



**MÉTIS NATION – SASKATCHEWAN
PROVINCIAL MÉTIS COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**
held October 19, 2021

Minutes of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) Regular Meeting scheduled October 19, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. by videoconference.

PRESENT:

Glen McCallum, President	Wendy Gervais, Western Region 3
Michelle LeClair, Vice President, Chair	Billy Kennedy, Western Region 1A
Robert LaFontaine, Treasurer	Loretta King, Western Region 1
Lisa McCallum, Secretary	Sherry McLennan, Western Region 2
Mervin “Tex” Bouvier, Northern Region 3	Tammy Mah, Les Filles de Madeleine
Laura Burnouf, Northern Region 1	Leonard Montgrand, Northern Region 2
Brent Digness, Eastern Region 2	Kathie Pruden Nansel, Western Region 2A
Marg Friesen, Eastern Region 3	

ALSO PRESENT:

Gwen LaFond, Chief Electoral Officer	Elder Max Morin
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MN-S OFFICE:

Mark Calette, Senior Director of Duty to Consult and Land Claims	Adel Panahi, Director of Health
Cole Chretien, Policy Analyst	Richard Quintal, Chief Executive Officer
Brandy Laronde, Legislative Coordinator	Erin Reid, Chief Strategy Officer
Dorothy Myo, Senior Director of Policy and Research	Susan Shacter, Policy Analyst, Policy and Research
	Hamid Shahzad, Chief Financial Officer

MINUTES PREPARED BY:

Carrie Peacock, Recording Secretary

AGENDA VARIED

The order of the agenda was varied at the meeting. Items are presented in these minutes in the order in which they were considered, and are numbered in the order indicated on the approved agenda.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:20 a.m. after quorum was confirmed.

2. ROLL CALL

A roll call confirmed PMC members in attendance.

3. OPENING PRAYER

Elder Max Morin offered an Opening Prayer.

5. OPENING REMARKS FROM THE PRESIDENT

President McCallum acknowledged items presented for consideration at the meeting, including discussions on the November 26-28, 2021, Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA).

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Related information: Draft Agenda for the October 19, 2021, Provincial Métis Council Meeting

It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) and SECONDED (Sherry McLennan)

That the Agenda for the October 19, 2021, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council meeting be adopted, as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Opening Prayer
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Opening Remarks from the President
6. Review of the Minutes
7. Approval of the Minutes:
 - 7.1 Approval of the September 21, 2021 Minutes
 - 7.2 Business Arising from the Minutes
 - 7.3 Residential School Commission - Terms of Reference
 - 7.4 Residential School Commission - Resolution
8. MNLA Resolutions:
 - 8.1 Adoption of the MNLA Agenda – November 26-28, 2021
 - 8.2 Appointing the Dumont Scouts
 - 8.3 Adoption of COVID-19 Protocols for MNLA Delegates
9. COVID-19:
 - 9.1 Task Force Update and Vaccine Mandate
 - 9.2 Audit and COVID-19 Dollars Update
10. Other Business:
 - 10.1 Louis Riel Day
 - 10.2 Update on the Provincial Métis Youth Council (PMYC) Election
 - 10.3 Email Communications
 - 10.4 Provincial Secretary - Update
11. Conclusion and Closing Prayer.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (211019-01)

6. REVIEW OF THE MINUTES

This item was considered under Item 7.

7. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

7.1 Approval of the September 21, 2021 Minutes

Related information (provided with the agenda): Draft Minutes of the September 21, 2021, PMC Meeting

Provincial Secretary McCallum read aloud the resolutions included in the draft minutes.

7.2 Business Arising from the Minutes

During discussion on the September 21, 2021 minutes, it was noted that:

- President McCallum will soon be appointing the Human Resources (HR) Committee to investigate confidentiality issues, as per Resolution #210921-05
- On August 17, 2021, the PMC requested an update on the MN-S' properties and assets (Request for Action #210817-01):
 - o A full financial report is anticipated at the next PMC meeting, including a list of MN-S' assets and the annual audit for the prior fiscal year
- At future PMC meetings, the Provincial Secretary will read aloud the "Action Items" and "Resolutions", when reviewing the prior meeting minutes.

It was MOVED (Mervin "Tex" Bouvier) and SECONDED (Laura Burnouf)

That the Minutes of the September 21, 2021, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (211019-02)

7.3 Residential School Commission – Terms of Reference

Related information (provided with the agenda): Draft "Terms of Reference for the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Residential School Commission"

Dorothy Myo, Senior Director of Policy and Research, read aloud the draft Terms of Reference for the MN-S Residential School Commission (the "Commission").

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- The appointment of Vice President LeClair as the Chair of the Commission
- Objectives of the Commission, including:
 - o Bringing to the PMC and the MNLA the documented history and experience of Métis residential school survivors
 - o Making meaningful recommendations to advance reconciliation
 - o Addressing the inter-generational traumas sustained by their families; and
 - o Promoting education and recognition of the harms sustained by Métis survivors.

Change in Chair

President McCallum assumed the Chair for consideration of Item 7.4 at approximately 10:10 a.m.

7.4 Residential School Commission – Resolution

Related information (provided with the agenda): Draft "Resolution Approving Terms of Reference", labeled "For Internal Purpose and Not for Distribution" and dated October 19, 2021

During discussion on the information provided, comments were offered on:

- Encouraging collaboration between the Commission and the existing residential school committee in Île-à-la-Crosse
- Acknowledging that Métis children in Saskatchewan experienced residential schools (and orphanages, industrial schools, sanatoriums etc.)
- Seeking financial support for the Commission from the federal government to supplement some internal MN-S resources.

It was MOVED (Michelle LeClair) and SECONDED (Sherry McLennan)

WHEREAS the Provincial Métis Council (PMC), at its duly convened meeting on August 17, 2021, passed a resolution approving the establishment of a commission (the “Commission”), to promote education and recognition of the harms sustained by Métis survivors of residential school, to make meaningful recommendations to advance reconciliation, and to address the inter-generational traumas sustained by their families;

WHEREAS the PMC further resolved that the Commission develop Terms of Reference which address areas left unexplored by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission mandate, with regards to Métis people;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PMC at this duly convened meeting of October 19, 2021, hereby approves the proposed Terms of Reference for the Commission as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (211019-03)

Change in Chair

Vice President LeClair resumed the Chair at 10:45 a.m.

8. MNLA RESOLUTIONS

8.1 Adoption of the MNLA Assembly – November 26-28, 2021

Related information (provided with the agenda): Draft Agenda for the November 26-28, 2021, MNLA

Richard Quintal, Chief Executive Officer, reviewed the MNLA agenda and confirmed that Workshop Forums would be held on November 26, 2021, and the MNLA would be held on November 27 and 28, 2021. It was further noted that the Agenda would be adjusted to consider the “Motions to Accept Reports” on Day Two rather than Day One.

Dorothy Myo, Senior Director of Policy and Research, reviewed proposed topics for the Workshop Forums, including: Constitutional Reform; the Judiciary; the Residential School Commission; and Harvesting.

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- Arranging training for Regional Councils on the new bookkeeping system
- Potentially combining “Constitutional Reform” and “Judiciary” into one workshop
- The prior appointment of the Speaker (Mike Nolan) and Deputy Speaker (Joe Blyan) until the end of 2021 (as per Resolution #MNLA191123-01)
- Including “Engaging with Citizens on Health Legislation”, on the next PMC meeting agenda.

It was MOVED (Sherry McLennan) and SECONDED (Brent Digness)

WHEREAS the Provincial Métis Council (PMC) at their duly held meeting on August 17, 2021, resolved that the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA) would be called on November 26, 27 and 28, 2021;

WHEREAS the PMC further resolved that the November 26, 27 and 28, 2021, MNLA would be held in-person at Prairieland Park, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan;

WHEREAS Articles 6.2 and 6.3 of the *Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly Act* (the Act), as amended, directs the Clerk of the MNLA, as defined in Article 2.4 of the Act, to draft an agenda for the MNLA as directed by the PMC and to compile the necessary documentation for the Order of the Day;

WHEREAS an agenda is hereby proposed for the MNLA to be held on November 26, 27 and 28, 2021;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PMC at this meeting of October 19, 2021, hereby approves the following Agenda to be referred to the MNLA on November 26, 27 and 28, 2021:

I. DAY ONE – November 26, 2021 – Workshop Forums

II. DAY TWO – November 27, 2021

1. Grand Entry:
 - a. Opening Prayer – Elder Norman Fleury
 - b. Métis Anthem
 - c. O Canada
2. Greetings:
 - a. State of the Nation - President McCallum
 - b. Guest Speaker(s)
3. Roll Call - Richard Quintal, Chief Executive Officer and Clerk of the MNLA
 - a. Registered Delegates
4. Health Break
5. MNLA Motions
 - a. Adoption of Minute Taker
 - b. Adoption of Agenda – Order of the Day
 - c. Adoption of Dumont’s Scouts
 - d. Adoption of New/Dissolved Locals
6. February 20-21, 2021 MNLA Minutes:
 - a. Adoption of the February 20-21, 2021 MNLA Minutes
7. Lunch
8. Chief Executive Officer Report
9. Motions to Accept Reports:
 - a. Executive
 - b. Regional
 - c. Ministerial
 - d. Affiliates
10. Adjournment

III. DAY THREE – November 28, 2021

1. Call to Order
2. Opening of Day Two
 - a. Opening Prayer – Elder Max Morin
3. Roll Call – Richard Quintal, Chief Executive Officer / Clerk of the MNLA
4. Budget
 - a. Motion to Accept Audited Financial Statements
 - b. Appointment of Auditor for 2021-2022
5. Resolutions
 - a. Tabled Resolutions from February 2021
 - b. New Resolutions
 - i. Resolutions by PMC
 - Ratification of Ministerial Appointments
 - ii. Resolutions from MNLA Delegates
6. Adjournment

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Clerk of the MNLA prepare the Order of the Day, as defined in Article 2.11 of the *Act*, to reflect the Agenda as approved by this resolution of October 19, 2021.

CARRIED (211019-04)

8.2 Appointing Dumont's Scouts

Related information (provided with the agenda): Draft "Resolution on Appointing Dumont's Scouts for the November 26-28, 2021 MNLA", dated October 19, 2021

It was MOVED (Glen McCallum) and SECONDED (Laura Burnouf)

WHEREAS Article 8.1 of the *Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly Act* provides that "Dumont's Scouts" be appointed by the Provincial Métis Council to maintain order and procedure during the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA);

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following individuals shall be the Dumont's Scouts for the Fall 2021 MNLA on November 26, 27 and 28, 2021:

- Wade Daigneault
- Felix Merasty
- Josie Searson.

CARRIED (211019-05)

8.3 Adoption of COVID-19 Protocols for MNLA Delegates

Related information (provided with the agenda):

- *Draft "COVID-19 Protocols for the Fall 2021 Métis Nation Legislative Assembly", dated October 15, 2021*
- *Draft "Resolution on COVID-19 Protocols for the Fall 2021 Métis Nation Legislative Assembly", dated October 19, 2021*

Marg Friesen, Minister of Health, reviewed the "COVID-19 Protocols for the Fall 2021 Métis Nation Legislative Assembly" and the proposed safety measures.

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- Measures to ensure the safety of MN-S staff, government, and citizens attending in-person
- Recognition from the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) and the Ministry of Health, regarding the MN-S' enhanced safety measures and protocols
- The feasibility of expanding the proposed "COVID-19 Protocols for the Fall 2021 Métis Nation Legislative Assembly" to apply to all MN-S meetings
- The recent decision to close the MN-S office for the protection and safety of staff
- Potentially creating a HR policy, requiring MN-S employees to be vaccinated.

It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) and SECONDED (Laura Burnouf)

WHEREAS the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan (MN-S) has been a leader in COVID-19 supports and safety procedures, protecting Métis Elders, children, immune-compromised people and other citizens;

WHEREAS the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA) brings together delegates from all parts of Saskatchewan and could endanger the health of Métis delegates and communities without strong COVID-19 protocols; and

WHEREAS the MN-S now has the technological ability for delegates to participate fully without being present;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Provincial Métis Council support the following COVID-19 protocols for the Fall 2021 MNLA:

1. In-Person and Virtual Attendance:

- a) In-person attendance: In-person attendance at the MNLA will be available to delegates, designated staff and invited attendees who have received two COVID-19 vaccinations.
- b) Virtual Attendance: Delegates who are unvaccinated for COVID-19 (either by choice or for other reasons), delegates who have received one dose of vaccination, and delegates who are concerned about the safety of in-person gatherings, can participate in the MNLA online via the Zoom platform. Delegates who participate by Zoom will still be able to vote, participate in roll call, and speak to resolutions.

2. Screening:

- a) All delegates, designated staff and invited attendees who are eligible for in-person attendance will be required to show proof of vaccination (either QR code or paper vaccination record) at the entrance to the MNLA. After this, they will receive a bracelet as proof of vaccination.
- b) Screening will be done daily and will include:
 - Answering questions on COVID-19 symptoms; and
 - Temperature checks.

Anyone who has an elevated temperature or shows evidence of COVID-19 symptoms will not be allowed to enter the MNLA. Arrangements will be made for them to participate by Zoom. Additionally, MN-S health officials will follow up with them on their health status.

- c) Rapid testing will be provided on-site to accommodate the following circumstances:
 - Eligible participants who are not able to provide proof of vaccination
 - Eligible participants who have been in close contact with a positive case of COVID-19 within the past 14 days
 - Any delegates, designated staff or invited attendees who would like to be tested.Anyone who tests positive will not be allowed to enter the MNLA. Arrangements will be made for them to participate by Zoom. Additionally, MN-S health officials will follow up with them on their health status.
 - d) Individuals who refuse to meet any of these screening requirements will not be allowed to enter.
3. Safety Protocols at Venue:
 - a) Masks will be required except when eating or drinking;
 - b) Social distancing should be observed as much as possible; and
 - c) Hand sanitizing.
 4. Observers, Family and Others:
 - a) In-person attendance at the MNLA will be restricted to eligible delegates, designated staff and invited attendees. This applies to all MNLA events, including meetings, banquets and other meals.
 - b) All others are invited to watch the livestream of the MNLA via the MN-S website.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the protocols outlined above be accepted as COVID-19 Safety Protocol Measures, and adapted accordingly for all future MN-S gatherings and meetings.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (211019-06)

Health Break

The meeting recessed at 11:25 a.m. and reconvened at 11:35 a.m.

9. COVID-19

9.1 Task Force Update and Vaccine Mandate

Adel Panahi, Director of Health, provided comments on:

- Changes in September 2021 to the COVID-19 supports being provided (including for food, housing, personal protective equipment, transportation, etc.)
- Ongoing supports available for Métis patients through the MN-S Cancer and Dialysis Transportation Program
- Significant interest in the Mental Health Program; Mental Health Navigators are supporting clients and connecting them to other mental health providers as needed
- Rapid testing kits used as part of the safety protocols implemented at Batoche
- Over 10,000 entries received to-date for the MN-S COVID-19 Vaccine Incentive Draw, which prompted significant vaccination uptake in some areas
- The SHA's ability to set-up Métis-specific vaccine clinics.

Minister Friesen provided additional comments on:

- Ensuring that patients travelling for cancer and dialysis treatment appointments during the pandemic are served by the programs intended to support them
- Ongoing collaboration with the SHA in responding to the needs of citizens.

During discussion, appreciation was extended to the elected officials for their continued support of the Ministry of Health's efforts to keep communities and citizens safe.

9.2 Audit and COVID-19 Funding Update

Marg Friesen, Minister of Finance, reviewed the funding regions received through COVID-19 Emergency Funding or the Meadow Lake Tribal Council (MLTC).

During discussion, comments and clarifications were offered on:

- Releasing funding to regions, after Regional Councils have reviewed and approved their region's quarterly expense reports and annual audited financial statements
- A manual being prepared for regions by the MN-S Finance Department, which includes report templates and a schedule of when regional reports are due
- Training on the new bookkeeping system to support consistent regional reporting processes
- The distribution of regional funding, based on the population of Métis citizens, and emerging situations and events.

Health Break

The meeting recessed at 12:25 p.m. and reconvened at 1:00 p.m. As Vice President LeClair was absent when the meeting resumed, President McCallum assumed the Chair.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

10.4 Provincial Secretary - Update

Secretary McCallum requested that the upcoming MN-S Retreat consider the Provincial Secretary's Workplan, and expressed concerns related to some false allegations that she was supporting citizenship in another Governing Member's registry.

10.1 Louis Riel Day

Sherry McLennan, Minister of Heritage, welcomed discussion at the upcoming MN-S Retreat on how the MN-S will be acknowledging Louis Riel Day.

10.2 Update on the Provincial Métis Youth Council (PMYC) Election

Dorothy Myo, Senior Director of Policy and Research, provided an update on the online election for the PMYC President, scheduled November 5-6, 2021 and noted that:

- Nominations opened October 16, 2021 and will close October 21, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.
- Orientation sessions were held for youth on the responsibilities of the President's role
- An October 25, 2021 "All Candidates Virtual Forum", will be hosted by Eagle Feather News.

Gwen LaFond, Chief Electoral Officer, provided additional comments on:

- Candidates nominated for the position of PMYC President, posted at <https://mnselection.ca/>
- The importance of PMC members remaining non-partisan with respect to the election, and not supporting, promoting or funding any PMYC candidates' campaigns
- Election guidelines provided to the PMC outlining standards for a fair election process.

10.3 Email Communications

In response to a question, it was confirmed that PMC members could request that emails sent to their MN-S email addresses be re-directed to their personal email addresses.

11. CONCLUSION AND CLOSING PRAYER

The meeting concluded with a Closing Prayer offered by Elder Morin.

It was MOVED (Laura Burnouf)

That the October 19, 2021, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council meeting, now conclude.

CARRIED (211019-07)
(Time: 1:30 p.m.)

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LIST OF INFORMATION ITEMS

The following items were provided or considered at the October 19, 2021 PMC meeting:

1. Agenda for the October 19, 2021, MN-S PMC Regular Meeting
2. Draft Minutes of the September 21, 2021, MN-S PMC Regular Meeting
3. Draft "Terms of Reference for the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Residential School Commission"
4. Draft "Resolution Approving Terms of Reference", labeled "For Internal Purpose and Not for Distribution" and dated October 19, 2021
5. Draft Agenda for the November 26-28, 2021 Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA)
6. Draft "Resolution on Appointing Dumont's Scouts for the November 26-28, 2021 MNLA", dated October 19, 2021
7. Draft "COVID-19 Protocols for the Fall 2021 Métis Nation Legislative Assembly", dated October 15, 2021
8. Draft "Resolution on COVID-19 Protocols for the Fall 2021 Métis Nation Legislative Assembly", dated October 19, 2021

LIST OF ACRONYMS

The following acronyms are referenced in these minutes:

HR	Human Resources
MLTC	Meadow Lake Tribal Council
MNLA	Métis Nation Legislative Assembly
MN-S	Métis Nation - Saskatchewan
PMC	Provincial Métis Council
PMYC	Provincial Métis Youth Council
SHA	Saskatchewan Health Authority