

**MÉTIS NATION – SASKATCHEWAN  
PROVINCIAL MÉTIS COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING  
December 30, 2016**

Minutes of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) Special Meeting held December 30, 2016 in the Cosmopolitan Room, at the Holiday Inn Downtown, 101 Pacific Avenue, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

**PRESENT:**

Gerald Morin, Vice-President, Co-Chair  
Helene Johnson, Co-Chair  
Lela Arnold  
Jaycee Bell  
Michael Bell  
Earl Cook  
Shelly Kapell

Billy Kennedy  
Derek Langan (arrived at 9:35 a.m.)  
Glen McCallum  
Darlene McKay  
Tammy Mah  
Lennard Morin  
Shannon Unrau

**ABSENT:**

Robert Doucette, President  
Louis Gardiner

May Henderson  
Chester Herman

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Lorne Gibson, Election Consultant  
Loretta Metzger, Interim Chief Electoral Officer  
(arrived at 1:45 p.m. / departed at 2:00 p.m.)

Mavis Taylor, Chief Executive Officer

**OBSERVERS:**

Lana Bonnor, Observer  
Dave Halborson, Observer  
Karen Laroque, Observer  
Lorna Ledoux, Observer  
Floyd McCallum, Observer

Lisa McCallum, Observer  
R. Major, Observer  
Reina Sinclair, Observer  
Wayne Trotchie, Observer

**ERNST & YOUNG LLP (EY) REPRESENTATIVES:**

Michael Campbell, EY

Evan Shoforost, EY

**INDIGENOUS AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS CANADA (INAC) REPRESENTATIVES:**

Richard Quintal, Negotiator and Manager of Métis Relations, INAC  
Arash Rasekhi-Nejad, Policy and Program Officer, INAC

**RECORDING SECRETARY:**

Carrie Peacock, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

**CALL TO ORDER and OPENING PRAYER**

Vice-Chair Morin called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. Glen McCallum offered an Opening Prayer.

**CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM**

Vice-President Morin confirmed that a quorum was established.

## **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

### **It was MOVED (Tammy Mah) and SECONDED (Shelly Kapell)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) approves the following Agenda for its December 30, 2016 meeting:

1. Appointment of the Recording Secretary
2. Appointment of the Co-Chairs
3. Review of the Minutes (December 2, 2016 Meeting):
  - 3.1 Adoption of the Minutes
  - 3.2 Business Arising from the Minutes
4. Election:
  - 4.1 Report from Lorne Gibson
  - 4.2 Appointment of Chief Electoral Officer / Deputy Chief Electoral Officer
  - 4.3 General Discussion - Election
5. Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA):
  - 5.1 Discussion
  - 5.2 Report from Ernst & Young (EY) on Event Planning
6. Updates:
  - 6.1 Update from EY, Finance Committee, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
  - 6.2 Update from the Federal Government
7. Resolutions
8. Other Business:
  - 8.1 Vice President Morin's Cell Phone.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **AGENDA VARIED**

The order of the Agenda was varied during the meeting. Items are presented in these minutes, in the order in which they were considered.

### **1. APPOINTMENT OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY**

#### **It was MOVED (Tammy Mah) and SECONDED (Lela Arnold)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council appoints Carrie Peacock, Raincoast Ventures Ltd., as the Recording Secretary for the December 30, 2016 meeting.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **2. APPOINTMENT OF THE CO-CHAIRS**

#### **It was MOVED (Tammy Mah) and SECONDED (Lennard Morin)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council appoints Helene Johnson and Gerald Morin as Co-Chairs for the December 30, 2016 meeting.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **3. REVIEW OF THE MINUTES (December 2, 2016 Meeting)**

#### **3.1 Adoption of the Minutes**

Co-Chair Morin referred the meeting to the draft minutes of the December 2, 2016 MN-S PMC Meeting, which were circulated to members in advance.

#### **3.2 Business Arising from the Minutes**

The meeting reviewed resolutions passed at the December 2, 2016 meeting, and discussed business arising from the minutes.

During discussion, comments were offered regarding the PMC's July 22, 2016 resolution which included specific directions on the allocation of the MN-S' portion of economic development funding, and the PMC's December 2, 2016 resolution directing that a letter be drafted confirming the July 22, 2016 resolution.

#### **9:35 a.m.**

Derek Langan joined the meeting.

Richard Quintal, Negotiator and Manager of Métis Relations, INAC, offered comments on the intent that economic development funding allocated to each of the Métis National Council (MNC) Governing Members could be distributed to their designated Aboriginal financial institution (AFI) and/or distributed through their own respectively-established economic development strategy.

In response to questions raised, comments were offered regarding:

- A plan needed for allocating the MN-S' first and future years' economic development funding in a manner that supports economic development in Saskatchewan
- Terms and conditions guiding the allocation of the economic development funding
- The feasibility of retaining a consultant to assist in developing a MN-S economic development strategy, similar to strategies developed by other MNC Governing Members.

During discussion specifically on the allocation of the MN-S' first year of economic development funding, the following comments were offered:

- Developing a MN-S economic development strategy before the quickly approaching deadline, will be challenging
- The first year of funding could be allocated to the MN-S' AFI (i.e. SMEDCO), along with some guidance from the PMC on how the funds can be accessed and utilized
- Consideration could be given to utilizing a portion of the MN-S' first year of funding, to retain a consultant to begin developing an economic development strategy for the MN-S.

During discussion specifically on the allocation of the MN-S' future years of economic development funding, the following comments were offered:

- A consultant could assist the MN-S in developing an economic development strategy specifically to support economic development in Saskatchewan
- Any funds remaining after distributions through the MN-S economic development strategy could be directed to a MN-S-designated AFI (i.e. SMEDCO or otherwise).

The meeting was informed that based on legal advice received, the PMC was not required to take a leave of absence prior to the pending election.

### **3.1 Adoption of the Minutes (Continued)**

The meeting agreed to consider adopting the December 2, 2016 minutes, after receiving an update on the economic development funding issue from Federal Government representatives.

#### ***Request for Action***

*It was requested that the incorrectly indicated hyphens in some references to “MN-S”, which occurred during the process of printing the draft December 2, 2016 minutes, be corrected.*

### **Health Break**

The meeting recessed at 10:20 a.m. and reconvened at 10:35 a.m.

## **4. ELECTION**

### **4.1 Report from Lorne Gibson**

*Related information:*

- *Correspondence from Evan Shoforst, dated December 21, 2016 and attached correspondence from Fred Payton, dated December 15, 2016*
- *Situation Report on Saskatchewan’s Provincial Métis Council Elections Scheduled February 4, 2017.*

Lorne Gibson, Election Consultant, acknowledged the letter of resignation received from Fred Payton, Chief Electoral Officer, and offered comments regarding:

- Postponing the February 4, 2017 MN-S Election, calling a Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA) as soon as possible at which a new Chief Electoral Officer will be appointed, and setting a new MN-S election date
- Utilizing election-related documents prepared for the 2007 MN-S Election to assist in preparing documents for the 2017 MN-S Election
- A suggested candidate as the new Chief Electoral Officer, Loretta Metzger
- Revisions required to the *Elections Act* to improve the process of administering oaths and declarations on the day of the election.

The meeting discussed holding a MNLA and General Assembly on February 18 and 19, 2017 in Saskatoon. Tentative reservations had been made by EY at TCU Place (for the MNLA) and the Holiday Inn Express (to accommodate MNLA attendees).

During further discussion, the following additional comments were offered:

- Once an Interim Chief Electoral Officer is appointed, preparations for the MN-S Election could begin; the appointment will require ratification by resolution at the MNLA
- The Electoral Consultant will ensure regular updates are conveyed to the PMC
- Loretta Metzger has significant experience in electoral processes and has confirmed her interest in the role as Chief Electoral Officer in the upcoming MN-S Election
- If appointed as interim Chief Electoral Officer, Ms. Metzger will retain someone with the appropriate experience to assist in preparing for the MN-S Election.

In response to questions raised, comments were offered on Federal Government funding previously allocated to hold the 2017 MN-S Election, and additional funding required for a MNLA solely intended to consider the MN-S Election and election-related business.

#### **4.2 Appointment of Chief Electoral Officer / Deputy Chief Electoral Officer**

**It was MOVED (Earl Cook) and SECONDED (Tammy Mah)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) appoints the following, pending ratification at the 2017 Métis National Legislative Assembly:

- Loretta Metzger as interim Chief Electoral Officer; and
- Lorne Gibson as Electoral Consultant, to follow the progress in the election preparations.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Health Break**

The meeting recessed at 11:50 p.m. and reconvened at 1:15 p.m.

#### **4.3 General Discussion – Election (Continued)**

The meeting discussed mechanisms to prevent voters from fraudulently casting multiple ballots, and offered the following suggestions:

- Providing daily updated lists of voters who have cast ballots to the Chief Electoral Officer and the Regional Returning Officers
- The use of “electoral ink” to prevent voters from casting duplicate ballots, by marking voters’ forefingers with indelible ink when they cast a ballot (a method common in electoral processes where identification documents are not standardized)
- Establishing consequences for voters caught casting more than one ballot.

During general discussion on the MN-S Election, comments were offered regarding:

- Police record checks required for the election candidates
- A candidate’s ineligibility to participate in the election, if he/she has been charged with an indictable offense in the last five years or an election-related offense in the last ten years
- A future swearing-in ceremony needed, at which the elected candidates will swear an oath of allegiance.

#### ***Request for Action***

*Lorne Gibson, Election Consultant, agreed to draft revisions to the Saskatchewan Métis Elections Act, for consideration by the Elections Committee and approval at the February 18 and 19, 2017 Métis Nation Legislative Assembly, including a revision to the form indicated on Page 55 of the Act to include the statement “I have not previously voted”.*

**It was MOVED (Earl Cook) and SECONDED (Tammy Mah)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council directs that the next MN-S General Election be held May 27, 2017.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**5. MÉTIS NATION LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (MNLA)**

**5.1 Discussion**

**It was MOVED (Tammy Mah) and SECONDED (Lennard Morin)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) directs that the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly and General Assembly be held February 18 and 19, 2017 at TCU Place in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**5.2 Report from Ernst & Young (EY) on Event Planning**

*Related information: News release regarding “Métis Nation – Saskatchewan delays general election due to unforeseen circumstances”, dated December 31, 2016*

**It was MOVED (Earl Cook) and SECONDED (Jaycee Bell)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council (PMC) authorizes the release of the “News Release” reviewed by the PMC on December 30, 2016, with the following revisions:

- Change the subtitle to “Métis Nation Legislative Assembly and General Assembly set for February 18-19, 2017”; and
- Replace the text under “For further information” with: “Please contact Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Vice President Gerald Morin at 306-220-0071, your respective Regional Representative, or visit the official website at <http://metisnationsk.com/>”

**CARRIED**

(Shelly Kapell voted in opposition)

**1:45 p.m.**

Loretta Metzger joined the meeting.

**4.2 Appointment of Chief Electoral Officer / Deputy Chief Electoral Officer (Continued)**

*Related on-table information: Resume of Loretta Metzger*

Ms. Metzger introduced herself to the meeting and reviewed her professional experience in the education system (as a teacher, principal and administrator) and her subsequent involvement in various electoral processes.

Mavis Taylor, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), advised Ms. Metzger of the PMC’s earlier resolution appointing her as Interim Chief Electoral Officer, and the pending affirmation of her appointment at the February 18 and 19, 2017 MNLA. Ms. Metzger agreed to promptly collaborate with Mr. Gibson regarding information available related to the pending election and to contact Ms. Taylor for further general information regarding the MN-S.

**2:00 p.m.**

Ms. Metzger departed the meeting.

## **5.1 Discussion (Continued)**

The meeting acknowledged the PMC's prior direction that the Regional Representatives and Presidents of the Youth Council and Les Filles de Madeleine would register MNLA delegates in advance of the MNLA. Delegates will be reimbursed for their expenses at the end of the MNLA.

During discussion, the following additional comments were offered:

- Four youth delegates can be selected by the Youth representative to attend the MNLA
- The Regional Representatives will resolve any disputes regarding who will be recognized as "registered delegates" from their respective region
- The MNLA needs to allocate space to involve Senators and Veterans.

### **It was MOVED (Shelly Kapell) and SECONDED (Tammy Mah)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council directs that:

- Regional representatives will register delegates from their respective regions to attend the 2017 Métis Nation Legislative Assembly and General Assembly;
- The President of Les Filles de Madeleine will register delegates from Les Filles de Madeleine to attend the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly and General Assembly;
- The President of the Youth Council will register delegates from the Youth Council to attend the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly and General Assembly; and
- Only registered delegates will be reimbursed for expenses incurred by attending the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly and General Assembly.

**CARRIED**

(Derek Langan and Shannon Unrau voted in opposition)

Regional representatives were reminded to submit names, addresses and phone numbers of their respective Presidents to the CEO and EY prior to January 10, 2017.

## **6. UPDATES**

### **6.1 Updates from EY, Finance Committee, Chief Executive Officer**

### **It was MOVED (Lennard Morin) and SECONDED (Darlene McKay)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council directs that MN-S Vice President Gerald Morin attend all Métis National Council (MNC) Board of Governors meetings (including the January 30, 2017 MNC Summit with the Prime Minister) on behalf of the MN-S, until the May 27, 2017 election.

**CARRIED**

(Derek Langan and Shannon Unrau voted in opposition)

**It was MOVED (Darlene McKay) and SECONDED (Lela Arnold)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council supports the Métis National Council (MNC) holding:

- A Special Sitting of the MNC General Assembly in Saskatchewan in March 2017; and
- The Regular Sitting of the MNC General Assembly and Election in Ottawa, Ontario in June 2017.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

An update was offered regarding the Court's pending decision related to eviction of the tenant at the Batoche site. A future update was anticipated from legal counsel on the status of the documentation requested from the MN-S affiliates, to enable the completion of financial audits.

**Health Break**

The meeting recessed at 2:35 p.m. and reconvened at 2:55 p.m.

Evan Shoforost, EY, led the meeting in a review of the "Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Secretariat Inc., Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for the period from February 18, 2016 to December 31, 2016" and offered additional comments regarding:

- A pending GST return, funding anticipated from INAC, and funding forthcoming for the MN-S' participation in reviews related to the National Energy Board Modernization process
- Direction required on how to proceed with the current building lease, after its expiration on March 31, 2017.

During discussion, further comments were offered regarding:

- The status of agreements and funding for the MN-S' participation in discussions related to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* and the Fisheries Navigation program
- Scheduling a Finance Committee meeting to consider some budgetary decisions.

**6.2 Update from the Federal Government**

Mr. Quintal acknowledged that the current years' budget for the MN-S could be adjusted to accommodate holding a PMC meeting and/or a Finance Committee meeting to prepare for the February 18 and 19, 2017 MNLA and General Assembly. Additional comments were offered on:

- A Memorandum to Cabinet (likely to be considered in February 2017) proposing the continuation and enhancement of the current funding program
- The intent to maintain a financial advisor through which Federal Government would transfer funding, while the organization continued rebuilding towards financial viability
- The upcoming opportunity for the newly elected MN-S leaders to discuss organizational structures with other MNC Governing Members.

Further comments were offered regarding:

- The feasibility of providing a reasonable salary and travel allowances for newly elected MN-S leaders to carry out work on behalf of the MN-S
- Acknowledging some of the MN-S' past and pending achievements at the MNLA; a communications specialist could assist in drafting a newsletter conveying the organization's successes, to be shared with MNLA delegates, national organizations and others
- The MNLA could review a proposed budget and vision for moving the organization forward based on anticipated funding.



The following additional comments were offered:

- Increased respect for the MN-S has been demonstrated through funding contributions by various government agencies
- Pending a favourable decision by the Treasury Board, funding could be available annually to MNC Governing Members to support the delivery of programs, etc.
- United support is required to address critical community issues such as homelessness, mental illness and poverty.

**It was MOVED (Lennard Morin) and SECONDED (Tammy Mah)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) directs that given the postponement of the MN-S General Election, Vice President Morin’s cell phone continue to remain active.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Gratitude was extended to the MN-S CEO and participating representatives from Federal Government, EY and Raincoast Ventures Ltd. for their continued support during the organization’s progression.

**8.2 Economic Development Funding**

The meeting discussed how to proceed with respect to the MN-S’ portion of economic development funding, and offered comments regarding:

- The requirement that the first years’ allocation would be spent by March 31, 2017
- Utilization of the economic development funding, which must comply with the established terms and conditions.

During discussion on potential options for the MN-S’ first year portion of economic development funding, the following suggestions were offered:

- A portion of the MN-S’ first year of funding could be allocated to hiring someone to develop a economic development strategy, leaving the remainder to the MN-S’ AFI (i.e. SMEDCO)
- The first year of funding could be allocated entirely to the MN-S AFI, with clear directions on how it can be spent (for example, specific portions could be allocated to specific regions).

Members of the Economic Development Committee were acknowledged: Earl Cook, Helene Johnson, Derek Langan, Darlene McKay, and Gerald Morin.

***Request for Action***

*It was agreed that the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Economic Development Committee promptly discuss the MN-S allocation of the economic development funding (particularly the first year’s funding) via teleconference with federal government representatives.*

**8.3 Next Meeting Date**

It was suggested that two PMC meetings may be required prior to the upcoming MNLA.

**It was MOVED (Helene Johnson) and SECONDED (Shelly Kapell)**

That the next Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council meeting be held January 14 and 15, 2017 in Regina, Saskatchewan.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**CONCLUSION**

**It was MOVED (Earl Cook)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council meeting held December 30, 2016 now conclude.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

(Time: 4:35 p.m.)

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**LIST OF INFORMATION ITEMS:**

*The following items were provided for information at the meeting:*

1. Draft Minutes of the December 2, 2016 Métis Nation - Saskatchewan PMC Meeting
2. Correspondence from Evan Shoforost, dated December 21, 2016 and attached update from Fred Payton, dated December 15, 2016
3. Situation Report on Saskatchewan's Provincial Métis Council Elections Scheduled February 4, 2017
4. News Release regarding "Métis Nation – Saskatchewan delays general election due to unforeseen circumstances", dated December 31, 2016
5. The "Saskatchewan Métis Elections Act 2007", as amended July 29, 2016
6. Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly Act, amended September 9, 2008
7. Constitution of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan, last amended September 9, 2008
8. Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Secretariat Inc., Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for the period from February 18, 2016 to December 15, 2016
9. Métis Economic Development Strategy Initiative – 2016/17 Statement of Work
10. Correspondence from John Weinstein, MNC, dated December 19, 2016, with attachment titled "Métis Nation Economic development Strategy Funding Budget 2016"
11. List of registered delegates at the July 2016 MNLA.