTACT INFO

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