



**MÉTIS NATION – SASKATCHEWAN**  
**PROVINCIAL MÉTIS COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
*held February 27, 2020*

Minutes of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) Regular Meeting held February 27, 2020 in the Top of the Inn Room at the Sheraton Cavalier Saskatoon Hotel, 612 Spadina Crescent East, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

**PRESENT:** *(as indicated on a circulated sign-in sheet)*

Glen McCallum, President, Chair

Gerald Morin, Vice-President

(departed at 2:05 p.m.)

Earl Cook, Treasurer

Lisa McCallum, Secretary

Jaycee Bell, Youth Council

Mervin “Tex” Bouvier, Northern Region 3

Ryan Carriere, Eastern Region 1

Marg Friesen, Eastern Region 3

Wendy Gervais, Western Region 3

Penny Hurton, Western Region 2A

Billy Kennedy, Western Region 1A

Derek Langan, Eastern Region 2A

Sherry McLennan, Western Region 2

Leonard Montgrand, Northern Region 2

Sherry Soll, Eastern Region 2

**ALSO PRESENT:** *(seated with the Provincial Métis Council)*

Wade Daigneault, Métis Veteran

Norman Fleury, Elder

Max Morin, Elder

Josie Searson, Elder

**MN-S OFFICE:**

Brandy LaRonde, Office Manager

Dorothy Myo, Senior Director of Policy and Research

Richard Quintal, Chief Executive Officer

Hamid Shahzad, Chief Financial Officer

**RECORDING SECRETARY:**

Carrie Peacock, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

**AGENDA VARIED**

The order of the Agenda was varied throughout the meeting. Items are indicated in these minutes in the order in which they were considered.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

President Glen McCallum called the meeting to order at approximately 9:25 a.m. and acknowledged Elders, guests, and others present, including representatives from Canadian Geographic.

**2. OPENING PRAYER**

Elder Norm Fleury offered an Opening Prayer.

President McCallum recognized the importance of keeping citizens informed of the MN-S' successes, and recalled the Oath of Office and confidentiality rules PMC members committed to uphold, during the June 25-26, 2017 PMC meeting at Jackfish Lodge.

**3. APPOINTMENT OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY**

**It was MOVED (Leonard Montgrand) and SECONDED (Sherry McLennan)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council appoints Carrie Peacock, Raincoast Ventures Ltd., as Recording Secretary for the February 27, 2020 meeting.

**CARRIED (200227-01)**

**4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

During discussion on the agenda, it was noted that “Ministerial Reports” would be included as a regular item on future PMC meeting agendas.

**It was MOVED (Derek Langan) and SECONDED (Marg Friesen)**

That the Agenda for the February 27, 2020 Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council meeting be adopted as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Prayer
3. Approval of the Recording Secretary
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Review of the Previous Minutes
  - 5.1 Approval of the Minutes
  - 5.2 Business Arising from the Minutes
6. Third Quarter Financials
7. Regional Issues – Minister McLennan
8. Saskatchewan Métis Rights Conference
9. Métis Nation Legislative Assembly
10. Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) Representative Appointments
11. Western Region 2A Resolutions
12. Identity, Citizenship and Homeland
13. Other Business:
  - 13.1 Concerns
  - 13.2 First Time Home Buyers Program / Emergency Home Renovations and Repair Program
  - 13.3 Other Matters – Secretary McCallum
14. Closing Prayer.

**CARRIED (200227-02)**

**5. REVIEW OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**5.1 Approval of the December 17, 2019 PMC Minutes**

Secretary Lisa McCallum read aloud the decisions and resolutions indicated in the draft minutes.

**It was MOVED (Penny Hurton) and SECONDED (Sherry Soll)**

That Minutes of the December 17, 2019 Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting be approved as presented.

**CARRIED (200227-03)**

**5.2 Business Arising from the December 17, 2019 PMC Minutes**

During discussion on the minutes, Richard Quintal, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), offered updates on the following:

- Resolutions 191217-05 and 191217-06:
  - MLT Aikins prepared the affidavits they required to represent PMC members individually
  - EY submitted a claim to the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) on the PMC's behalf
  - Further updates will be provided when information becomes available
- Resolution 191217-04:
  - The Minutes of the July 18, 2019 PMC meeting were referred back to staff for clarification and will be provided for consideration later in the meeting.

**6. THIRD QUARTER FINANCIALS**

*Related information: "Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Balance Sheet" and "Departmental Income Statements", dated December 31, 2019*

Hamid Shahzad, Chief Financial Officer, referred the meeting to the information provided.

During discussion on the financial statements, comments were offered regarding:

- The "Other Director Project Costs", which includes costs related to housing program costs
- The "Guardian Program", which refers to climate monitoring
- Delayed funding from federal government for the current fiscal year
- The budget for the next fiscal year, estimated at just over \$40 million
- Publicly-available audited financial statements posted on the MN-S website
- Adjustments being considered to the format of future MN-S "Departmental Income Statements", to:
  - Avoid reflecting a negative budget in instances where funding was pending
  - Attaching clarifying "notes"
- Travel and expense claims, based on federal Treasury Board guidelines
- The potential for future increased capacity funding for the regions.

Comments were offered on recent discussions with federal government representatives, and the opportunity for the MN-S to pursue an Interim Fiscal Financing Agreement (IFFA), prior to negotiating towards a longer-term Fiscal Financing Agreement (FFA).

**Request for Action**

*It was requested that potential dates and locations for a two-day facilitated PMC retreat be sent to PMC members for consideration.*

During discussion on coordinating a two-day PMC retreat, it was suggested that:

- With the support of a third-party facilitator, discussions could focus on matters including (but not limited to):
  - Salaries and workloads of elected officials and ministerial positions
  - Updates from each of the Ministers
- To assist the retreat’s discussions, the following would be prepared:
  - A list of the PMC roles and responsibilities
  - A flow chart indicating all MN-S ministries.

Additional comments were provided regarding:

- Personal vehicles being used for MN-S business:
  - Options are needed to address increased vehicle operations and maintenance costs
  - Utilizing MN-S-owned vehicles for MN-S business, could be a cost-effective approach
- The multiple roles of the CEO, including addressing external matters that impact the MN-S:
  - Additional support may be assigned to assist the CEO’s office
- The recent decision to retain in-house legal counsel to support the MN-S government
- The protocol for PMC members seeking information from MN-S staff (e.g. through the CEO’s office or otherwise).

**It was MOVED (Penny Hurton) and SECONDED (Sherry McLennan)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council approve as presented, the “Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Balance Sheet” and “Departmental Income Statements”, dated December 31, 2019.

**CARRIED (200227-04)**

**Health Break**

The meeting recessed at 11:05 a.m. and reconvened at 11:20 a.m.

**7. REGIONAL ISSUES – Minister McLennan (Western Region 2)**

Minister Sherry McLennan reported on some regional issues, and commented on:

- The importance of Locals complying with the Constitution’s protocol for elections, including:
  - Locals posting their Annual General Meetings in a paid newspaper announcement, at least 30 days in advance, and inviting the Regional President to attend
- Reminding the provincial Executive members of the established procedures for communicating with the region (through the Regional President)
- Western Region 2’s recent decision to request support from the MN-S to seek legal advice on addressing lateral violence, and to inform the police of some recent slanderous allegations.

During discussion, additional comments were offered on the Urban Programming for Indigenous Peoples (UPIP) funding (previously known as “Urban Aboriginal Strategy” funding), including:

- UPIP funding was intended for urban programming
- Terms and criteria enable communities to apply for UPIP funding through their respective Regional Councils.

#### **Health Break**

Max Morin provided a meal blessing. The meeting recessed at 12:15 p.m. and reconvened at 12:55 p.m.

#### **8. SASKATCHEWAN MÉTIS RIGHTS CONFERENCE**

President McCallum referred to the agenda provided for the February 28-29, 2020 Métis Rights Conference, which all members of the public could attend.

#### **9. MÉTIS NATION LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**It was MOVED (Wendy Gervais) and SECONDED (Marg Friesen)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council directs that a MN-S Métis Nation Legislative Assembly be held May 22-24, 2020 at the Evraz Place in Regina, Saskatchewan.

**CARRIED (200227-05)**

#### **10. GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE (GDI) REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENTS**

##### **10.1 Western Region 3**

**It was MOVED (Sherry McLennan) and SECONDED (Penny Hurton)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council appoint Dennis Brooks to represent Western Region 3 on the Gabriel Dumont Institute Board of Directors.

**CARRIED (200227-06)**

##### **10.2 Western Region 2**

**It was MOVED (Sherry Soll) and SECONDED (Mervin “Tex” Bouvier)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council appoint Jeff Joannette to represent Western Region 2 on the Gabriel Dumont Institute Board of Directors.

**CARRIED (200227-07)**

**11. WESTERN REGION 2A RESOLUTIONS**

**11.1 Child Care**

*Related information: Proposed resolution titled “Motion for Childcare for Meetings”, submitted by Western Region 2A and dated February 25, 2020*

It was confirmed that the intent of the proposed resolution was that childcare for MN-S events, would be coordinated for attendees through the region in which the event was being held.

**It was MOVED (Glen McCallum) and SECONDED (Marg Friesen)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council endorse the following resolution as presented:

“That the Métis Nation and Ministries of the MN-S, when planning conferences, engagements, Métis Nation Legislative Assemblies, and Annual General Assemblies, make available for participants, all-day childcare for the duration of the above-mentioned events;

That the duty of organizing the childcare and activities will be at the direction of the relevant region’s Regional Council, which will make the necessary preparations for the children; and

That all participating childcare providers will have completed CPR training, a babysitters’ course, and a criminal record check, before being allowed to interact with the children”.

**CARRIED (200227-08)**

**11.2 Honarium**

*Related information: Proposed resolution titled “Motion for Honarium”, submitted by Western Region 2A and dated February 11, 2020*

It was confirmed that the proposed resolution intended to provide honarium for elected officials attending meetings.

**It was MOVED (Sherry McLennan) and SECONDED (Wendy Gervais)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council endorses the following resolution as presented:

“That any conferences, engagements, Métis Nation Legislative Assemblies, and Annual General Assemblies held by the MN-S (or Ministries of the MN-S) will make available an honarium of \$150/day for attendance, participation and contributions, to the Local Presidents and their delegates in the home region in which the before-mentioned events are held, effective February 27, 2020”.

**CARRIED (200227-09)**

**12. IDENTITY, CITIZENSHIP AND HOMELAND**

The meeting acknowledged an upcoming Metis Nation Gathering on Identity, Citizenship and Homeland, scheduled March 9-10, 2020 in Saskatoon, which conflicted with a Self-Governance Meeting, that representatives from the Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA), Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) and MN-S, were scheduled to attend on March 8-10, 2020 in Gatineau, Quebec.

Comments were offered on:

- Recent Tri-Council Meetings attended by representatives of the MNA, MNO and MN-S where:
  - Information was shared by the Métis governments’ registrars on their respective citizenship registration criteria and processes
  - Discussion ensued on next steps in advancing their respective Métis Government Recognition and Self-Government Agreements (MGRSAs)
  - An agreement was reached to explore further opportunities to share information, and address common concerns and priorities
- Communications with the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations, including discussions regarding the MNA, MNO and MN-S submitting separate budget requests.

**13.2 First Time Home Buyers Program / Emergency Home Renovations and Repair Program**

*Related information: Report from the Provincial Métis Housing Corporation (PMHC) on the “MN-S Housing Strategy Emergency Home Renovations and Repair Program (EHRRP)”;* and attached *“Motion to Fund the MN-S EHRRP for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021”*

Derek Langan, Minister of Housing, reported on the First Time Home Buyers Program (FTHBP), which did not receive as many requests as anticipated; and the Emergency Home Renovations and Repair Program (EHRRP), which received more requests than anticipated. Transferring \$1 million from the FTHBP to the EHRRP, was suggested.

**It was MOVED (Mervin “Tex” Bouvier) and SECONDED (Lisa McCallum)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) endorse the following resolution:

“WHEREAS the PMC has established the MN-S Emergency Home Renovations and Repair Program (EHRRP) in the fiscal year 2019-2020;

WHEREAS the MN-S EHRRP, administered by the Provincial Métis Housing Corporation (PMHC) for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year, has been an established and successful housing program that is being utilized by Métis citizens across the province to provide for emergency home renovations and repairs for Métis citizens; and

WHEREAS it has been determined that the success of the EHRRP program for the fiscal year 2019-2020 has determined that an increase in funding for the MN-S EHRRP program is required.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PMC endorse increasing funding for the EHRRP program from \$2,875,000 to \$3,875,000, for the 2020-2021 fiscal year”.

**CARRIED (200227-10)**

**It was MOVED (Sherry Soll) and SECONDED (Penny Hurton)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council endorse the following revisions to the First Time Home Buyers Program (FTHBP) Guidelines:

- Increase the maximum household income to be eligible for assistance under the FTHBP, from \$92,000 to \$150,000
- Amend the current indication in the FTHBP Guidelines that *"Applicants cannot have any ownership in any real estate with a market value of more than \$7,500"* to: *"Applicants may have ownership of real property intended to be used as the land associated with the FTHBP purchase. The property must be of reasonable value and cannot be deemed to be ineligible as per the guidelines"*
- Change the current indication in the FTHBP Guidelines that: *"Homes purchased cannot exceed 3.5 times the applicant(s)' household income"* to instead, utilize an analysis of affordability, based on:
  - Using a gross debt service of 32%, to determine the maximum home price an applicant can afford
  - "Home debt", including mortgage payment, property taxes and heating, being less than 32% of an applicant's gross income
  - The applicant's total debt service (including home debt and personal debt) being less than 42% of the applicant's gross income; and
- Revise the current FTHBP Guidelines to include that anyone who has not owned a home in over five years, be considered as a possible First Time Home Buyer
- If it is determined achievable by the Minister of Housing, through discussions with the appropriate policy analysts or others, the above-listed revisions to the FTHBP Guidelines will be retroactively effective.

**CARRIED (200227-11)**

Minister Langan suggested that a Housing Conference, similar to the Early Learning and Child Care Conference and the Rights Conference, be coordinated with the President and the CEO.

**13.1 Concerns**

Future opportunities to provide "Ministerial Updates" were acknowledged, including at PMC meetings and the upcoming PMC retreat.

**2:05 p.m.**

Vice President Morin departed the meeting.

**5. REVIEW OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES (Continued)**

*Related information: On-table Minutes of the July 18, 2020 PMC Committee Meeting*

Secretary McCallum read aloud the decisions and resolutions indicated in the draft minutes.

During review of the minutes, updates were offered on Resolution #190719-02 and the PMC's directions related to scholarship funding:

- GDI's priority order for sponsorship allocation (posted on GDI's website), including:
  - First - to students pursuing their first degree;



- Second - to students pursuing a second, or advanced degree;
- Third - to students pursuing a third, and advanced degree; and
- Fourth - to students pursuing three or more degrees of any level.

Comments were offered the PMC's July 18, 2019 discussion on scholarship funding, including the general understanding that:

- GDI would be the mechanism through which MN-S scholarship funding would flow
- Discussions would ensue with GDI representatives regarding scholarship criteria
- Arrangements were made with the MN-S Registry Office to enable GDI to confirm that students applying for scholarships were Métis citizens.

***Request for Action***

*It was requested that the Minister of Education provide a report at the PMC retreat on scholarship funding and anticipated next steps, after communicating further with GDI and MN-S staff.*

**It was MOVED (Penny Hurton) and SECONDED (Sherry McLennan)**

That the Minutes of the July 18, 2019 Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting be approved as presented.

**MOTION WITHDRAWN**

***Request for Action***

*It was requested that the minutes of the July 18, 2019 MN-S PMC Meeting, be referred to staff to revise, to include additional information related to the post-secondary funding discussion.*

**13.3 Other Matters – Secretary McCallum**

President McCallum confirmed he would communicate directly with Secretary McCallum to clarify the request to be included in discussions on matters related to the Provincial Secretary's role.

**13.4 Batoche - Update**

Richard Quintal recalled the January 13-14, 2018 PMC resolution to seek "Exploratory Discussions with Parks Canada Regarding Repatriation of the Batoche Historical Site", and subsequent related discussions with provincial and federal government officials, and confirmed:

- Negotiations were advancing towards the repatriation of approximately 940 acres of Batoche National Historic Site lands to the MN-S; updates will be provided at the MNLA.

**CONCLUSION**

The meeting concluded with a Closing Prayer provided by Josie Searson.

**It was MOVED (Mervin "Tex" Bouvier)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council Meeting held February 27, 2020 now conclude.

**CARRIED (200227-12)**  
(Time: 3:10 p.m.)

## **LIST OF INFORMATION ITEMS**

*The following items were provided for information at the February 27, 2020 meeting:*

1. Agenda for the MN-S Provincial Métis Council Meeting scheduled February 27, 2020
2. Draft Minutes of the December 17, 2019 Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting
3. Draft Minutes of the July 18, 2019 Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting
4. “Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Balance Sheet” and “Departmental Income Statements”, dated December 31, 2019
5. Proposed resolution titled “Motion for Childcare for Meetings”, submitted by Western Region 2A and dated February 25, 2020
6. Proposed resolution titled “Motion for Honorarium”, submitted by Western Region 2A and dated February 11, 2020
7. Report from the Provincial Métis Housing Corporation on the “MN-S Housing Strategy Emergency Home Renovations and Repair Program (EHRRP)”; and the “Motion to Fund the MN-S EHRRP for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021”
8. Agenda for the February 28-29, 2020 MN-S Rights Conference
9. Correspondence to the MN-S President from the President of Local 21, requesting information, dated February 20, 2020

## **LIST OF ACRONYMS**

*The following acronyms are referenced in these minutes:*

CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CFO	Chief Financial Officer
COO	Chief Operating Officer
CRA	Canada Revenue Agency
EHRRP	Emergency Home Renovations and Repair Program
FFA	Fiscal Financing Agreement
FTHBP	First Time Home Buyers Program
GDI	Gabriel Dumont Institute
IFFA	Interim Fiscal Financing Agreement
MGRSA	Métis Government Recognition and Self-Government Agreement
MNA	Métis Nation of Alberta
MNLA	Métis Nation Legislative Assembly
MNO	Métis Nation of Ontario
MN-S	Métis Nation - Saskatchewan
PMC	Provincial Métis Council
PMHC	Provincial Métis Housing Corporation
UPIP	Urban Programming for Indigenous Peoples



**MÉTIS NATION – SASKATCHEWAN**  
**PROVINCIAL MÉTIS COUNCIL EMERGENCY MEETING**  
*held March 28, 2020*

Minutes of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) Emergency Meeting scheduled March 28, 2020 at 11:00 a.m., via teleconference.

**PRESENT:**

Glen McCallum, President, Chair  
Gerald Morin, Vice-President  
Earl Cook, Treasurer  
Lisa McCallum, Secretary  
Jaycee Bell, Youth Council  
Mervin “Tex” Bouvier, Northern Region 3  
Marg Friesen, Eastern Region 3

Wendy Gervais, Western Region 3  
Penny Hurton, Western Region 2A  
Billy Kennedy, Western Region 1A  
Loretta King, Western Region 1  
Sherry McLennan, Western Region 2  
Leonard Montgrand, Northern Region 2  
Sherry Soll, Eastern Region 2

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Norman Fleury, Elder

**MN-S OFFICE:**

Julia Burns, Director of Communications  
Lisa Fleming, Director, Early Learning and  
Childcare / Child and Family Services  
Brandy LaRonde, Office Manager

Richard Quintal, Chief Executive Officer  
Erin Reid, Chief Strategy Officer  
Louise Simard, Chief Operating Officer  
Reina Sinclair, Director, Environment & Language

**RECORDING SECRETARY:**

Carrie Peacock, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

**AGENDA VARIED**

The order of the Agenda was varied throughout the meeting. Items are indicated in these minutes in the order in which they were considered.

**NOTICE WAIVED**

Before the meeting was called to order, it was confirmed that all PMC members had agreed (prior to or at the meeting) to waive the seven-day advance notice required for holding a PMC meeting.

**1. OPENING REMARKS**

President Glen McCallum called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. Elder Norman Fleury offered an Opening Prayer.

**It was MOVED (Gerald Morin) and SECONDED (Earl Cook)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) hereby waives the seven day advance notice required for holding a PMC meeting, as specified in Article 3.7 of the *MN-S Constitution*, for the purpose of holding an Emergency Meeting to address extraordinary and emergent matters related to the current COVID-19 pandemic.

**CARRIED (200328-01)**

The intent of the meeting was acknowledged, to discuss the allocation of funding to assist communities and citizens, in responding to the current state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**It was MOVED (Glen McCallum) and SECONDED (Gerald Morin)**

That the agenda for the March 28, 2020 Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Emergency Meeting, be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED (200328-02)**

**It was MOVED (Glen McCallum) and SECONDED (Gerald Morin)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council appoints Marg Friesen, Minister of Health, as Chair of the March 28, 2020 Emergency Meeting.

**CARRIED (200328-03)**

**2. CHILD CARE PROGRAM DOLLARS**

*Related information: Report titled “Early Learning and Child Care, One-Time Emergency Support Funding for Métis Nation Saskatchewan Regions with Emergency Child Care Needs”, dated March 27, 2020*

Marg Friesen, Minister of Health, extended appreciation to PMC members, the Finance Committee and MN-S staff for their recent support in preparing packages to assist MN-S citizens and communities, in responding to the current COVID-19 pandemic. It was noted that communications had been drafted to announce packages and mechanisms prepared to assist Métis citizens across the province, during the current public health emergency.

Lisa Fleming, Director, Early Learning and Childcare / Child and Family Services, reviewed the funding categories highlighted in the report provided:

- Category 1 funding: a one-time payment intended to fund unique emergency childcare needs for MN-S Locals, MN-S affiliates, community programs or groups to assist Métis children and families; each MN-S region can access a maximum of \$10,000
- Category 2 funding: a one-time payment, intended to support Métis families with Métis children (registered as Métis citizens) with emergency childcare needs; these funds will support children (aged 10 and under) at \$500 per child, to a maximum of \$2,500 per Métis family.

During discussion, comments were offered regarding:

- Funding required to assist Métis citizens in the current emergency situation; further funding allocations will be reviewed upon receipt of federal government's \$7.25 million relief package
- Category 1 funding:
  - Funds will be available for groups that support the child care needs of Métis children and families (registered or non-registered Métis citizens)
  - Emergency lump sum funding could be transferred to Regions, along with criteria for tracking how the funds are distributed to assist Métis citizens
  - A committee (including a Regional Representative, an Elder, the MN-S Secretary and a MN-S staff person) could review Category 1 applications
- Category 2 funding:
  - Funds will be available for children registered as Métis citizens; families with two children could be eligible for \$500 per child (a total of \$1,000)
  - Métis citizens can apply to receive \$500 (per child) directly
- Undertaking a needs assessment, to determine how additional money is required in each region; the allocation of any subsequent funds could be based on the assessment
- Prioritizing health monitoring protocol to prevent the spread of COVID-19, and protect the most vulnerable Métis citizens (the elderly and those with underlying health conditions)
- Ensuring accountability for the money distributed to the MN-S regions; challenges associated with the funding distribution can be addressed as they arise.

### **3. PROGRAM TO DISTRIBUTE HOUSEHOLD DOLLARS**

*Related information: Report titled, "Métis Nation – Saskatchewan – Household Support Program", dated March 27, 2020 and related "COVID-19 Housing Assistance Program Application"*

Erin Reid, Chief Strategy Officer, reviewed the report provided and commented on:

- The allocation of \$25,000 for each Region for the disbursement of one-time payments to Métis households in need of financial support
- The intent that Regions would administer payments, subject to the terms and conditions of a Service Agreement.

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- Determining how to fairly and quickly disburse an initial \$25,000 allocation to each Region, to support citizens most impacted by the pandemic (e.g. up to \$500/household)
- Providing some immediate financial relief to Métis households in need
- Accessing funds currently available (e.g. through the Métis Nation Housing Strategy fund).

### **4. REGIONAL CAPACITY PROGRAM**

*Related information: Report titled, "Summary of Additional Immediate Relief Measures – Finance Committee", dated April 1, 2020*

Louise Simard, Chief Operating Officer, reviewed the report provided, and commented on:

- The Finance Committee's recommendation to advance immediate funding (\$5,000) to each Region, for the coordination and distribution of emergency supplies to citizens in need
- An agreement prepared for each Region, outlining criteria and reporting requirements
- Potentially allocating \$75,000 to each Region, specifically for emergency measures.

**It was MOVED (Leonard Montgrand) and SECONDED (Mervin “Tex” Bouvier)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council approve the immediate allocation of \$75,000 to each MN-S region, as part of the MN-S’ emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**CARRIED (200328-04)**

**It was MOVED (Leonard Montgrand) and SECONDED (Mervin “Tex” Bouvier)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council directs that the Minister of Finance and Minister of Health, be provided increased flexibilities, specifically during the time period associated with the COVID-19 pandemic: to proceed on programs and activities being undertaken by the MN-S related to the pandemic; to address emergency decisions as required; and, to keep the PMC promptly informed.

**CARRIED (200328-05)**

(One abstention)

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- Maximizing the relief funding available, and assessing citizens’ needs in each region
- Holding meetings as required to ensure that the needs of Métis people are being addressed
- Drawing \$75,000 for each region, from MN-S’ current funds pending receipt of \$7.5 million from federal government.

**5. LES FILLES DE MADELEINE SECRETARIAT INC. (LFDM)**

Chair Friesen confirmed that Les Filles de Madeleine Secretariat Inc. (LFDM) had agreed to work with the Regional Directors from each Region, to safely ensure that citizens received the emergency relief they required, for groceries and other essential supplies. A discount has been arranged through a local grocery provider.

**It was MOVED (Gerald Morin) and SECONDED (Glen McCallum)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council approve the advancement of \$60,000 to Les Filles de Madeleine Secretariat Inc. to support regional emergency relief efforts related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**CARRIED (200328-06)**

**6. EMERGENCY SUPPORT FOR MÉTIS ADDICTIONS COUNCIL OF SASKATCHEWAN INC. (MACSI)**

Chair Friesen acknowledged the urgent need for emergency supplies to support MACSI’s frontline workers.

**It was MOVED (Gerald Morin) and SECONDED (Penny Hurton)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council approves the expenditure of \$10,000 to the Métis Addictions Council of Saskatchewan Inc. (MACSI), for emergency supplies required by frontline workers responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**CARRIED (200328-07)**

**7. NEEDS ASSESSMENT UPDATES**

Needs assessments were discussed earlier in the meeting.

**8. OTHER EMERGENCY NEEDS**

**8.1 Purchase of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

Chair Friesen referenced the Finance Committee’s recommendation to purchase PPE.

**It was MOVED (Penny Hurton) and SECONDED (Glen McCallum)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council approves the expenditure of \$200,000 (plus an additional \$30,000 for distribution if required), to purchase for the MN-S regions, personal protective equipment required to assist in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**CARRIED (200328-08)**

Chair Friesen recognized the Region’s unique needs, and confirmed that each Local President will be contacted by the MN-S office regarding supports available for their citizens. It was noted that:

- Information received during implementation of the MN-S’ emergency plan will be compiled
- Regional Chairs will be promptly informed of any updates; given the emergency situation, efforts will be made to inform Regional Chairs whenever Presidents in their regions are contacted by the MN-S office
- Funding was allocated for each region (\$1,000), to work with Métis youth; the Youth Representative will work with the other Ministers on how to distribute the funding
- Funding was available through the Childcare Programs and Emergency Household Support Programs, in addition to the \$75,000 regional allocation for emergency measures.

**8.2 Funding for the Childcare Program and Emergency Household Support Program**

*Related information: Draft agreements between the MN-S and Regions, related to the transfer of funding for the Household Support Program and for the Childcare Program*

**It was MOVED (Penny Hurton) and SECONDED (Sherry McLennan)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council (PMC) approve the distribution and release of funds for the Childcare Program and Emergency Household Support Program, as presented to the PMC on March 28, 2020.

**CARRIED (200328-09)**

## **CONCLUSION**

The meeting concluded with a Closing Prayer provided by Elder Norman Fleury.

### **It was MOVED (Gerald Morin)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Emergency Meeting held March 28, 2020 now conclude.

**CARRIED (200328-10)**

(Time: 2:45 p.m.)

\* \* \*

## **LIST OF INFORMATION ITEMS**

*The following items were provided for information at the March 28, 2020 meeting:*

1. Agenda for the MN-S Provincial Métis Council Emergency Meeting scheduled March 28, 2020
2. Report titled “Early Learning and Child Care, One-Time Emergency Support Funding for Métis Nation Saskatchewan Regions with Emergency Child Care Needs”, dated March 27, 2020
3. Report titled, “Métis Nation – Saskatchewan – Household Support Program”, dated March 27, 2020 and related “COVID-19 Housing Assistance Program Application”
4. Report titled, “Summary of Additional Immediate Relief Measures – Finance Committee”, dated April 1, 2020
5. Draft agreement between the MN-S and Regions, related to the transfer of funding for the Household Support Program
6. Draft agreement between the MN-S and Regions, related to the transfer of funding for the Childcare Program
7. Spreadsheet indicating estimated allocations for the MN-S’ COVID-19 relief program.

## **LIST OF ACRONYMS**

*The following acronyms are referenced in these minutes:*

CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CFO	Chief Financial Officer
COO	Chief Operating Officer
LFDM	Les Filles de Madeleine Secretariat Inc.
MACSI	Métis Addictions Council of Saskatchewan Inc.
MN-S	Métis Nation - Saskatchewan
PMC	Provincial Métis Council
PPE	Personal protective equipment





**MÉTIS NATION – SASKATCHEWAN  
PROVINCIAL MÉTIS COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

*held June 8, 2020*

Minutes of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) Regular Meeting scheduled June 8, 2020 at 10:00 a.m., held at the Batoche Outdoor Venue, Batoche, Saskatchewan.

**PRESENT:**

Glen McCallum, President	Penny Hurton, Western Region 2A
Gerald Morin, Vice-President, Chair	Derek Langan, Eastern Region 2A
Earl Cook, Treasurer	Billy Kennedy, Western Region 1A
Lisa McCallum, Secretary	Tammy Mah, Les Filles des Madeleine
Jaycee Bell, Youth Council	Sherry McLennan, Western Region 2
Mervin “Tex” Bouvier, Northern Region 3	Leonard Montgrand, Northern Region 2
Marg Friesen, Eastern Region 3	Sherry Soll, Eastern Region 2
Wendy Gervais, Western Region 3	

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Norman Fleury, Elder	Felix Merasty, Veteran
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**MN-S OFFICE:**

Julia Burns, Communications	Adel Panahi, Director of Health
Mark Calette, Senior Director, Administration	Richard Quintal, Chief Executive Officer
Dorothy Myo, Senior Director of Policy and Research	Riva Farrell Racette, Legal Counsel

**RECORDING SECRETARY:**

*(minutes prepared from recording)*

Jessi Connaughton, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

**AGENDA VARIED**

The order of the Agenda was varied throughout the meeting. Items are indicated in these minutes in the order in which they were considered.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

President Glen McCallum called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. and confirmed that Vice President Gerald Morin would Chair the meeting.

**2. OPENING PRAYER**

Elder Norman Fleury offered an Opening Prayer.

**3. APPOINTMENT OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY**

**It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) and SECONDED (Leonard Montgrand)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council appoints Raincoast Ventures Ltd., as Recording Secretary for the June 8, 2020 meeting.

**CARRIED (200608-01)**

**4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**It was MOVED (Leonard Montgrand) and SECONDED (Sherry McLennan)**

That the Agenda for the June 8, 2020 Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council meeting be adopted as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Prayer
3. Approval of Minute Taker
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Review of the Minutes:
  - 5.1 Approval of the Minutes
  - 5.2 Business Arising from the Minutes
6. President's Report
7. COVID-19 Updates:
  - 7.1 Minister of Health
  - 7.2 Regional COVID Updates
8. Resolutions:
  - 8.1 ELCC Michif Project
  - 8.2 Elected Leadership access to Housing programs
  - 8.3 Building Lease / Purchase
  - 8.4 Saskatchewan's Position on Métis Rights
9. Legislative Direction & Information:
  - 9.1 Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Citizenship Act
  - 9.2 Saskatchewan Métis Elections Act 2007
10. Other Business:
  - 10.1 Report from Secretary McCallum
  - 10.2 Financial Updates
11. Conclusion / Closing Prayer.

**CARRIED (200608-02)**

It was confirmed that PMC members present either had their Métis Citizenship Card, or that their Métis Citizenship Card was currently being processed.

**5. REVIEW OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**5.1 Approval of the February 27, 2020 and March 28, 2020 PMC Minutes**

Secretary Lisa McCallum read aloud the resolutions indicated in the draft minutes.

**It was MOVED (Leonard Montgrand) and SECONDED (Mervin “Tex” Bouvier)**

That Minutes of the February 27, 2020 and March 28, 2020 Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meetings be approved, as presented.

**CARRIED (200608-03)**

**5.2 Business Arising from the Minutes**

No items were considered.

**6. PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

President McCallum recognized some of the challenges Métis citizens faced during the COVID-19 pandemic, and offered comments on:

- The implementation of the MN-S COVID-19 Task Force
- The \$7.325 million in funding from the federal government for the COVID-19 response
- Impacts in Northwestern Saskatchewan, and the partnership established between the MN-S and the Meadow Lake Tribal Council (MLTC)
- Continued negotiations with the Government of Canada with respect to harvesting rights, the Île-à-la-Crosse boarding school, and legislation for the MN-S’ self-government agreement
- The effects of the pandemic restrictions on the 2020 Métis Nation Legislative Assembly and upcoming MN-S elections.

**10 OTHER BUSINESS**

**10.1 Report from Secretary McCallum**

Secretary McCallum acknowledged hardships Métis families and communities experienced due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- Compliance with established Métis citizenship criteria
- Governing Members’ relationships with the Métis National Council (MNC)
- Seeking enhanced accountability and transparency within the MNC
- The feasibility of all Governing Members attending a General Assembly for the election of a National President and a Special General Assembly to dialogue on the Métis Nation of Ontario’s suspension
- Respecting agreements between Governing Members and the federal government
- The importance of the MN-S working in the best interest of Métis citizens in Saskatchewan, without political interference.

**7. COVID-19 UPDATES**

**7.1 Minister of Health**

Marg Friesen, Minister of Health, extended appreciation to members of the COVID-19 Response Task Team, who worked diligently to ensure the MN-S’ response met the needs of MN-S citizens.

A summary of COVID-19 response efforts was provided, including:

- MN-S will take a cautious approach to the Province of Saskatchewan’s re-opening strategy
- Expenditures to date (excluding the MLTC/MN-S partnership in the northwest) include:
  - \$335,000 for childcare supports; \$10,000 allocated to each region
  - \$902,700 for household supports; \$75,000 allocated to each region
  - \$3.8 million, which was cash managed to provide support to citizens
  - \$230,000 initially invested for personal protective equipment (PPE); \$340,000 was added for more PPE
- The MN-S’ response is being assessed to identify best practices, prior to a second wave
- A Métis-specific mental health support program was established in collaboration with the Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO)
- A Métis citizen coordinated a group of seamstresses to produce cloth masks for Métis citizens:
  - \$35,000 was provided to purchase fabric, supplies and sewing machines
  - Over 5,000 masks were produced
- Weekly “Virtual Kitchen Parties” were hosted every Saturday night
- Commendable on-the-ground supports were provided in some regions
- Isolation units, mobile testing, food and sanitation supplies were provided in the northwest
- A strategic back-to-work plan is being developed for the MN-S offices
- The MN-S purchased laptops to support families transitioning to virtual school instruction.

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- One-on-one meetings with regional representatives to discuss the COVID-19 response
- Challenges in identifying Métis citizenship registry applicants
- A third-party review initiated by President McCallum to assess the MN-S’ COVID-19 response.

## **7.2 Regional COVID-19 Updates**

### **7.2a) Northern Region 3**

Mervin “Tex” Bouvier provided updates from Northern Region 3, which included:

- Partnerships were established with locals, villages and hamlets, to provide phased-in supports
- Meetings ensued between representatives from Métis and First Nation communities, the Saskatchewan Health Authority and some provincial politicians
- The purchase of food and supplies for the northwest was supported by the MN-S.

### **7.2b) Western Region 2**

Sherry McLennan provided updates from Western Region 2, which included:

- Applications for funding and other supports, were received by phone and were tracked in a database; a schedule was established for adjudication and distribution
- The application forms were later revised to gather additional information
- Gift cards were provided, to minimize the handling of goods.

### **7.2c) Les Filles des Madeleine**

Tammy Mah provided updates from Les Filles des Madeleine (LFDM), which included:

- LFDM received \$135,000 in supports from MN-S
- More than 1,000 hampers and cleaning kits were distributed across the province; seniors and the recently unemployed were the focus of the first round of distribution.

**7.2d) Eastern Region 2**

Sherry Soll provided updates from Eastern Region 2, which included:

- Food hampers were provided to citizens in need, through a partnership with Co-Op; the hampers included a \$100 gift card and were delivered in collaboration with the LFDM
- Cleaning kits were distributed; more have been ordered in preparation for another wave
- A Local established a community garden; families were provided seeds and garden space.

**7.2e) Western Region 2A**

Updates were provided from Western Region 2A, which included:

- A formula for expenditures for each Local was developed
- Funds provided and applications received, have been tracked in a database
- Over 400 food hampers were distributed, with help from youth.

**7.2f) Métis Youth Council**

Jaycee Bell provided updates from the Métis Youth Council, which included:

- There has been an increase in youth applications for citizenship cards, to access Housing and Early Learning and Childcare (ELCC) supports
- An “Act of Kindness” movement is being discussed to support Elders during the pandemic
- Issues around mental health and anxiety as a result of the pandemic, are being reviewed.

**Health Break**

The meeting recessed at 11:45 a.m. and reconvened at 12:30 p.m.

**7.2g) Northern Region 2**

Leonard Montgrand provided updates from Northern Region 2, which included:

- Northern communities faced a number of challenges, including infrastructure issues and a lack of space for community members to isolate
- Frontline workers assigned to checkpoints and distributing provisions, were commended
- White Birch Lodge functioned as an isolation centre for some citizens, to ensure compliance with health orders.

**7.2h) Western Region 3**

Wendy Gervais provided updates from Western Region 3, which included:

- Locals were supported in dealing with emergency needs; food hampers, PPE and cleaning supplies were distributed through the command centre in Regina
- Community gardens were acquired; a partnership was established with the University of Regina to address food security
- “Buckets of Fun” will provide families with summer activities; Métis youth who are aging out of care, require support
- The Regional Coordinator / Community Navigator was commended for her ongoing support.

**7.2i) Eastern Region 2A**

Derek Langan provided updates from Eastern Region 2A, which included:

- 330 hampers, valued at \$150 each, were distributed to community members
- Cheques were issued for \$200 - \$500, depending on household composition
- An isolation camp was established at Crescent Lake.

**7.2j) Northern Region 1**

Earl Cook provided updates from Northern Region 1, which included:

- Citizens expressed appreciation for the MN-S' supports in the northwest.

**7.2k) Western Region 1A**

Billy Kennedy provided updates from Western Region 1A, which included:

- Funding was distributed through the major centres
- Locals submitted reports on how the funding was provided
- Approximately 170 cheques were issued; families in need received \$400 and individuals in need received \$200.

**7.2l) Eastern Region 3**

Marg Friesen provided updates from Eastern Region 3, which included:

- A needs assessment determined that 54% of Eastern Region 3 citizens are Elders and seniors; efforts focussed on providing their prescriptions, medical supplies, food hampers and PPE:
  - The region's Elder Care Model can be provided to all regions in Saskatchewan
- 16,800 pounds of food, 560 masks, 620 pairs of gloves, and information on how to properly use PPE was distributed; household sanitation kits were provided with support from LFDM
- Efforts ensued with municipalities to collaborate on COVID19 emergency response plans.

**8. RESOLUTIONS**

**8.1 ELCC Michif Project**

Earl Cook, Minister of Education, introduced a resolution on entering into a partnership agreement, to develop a pilot project that supports the future of the Michif language.

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- Including Dene and French Michif in the pilot project
- A Memorandum of Understanding with the Northern Light School Division to include Michif, Dene and Cree in their curriculum
- Expanding the pilot project into other regions at a later date
- The provincial government's responsibility to provide funding for education
- The importance of specifying in the partnership agreement how the funds are to be spent
- Developing partnerships with regions to address individual language education needs
- MN-S involvement in hiring staff to teach the Michif language
- Allowing ample time to make adjustments if schools do not re-open in September 2020.

**It was MOVED (Earl Cook) and SECONDED (Leonard Montgrand)**

**WHEREAS** the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan (MN-S) is a leader in the preservation and revitalization of Métis language, culture and heritage;

**AND WHEREAS** the MN-S recognizes and affirms the centrality of preserving the language of the Métis people, providing Métis citizens the tools and opportunities to learn their language and ensuring that the cultural heritage of the Métis is protected;

**AND WHEREAS** Regina Public Schools, Regina Catholic Schools, Saskatoon Public Schools, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools, and Ile-a-la-Crosse School Divisions are willing, capable and passionate partners with a proven track record of building strong collaborations that will support the MN-S in enhancing the place of the Michif language in Saskatchewan;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the MN-S Provincial Métis Council (PMC) authorize the Minister of Languages and Minister of Education to enter into a partnership agreement between the MNS and Regina Public Schools, Regina Catholic Schools, Saskatoon Public Schools, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools, and Île-à-la-Crosse School Divisions to develop a one-year pilot project to support the future of the Michif Language, and La Loche Community Schools to support the future of the Michif Language and Dene Language; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the PMC authorize the release of \$2 million to fund this pilot project from September 2020 to June 2022.

**CARRIED (200608-04)**

## 8.2 Elected Leadership Access to Housing Programs

**It was MOVED (Sherry McLennan) and SECONDED (Leonard Montgrand)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council approves removing the moratorium on elected official's ability to apply for the Housing Program.

**CARRIED (200608-05)**

## 8.3 Building Lease/Purchase

Richard Quintal reported that to support the continued growth of the MN-S government, the Secretariat had explored options for expanding the MN-S office facilities. He acknowledged:

- Infrastructure required to serve the needs of MN-S citizens
- Two potential purchases: a four-story office on 20<sup>th</sup> Street East and a parcel of prime development land situated next to the Broadway Bridge
- Two potential purchasing options: leasing both properties with the option to purchase (for \$6.8 million), or an immediate purchase of both properties (for \$6.3-6.4 million).

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- The building design, including a public servicing kiosk and a large boardroom
- Using the new building on 20<sup>th</sup> Street East as the headquarters for MNS administration, with parking availability and enhanced security
- Ensuring MN-S office space complies with the *Accessibility Act of Canada*.

**It was MOVED (Mervin "Tex" Bouvier) and SECONDED (Leonard Montgrand)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council approves:

- The purchase (without lease) of the office at 310 20<sup>th</sup> Street East, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and the adjacent lot at the base of the Broadway Bridge; and
- Maintaining the existing MN-S office space, until its lease has expired.

**CARRIED (200608-06)**

#### **8.4 Saskatchewan’s Position on Métis Rights**

**It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) and SECONDED (Leonard Montgrand)**

That the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council supports the Government of Saskatchewan fully respecting the MN-S as the duly constituted government of Métis in Saskatchewan and Métis Section 35 rights;

**WHEREAS** the Government of Saskatchewan repeatedly refuses to engage with the MN-S on matters associated with the Métis Section 35 rights, including the Crown’s duty to consult, Métis and MN-S land rights and claims;

**WHEREAS** the Government of Saskatchewan, in a letter dated May 1, 2020, to President McCallum from Minister of Environment Duncan, stated that the government of Saskatchewan does not recognize the asserted Aboriginal title, and related land and resource rights of Métis in Saskatchewan, and instead relies on its antiquated and ill-informed “First Nations and Métis Consultation Policy Framework” (June 2010), to justify its dishonourable and illegal position and behaviour;

**WHEREAS** the Government of Saskatchewan refuses to engage with the MN-S on a government-to-government basis and continues to do either nothing to support, or in some instances even obstruct, MN-S initiatives including gaining greater certainty over Métis harvesting rights, a settlement of the Île-à-la-Crosse Boarding School matter, the COVID-19 crisis, and proper Crown consultation on projects that affect Métis Section 35 rights, among many other issues; and

**WHEREAS** the MN-S seeks to support and safeguard Métis Section 35 rights in Saskatchewan, including Métis rights to land and resources;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the MN-S President and Vice President be authorized to do all things reasonably necessary, including pursuing litigation, to have the Government of Saskatchewan:

- a) Fully recognize the MN-S as the government of the Métis in Saskatchewan on a government-to-government basis;
- b) Fully recognize and respect the Métis Section 35 rights including the land and resource rights of Métis in Saskatchewan; and
- c) Consult properly with the MN-S in accordance with the MN-S policy on the Duty to Consult, passed by the Legislative Assembly in 2007.

**CARRIED (200608-07)**

#### **8.5 Métis National Council**

During discussion on a resolution presented for consideration related to the MNC, comments were offered on:

- Governing Members relationships with the MNC
- Clarification needed regarding the Tri-Council’s process
- The established criteria for Métis citizenship
- The feasibility of holding meetings and assemblies during the COVID-19 pandemic.



**It was MOVED (Earl Cook) and SECONDED (Sherry McLennan)**

**WHEREAS** the Métis Nation Saskatchewan (MN-S) is a founding member of the Métis National Council (MNC);

**WHEREAS** the President of the MN-S is a permanent member of the Board of Governors; and

**WHEREAS** the MN-S Provincial Métis Council (PMC) sits as members of the MNC General Assembly;

**BE RESOLVED** that the MN-S PMC supports the MN-S President McCallum in calling for a Board of Governors meeting with all five Governing Members;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the MN-S PMC supports the calling immediately of a General Assembly for the election of a National President with all five Governing Members; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the MN-S PMC supports a special MNC General Assembly, following the aforementioned election, with all five Governing Members, to have a national dialogue on the Métis Nation of Ontario suspension.

**CARRIED (200608-08)**

*(Three members voted in opposition, one abstained)*

**9. LEGISLATIVE DIRECTION AND INFORMATION**

**9.1 Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Citizenship Act**

Vice President Morin advised that the section of the *MN-S Citizenship Act* that states “all Aboriginal people in Saskatchewan are entitled to citizenship in the MN-S” must be repealed, as it conflicts with the MN-S Constitution.

**9.2 Saskatchewan Métis Elections Act 2007**

Vice President Morin informed that the *Saskatchewan Métis Elections Act, 2007* must be amended to accommodate the motion passed at the November 2019 MNLA that only those members with valid citizenship cards are eligible to vote.

**9.3 Constitution of the MN-S**

Vice President Morin added that the *Constitution of the MN-S* should be amended to remove the condition that the PMC must take a leave of absence when an election is called. Consideration could be given to a seven-day grace period, to accommodate the transition of new PMC members, following an election.

**10. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)**

**10.2 Financial Updates**

This item was not discussed.

**10.3 Future PMC Meeting Discussion Items**

The following items were suggested for the PMC’s future consideration: a revised MN-S pay scale for staff and elected officials; and a MN-S Citizenship Registry update.

**11. CONCLUSION / CLOSING PRAYER**

The meeting concluded with a Closing Prayer provided by Elder Fleury.

**It was MOVED (Wendy Gervais)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting held June 8, 2020 now conclude.

**CARRIED (200608-09)**

(Time: 2:30 p.m.)

\* \* \*

**LIST OF INFORMATION ITEMS**

*The following items were provided for information at the June 8, 2020 meeting:*

1. Agenda for the MN-S Provincial Métis Council Regular Meeting scheduled June 8, 2020
2. Minutes of the MN-S PMC Regular Meeting held February 27, 2020
3. Minutes of the MN-S PMC Regular Meeting held March 28, 2020
4. Report titled, “Early Learning and Childcare Michif Project: Decision for Provincial Métis Council”

**LIST OF ACRONYMS**

*The following acronyms are referenced in these minutes:*

ELCC	Early Learning and Childcare
LFDM	Les Filles de Madeleine Secretariat Inc.
MLTC	Meadow Lake Tribal Council
MNC	Métis National Council
MNLA	Métis Nation Legislative Assembly
MNO	Métis Nation of Ontario
MN-S	Métis Nation - Saskatchewan
PMC	Provincial Métis Council
PPE	Personal protective equipment



**MÉTIS NATION – SASKATCHEWAN  
PROVINCIAL MÉTIS COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

*held December 3, 2020*

Minutes of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) Regular Meeting scheduled December 3, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. Central Standard Time (CST) via videoconference.

**PRESENT:**

Glen McCallum, President	Marg Friesen, Eastern Region 3
Gerald Morin, Vice-President, Chair	Wendy Gervais, Western Region 3
Earl Cook, Treasurer	Penny Hurton, Western Region 2A
Lisa McCallum, Secretary	Billy Kennedy, Western Region 1A
Jaycee Bell, Youth Council	Loretta King, Western Region 1
Mervin “Tex” Bouvier, Northern Region 3	Tammy Mah, Les Filles des Madeleine
Ryan Carriere, Eastern Region 1	Sherry McLennan, Western Region 2
Brent Digness, Eastern Region 2	Leonard Montgrand, Northern Region 2

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Jay Boecher, Bang Up Productions	Norman Fleury, Elder
Claire Letendre, Bang Up Productions	

**MN-S OFFICE:**

Julia Burns, Communications Director	Craig Medwyduk, Creative Director
Mark Calette, Senior Director, Administration, Duty to Consult and Land Claims	Adel Panahi, Director of Health
Dorothy Myo, Senior Director of Policy and Research	Richard Quintal, Chief Executive Officer
Brandy Laronde, Office Manager	Riva Farrell Racette, Legal Counsel
Lillian Lizee, Interim Senior Advisor	Erin Reid, Chief Strategy Officer
	Lori Skjeie, Director, Language and Culture

**RECORDING SECRETARY:**

*(minutes prepared from recording)*

Jessi Connaughton, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice President Gerald Morin, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:14 a.m. and conducted a roll call to confirm a quorum was present.

**2. OPENING PRAYER**

Elder Norman Fleury offered an Opening Prayer.

### 3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

**It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) and SECONDED (Earl Cook)**

That the Agenda for the December 3, 2020 Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council meeting be adopted as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Prayer
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Review of the Minutes:
  - 4.1 Approval of the Minutes
  - 4.2 Business Arising from the Minutes
5. Presidential Update
6. Chief Executive Officer's Report / COVID-19 Update
7. Resolution: Ratification of Ministerial Appointments
8. Resolution: Setting the Date for the Virtual Métis Nation Legislative Assembly
9. Resolution: Setting the Date for the MN-S Election
10. Resolution: Appointment of an Independent Chief Electoral Officer
11. Proposed Amendments to the MN-S *Constitution, Citizenship Act, and Elections Act*
12. Other Business
13. Closing Prayer and Conclusion.

**CARRIED (201203-01)**

### 4. REVIEW OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

#### 4.1 Approval of the Minutes – June 8, 2020 Provincial Métis Council Meeting

*Related information: Draft Minutes of the June 8, 2020 Provincial Métis Council Meeting*

Secretary Lisa McCallum read aloud the resolutions indicated in the draft minutes.

**It was MOVED (Billy Kennedy) and SECONDED (Penny Hurton)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council approves the appointment of Brent Digness as Regional Director for Eastern Region 2.

**CARRIED (201203-02)**

**It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) and SECONDED (Leonard Montgrand)**

That the Minutes of the June 8, 2020 Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting be approved, as presented.

**CARRIED (201203-03)**

#### 4.2 Business Arising from the Minutes

It was confirmed that the minutes of the December 3, 2020 meeting were being prepared from recording, by Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

**It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) and SECONDED (Earl Cook)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council appoints Raincoast Ventures Ltd., as Recording Secretary for the December 3, 2020 meeting.

**CARRIED (201203-04)**

**5. PRESIDENTIAL UPDATE**

President Glen McCallum recognized the success of the MN-S COVID-19 Task Force and Area Directors' efforts to keep regions and communities safe. Additional comments were offered on:

- MN-S' commitment to structure its government in a manner that citizens requested
- Progress in MN-S' relationships with the federal government, industry and First Nations
- The feasibility of signing a Harvesting Agreement with the province in early 2021
- The success of the MN-S Registry in administering over 13,000 citizenship cards
- Citizens appreciation for the MN-S' provision of supports and delivery of programs.

**It was MOVED (Sherry McLennan) and SECONDED (Mervin "Tex" Bouvier)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council receives for information the December 3, 2020 Presidential Update.

**CARRIED (201203-05)**

**6. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT / COVID-19 UPDATE**

Richard Quintal, Chief Executive Officer, noted that the virtual PMC meeting would help to inform the structure of the virtual Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA). He added that MN-S staff would explore options available by consulting with other Indigenous organizations who had utilized virtual platforms for their Annual General Meetings.

Mr. Quintal acknowledged the efforts of elected officials and MN-S staff during the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, and reviewed response efforts for the second wave, including:

- Funding agreements sent to each region
- MN-S' storage of non-perishable food items, for distribution across the province
- Supports available for regions' unique needs and response plans.

Marg Friesen, Minister of Health, reviewed efforts during the first wave of COVID-19, including:

- Assisting over 4,000 families with childcare and household supports
- Distribution of over 400,000 masks, 70,000 gloves and 1,100 hand sanitizer units
- Allocation of resources to provide food security to regions which were mandated to isolate
- Collaboration with municipalities and communities to ensure resources were optimized
- Establishing a toll-free COVID-19 Mental Health Support Line.

Minister Friesen added that:

- The MN-S COVID-19 response efforts prompted national recognition from Dr. Theresa Tam, Chief Public Health Officer
- A briefing note on Phase 2 of the MN-S COVID-19 Response Plan was sent to all Area Directors
- COVID-19 supports for citizens will flow through two streams: a centralized COVID-19 Response Plan, and Regional COVID-19 Response Plans.

**Request for Action**

It was requested that the briefing note on Phase 2 of the MN-S COVID-19 Response Plan referenced by the Minister of Health at the December 3, 2020 Provincial Métis Council meeting, be emailed to Regional Director Penny Hurton.

During discussion on self-isolation units, it was noted that:

- Additional isolation options were required in the northwest
- A list was being developed of isolation spaces available across the province
- The cost of isolation spaces will be covered by the MN-S Central Office and will not affect regional budgets.

**It was MOVED (Mervin “Tex” Bouvier) and SECONDED (Billy Kennedy)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council receives for information the December 3, 2020 Chief Executive Officer’s Report / COVID-19 Update.

**CARRIED (201203-06)**

**7. RESOLUTION: RATIFICATION OF MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS**

*Related information: Proposed resolution titled, “Resolution for Approving Ministerial Portfolio Reassignments”, dated December 3, 2020*

During discussion on the proposed resolution, comments were offered on:

- A concern raised regarding the process that should be followed to adjust ministerial appointments and portfolio assignments
- The absence of the Registry portfolio.

In response to comments raised, the meeting was informed that:

- MN-S’ ministerial appointments and portfolio assignments typically came into effect immediately upon assignment by the President, and were subject to the approval by the PMC and ratification by the MNLA (as per Article 2.4 of the *Constitution*)
- The Registry portfolio was not assigned, to keep the Registry separate from politics.

**It was MOVED (Penny Hurton) and SECONDED (Sherry McClennan)**

**WHEREAS** Articles 2.4 and 4.4(b) of the *Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Constitution* confer upon the President the sole discretion to assign Ministerial portfolios, subject to the approval of the Provincial Métis Council and ratification by the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA);

**WHEREAS** Article 2.4 of the *Constitution* further mandates that the assignment of Ministerial portfolios is restricted to members of the MNLA;

**WHEREAS** President Glen McCallum determined it is in the best interest of the MN-S that certain Ministerial portfolios be reorganized and reassigned to promote an efficient and responsive government; and

**WHEREAS** on July 27, 2020, the President directed that Ministerial portfolios be reassigned, effective that same date and until such time as the Provincial Métis Council (PMC) confirm its approval of the same at its next duly held meeting – to be ratified at the next MNLA;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the PMC hereby confirms its approval of the following Ministerial portfolio re-assignments and Ministerial appointments as directed by President Glen McCallum on July 27, 2020:

- Child and Family Services - Minister Penny Hurton
- Economic Development and Tourism - Minister Leonard Montgrand
- Education and Early Learning - Minister Earl Cook
- Environment - Minister Mervin “Tex” Bouvier
- Finance - Minister Earl Cook
- Health - Minister Marg Friesen
- Housing and Infrastructure - Minister Ryan Carriere
- Inter-Nation Relations - Minister Loretta King
- Justice - Minister Gerald Morin
- Language, Culture and Heritage - Minister Sherry McLennan
- Sports and Recreation - Minister Billy Kennedy
- Veterans - Minister Loretta King
- Women and Gender Equality - Minister Tammy Mah
- Youth - Minister Jaycee Bell.

**CARRIED (201203-07)**

*Regional Director Wendy Gervais voted in opposition  
One member abstained from the vote*

**8. RESOLUTION: SETTING DATE OF VIRTUAL MÉTIS NATION LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

*Related information:*

- *Briefing Note titled, “Proposed Virtual 2021 Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA)”, dated December 3, 2020*
- *Proposed resolution titled, “Resolution to Fix/Set Date of the Virtual MNLA”, dated December 3, 2020*

During discussion on the proposed resolution, comments were offered on:

- Technology for elected officials to support their participation in a virtual MNLA
- A 2019 MNLA resolution requiring elected officials to register as MN-S citizens by January 29, 2020, or resign from their position
- The inability of regions to host MNLA delegates in a socially-distanced safe space:
  - MN-S has imposed a moratorium on all in-person meetings
  - Regions are subject to employer obligations to protect employees from workplace hazards, including COVID-19
- An agreement with the MN-S Registry and the National Indian Registry, to allow cross-referencing of MN-S citizenship applications
- Technology options being reviewed to enable individuals to observe the MNLA.

***Request for Action***

*The Chief Executive Officer agreed to provide a report on the number of registered Métis citizens in Northern Region 3 to Regional Director Mervin “Tex” Bouvier.*

**It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) and SECONDED (Penny Hurton)**

**WHEREAS** Article 3.10 of the *Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Constitution* authorizes the Provincial Métis Council (PMC) to set the date and place for each sitting of the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA);

**WHEREAS** the current public health restrictions in place in Saskatchewan due to COVID-19 prevent the holding of an in-person meeting of the MNLA; and

**WHEREAS** it is in the best interests of all Métis citizens that the MNLA meet virtually rather than in-person to protect the health and safety of all participants;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the MN-S PMC set February 20 and 21, 2021 as the dates for the next sitting of the MNLA; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the sitting of the MNLA on February 20 and 21, 2021 be held virtually in a manner that will allow all members of the MNLA to participate in discussion and vote on resolutions before the MNLA, and will permit Métis citizens and other authorized individuals to observe the proceedings.

**CARRIED (201203-08)**

*One member abstained from the vote*

***Request for Action***

*It was requested that Regional Directors send the Chief Executive Officer the names and contact information for each Local President to:*

- *Ensure the necessary technology is provided to enable their participation in the virtual MNLA scheduled February 20-21, 2020, and to*
- *Confirm that each Local President is a registered Métis citizen.*

**9. RESOLUTION: SETTING THE DATE FOR THE MN-S ELECTION**

*Related information:*

- *Briefing Note titled, “Proposed 2021 Election Date for Métis Nation-Saskatchewan”, dated December 3, 2020*
- *Proposed resolution titled, “Resolution to Fix Date of Election Day”, dated December 3, 2020*

During discussion of the date proposed for the next MN-S election, it was noted that:

- The MN-S *Constitution* requires that an election occur within four years of the prior election
- May 29, 2021 is a Saturday, which allows for increased voter access to the polls
- Advanced polls will take place seven days prior the MN-S election date.

**It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) and SECONDED (Brent Digness)**

**WHEREAS** Article 8.2 of the *Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Constitution* requires elections for the Executive and Regional Representatives to be held within four years of the previous election but does not fix the specific day on which the election is to be held; and

**WHEREAS** the *Saskatchewan Métis Elections Act 2007* is proposed to be amended to define “election day” as the day fixed by resolution of the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA);



**BE IT RESOLVED** that the MN-S Provincial Métis Council recommend to the MNLA that May 29, 2021 be fixed as an election day for the election of the Executive and Regional Representatives of the MN-S.

**CARRIED (201203-09)**

**10. RESOLUTION: APPOINTMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER**

*Related information: Proposed resolution titled, “Resolution Approving Appointment of Chief Electoral Officer”, dated December 3, 2020*

During discussion on the appointment of a Chief Electoral Officer, it was noted that Gwen Lafond:

- Worked on the 2017 MN-S election and co-produced a report of the election process with recommendations for facilitating a smoother process, and
- Participated in the 2020 Saskatchewan provincial election.

In response to questions raised, it was noted that:

- Ms. Lafond confirmed the feasibility of holding an election on May 29, 2021
- The Chief Electoral Officer will determine the Elections Team
- Appointment of the Chief Electoral Officer requires approval at the MNLA.

**It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) and SECONDED (Leonard Montgrand)**

**WHEREAS** pursuant to Section 92(1) of the *Saskatchewan Métis Elections Act, 2007* (the “Act”), a Chief Electoral Officer is appointed by resolution of the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA) to administer elections under the Act;

**WHEREAS** Section 93 confers broad administrative powers upon the Chief Electoral Officer to carry out the duties of the office of Chief Electoral Officer; and

**WHEREAS** Section 94 of the Act, confers upon the Chief Electoral Officer the discretionary authority to delegate, in writing, generally or specifically, any of his or her powers or duties;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

- a) The Provincial Métis Council (PMC) hereby approves the appointment of Gwen Lafond to the office of Chief Electoral Officer within the meaning of the *Saskatchewan Métis Elections Act, 2007*, and that she exercise such administrative powers required to fulfill the duties of the office of Chief Electoral Officer, including the power to delegate any of her duties as contemplated by Section 94; and
- b) The PMC shall recommend at the next MNLA that a resolution be passed appointing Gwen Lafond as Chief Electoral Officer, pursuant to Section 92(1) of the *Saskatchewan Métis Elections Act, 2007*, to exercise all administrative and discretionary powers necessary to fulfill the duties of the office of Chief Electoral Officer and to fulfill the purposes of the Act.

**CARRIED (201203-10)**

**11. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE MN-S CONSTITUTION, CITIZENSHIP ACT AND ELECTIONS ACT**

*Related information:*

- Briefing Note titled, “Legislative Amendments for Citizenship Verification and Proof of Voter Eligibility Pursuant to 2019 MNLA Resolutions”, December 3, 2020
- Briefing Note titled, “Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of the Métis Nation-

- Saskatchewan”, December 3, 2020*
- *Briefing Note titled, “Proposed Amendments to the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan Citizenship Act”, December 3, 2020*
  - *Briefing Note titled, “Proposed Amendments to the Saskatchewan Métis Elections Act 2007”, December 3, 2020*
  - *Proposed resolution titled, “Resolution to Amend MN-S Constitution”, dated December 3, 2020*
  - *Proposed resolution titled, “Resolution to Amend MN-S Citizenship Act”, December 3, 2020*
  - *Proposed resolution titled, “Resolution to Amend MN-S Election Act”, December 3, 2020*
  - *Schedule “A” to Resolution for Proposed Constitutional Amendments, December 3, 2020*
  - *Schedule “A” to Resolution for Proposed Amendments to the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan Citizenship Act, 1999, December 3, 2020*
  - *Schedule “A” to Resolution for Proposed Amendments to Saskatchewan Métis Elections Act, 2007, December 3, 2020*

Dorothy Myo, Senior Director of Policy and Research, acknowledged minor amendments proposed to MN-S’ legislative documents, noting that plans for constitutional and governance reform could occur after the MN-S election. During discussion, comments were offered on:

- Amendments required prior to the MN-S election based on 2019 MNLA resolutions
- Potential impacts to Locals of the proposed amendments to Article 7 of the *Constitution*
- Clearly explaining the proposed resolutions and amendments at the next MNLA.

Due to time constraints, further consideration of this agenda item was deferred to the December 11, 2020 PMC meeting.

## **12. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **12.1 MN-S Election Proposed Budget**

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

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council directs that a resolution be presented for consideration at the next Métis Nation Legislative Assembly, to approve the proposed budget of \$850,000 for the 2021 MN-S Election.

**CARRIED (201203-11)**

## **13. CONCLUSION**

The meeting concluded with a Closing Prayer provided by Elder Fleury.

**It was MOVED (Mervin “Tex” Bouvier)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting held December 3, 2020 now conclude.

**CARRIED (201203-12)**

(Time: 1:35 p.m. CST)

\* \* \*

## **LIST OF INFORMATION ITEMS**

*The following items were provided for information at the December 3, 2020 meeting:*

1. Agenda for the MN-S Provincial Métis Council Regular Meeting scheduled December 3, 2020
2. Minutes of the MN-S PMC Regular Meeting held June 8, 2020
3. Proposed resolution titled, “Resolution for Approving Ministerial Portfolio Reassignments”, December 3, 2020
4. Briefing Note titled, “Proposed Virtual 2021 Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA)”, December 3, 2020
5. Proposed resolution titled, “Resolution to Fix / Set Date of the Virtual MNLA”, December 3, 2020
6. Briefing Note titled, “Proposed 2021 Election Date for Métis Nation-Saskatchewan”, December 3, 2020
7. Proposed resolution titled, “Resolution to Fix Date of Election Day”, December 3, 2020
8. Proposed resolution titled, “Resolution Approving Appointment of Chief Electoral Officer”, December 3, 2020
9. Briefing Note titled, “Legislative Amendments for Citizenship Verification and Proof of Voter Eligibility Pursuant to 2019 MNLA Resolutions”, December 3, 2020
10. Briefing Note titled, “Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan”, December 3, 2020
11. Briefing Note titled, “Proposed Amendments to the *Métis Nation-Saskatchewan Citizenship Act*”, December 3, 2020
12. Briefing Note titled, “Proposed Amendments to the *Saskatchewan Métis Elections Act 2007*”, December 3, 2020
13. Proposed resolution titled, “Resolution to Amend MN-S Constitution”, December 3, 2020
14. Proposed resolution titled, “Resolution to Amend MN-S Citizenship Act”, December 3, 2020
15. Proposed resolution titled, “Resolution to Amend MN-S Election Act”, December 3, 2020
16. Schedule “A” to Resolution for Proposed Constitutional Amendments, December 3, 2020
17. Schedule “A” to Resolution for Proposed Amendments to the *Métis Nation-Saskatchewan Citizenship Act, 1999*, December 3, 2020
18. Schedule “A” to Resolution for Proposed Amendments to *Saskatchewan Métis Elections Act, 2007*, December 3, 2020

## **LIST OF ACRONYMS**

*The following acronyms are referenced in these minutes:*

CST	Central Standard Time
MNLA	Métis Nation Legislative Assembly
MN-S	Métis Nation - Saskatchewan
PMC	Provincial Métis Council



**MÉTIS NATION – SASKATCHEWAN**  
**PROVINCIAL MÉTIS COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
*held December 11, 2020*

Minutes of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) Regular Meeting held December 11, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. Central Standard Time (CST) via videoconference.

**PRESENT:**

Glen McCallum, President	Marg Friesen, Eastern Region 3
Gerald Morin, Vice-President, Chair	Wendy Gervais, Western Region 3
Earl Cook, Treasurer	Penny Hurton, Western Region 2A
Lisa McCallum, Secretary	Billy Kennedy, Western Region 1A
Jaycee Bell, Youth Council	Loretta King, Western Region 1
Mervin “Tex” Bouvier, Northern Region 3	Sherry McLennan, Western Region 2
Ryan Carriere, Eastern Region 1	Leonard Montgrand, Northern Region 2
Brent Digness, Eastern Region 2	

**ABSENT:**

Derek Langan, Eastern Region 2A	Tammy Mah, Les Filles des Madeleine
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**ALSO PRESENT:**

Jay Boecher, Bang Up Productions	Claire Letendre, Bang Up Productions
Norman Fleury, Elder	Merrilee Rasmussen, Legal Counsel
Brian Heinrichs, Virtus Group (for Item 6.1 only)	Jane Zaleschuk, Virtus Group (for Item 6.1 only)

**MN-S OFFICE:**

Janice Braden, Senior Policy Analyst	Craig Medwyduk, Creative Director
Julia Burns, Communications Director	Dorothy Myo, Senior Director of Policy and Research
Lisa Fleming, Director, Early Learning and Childcare / Child and Family Services	Adel Panahi, Director of Health
Christena Konrad, Director of Housing	Richard Quintal, Chief Executive Officer
Brandy Laronde, Office Manager	Erin Reid, Chief Strategy Officer
Lillian Lizee, Interim Senior Advisor	Hamid Shahzad, Chief Financial Officer
Cecile McKay, Executive Assistant	Reina Sinclair, Director of Environment
Jason McKay, Director Sports, Culture and Recreation and Director of Education	Lori Skjeie, Director, Language and Culture
	Mavis Taylor, Director of Youth

**MINUTES PREPARED BY:**

Carrie Peacock, Recording Secretary, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

**AGENDA VARIED**

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

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice President Gerald Morin, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. and conducted a roll call to confirm a quorum was present.

**2. OPENING PRAYER**

Elder Norman Fleury offered an Opening Prayer.

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**It was MOVED (Earl Cook) and SECONDED (Marg Friesen)**

That the Agenda for the December 11, 2020 Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council Meeting be adopted as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Prayer
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Review of the Minutes (December 3, 2020 and July 18, 2019):
  - 4.1 Approval of the Minutes
  - 4.2 Business Arising from the Minutes
5. Resolutions for Proposed Amendments to the *Citizenship Act* and *Elections Act*
6. 2019/2020 Audited Financial Statements:
  - 6.1 Approval of the 2019/2020 Audited Financial Statements
  - 6.2 Appointment of the Auditor for 2020/2021
7. Ministerial Resolutions:
  - 7.1 Post-Secondary Education - Renewal
  - 7.2 Housing – Emergency Repairs Program
  - 7.3 United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
  - 7.4 Early Learning and Child Care
  - 7.5 Health – Mental Health and Addictions Feasibility Study
8. Other Business
  - 8.1 Elected Officials Remuneration
  - 8.2 Schedule for PMC Meetings
  - 8.3 Provincial Secretary’s Work Plan
9. Closing Prayer and Conclusion.

**CARRIED (201211-01)**

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

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council appoints Carrie Peacock, Raincoast Ventures Ltd., as Recording Secretary for its December 11, 2020 meeting.

**CARRIED (201211-02)**

**4. REVIEW OF THE MINUTES (July 18, 2019 and December 3, 2020)**

**4.1 Approval of the Minutes**

**4.1.1 July 18, 2019 Provincial Métis Council Meeting**

*Related information: Draft Minutes of the July 18, 2019 Provincial Métis Council Meeting*

Secretary Lisa McCallum read aloud the resolutions in the draft minutes.

**It was MOVED (Leonard Montgrand) and SECONDED (Mervin “Tex” Bouvier)**

That the Minutes of the July 18, 2019 Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting be approved, as presented.

**CARRIED (201211-03)**

**4.1.2 December 3, 2020 Provincial Métis Council Meeting**

*Related information: Draft Minutes of the December 3, 2020 Provincial Métis Council Meeting*

Secretary Lisa McCallum read aloud the resolutions in the draft minutes.

During discussion on the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA), comments were offered on:

- Constitutional amendments approved at the prior MNLA which required ratification
- The General Assembly, which is convened by the MNLA each year (as per Article 11 of the *Constitution*).

**It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) and SECONDED (Earl Cook)**

That the Minutes of the December 3, 2020 Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting be approved, as presented.

**CARRIED (201211-04)**

**4.2 Business Arising from the Minutes**

No additional comments were offered.

**5. RESOLUTIONS FOR PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CITIZENSHIP ACT AND ELECTIONS ACT**

**5.1 Citizenship Act**

*Related information:*

- *Chart titled, “Schedule “A” to Resolution # \_\_ of the Provincial Métis Council – Proposed Amendments to the MN-S Citizenship Act, 1999”*
- *Resolution to Amend MN-S Citizenship Act*

Dorothy Myo, Senior Director of Policy and Research, reviewed amendments proposed to the *MN-S Citizenship Act, 1999 (Citizenship Act)*.

During discussion, the following additional comments were offered:

- Until a Tribunal is established, citizenship appeals can be considered by the MNLA
- The Registrar is bound to follow the *Citizenship Act* and the *Constitution of the MN-S*, and has a role and responsibility, separate from elected officials, to maintain transparency.

**It was MOVED (Mervin “Tex” Bouvier) and SECONDED (Penny Hurton)**

**WHEREAS** the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA) has adopted the “*Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Citizenship Act, 1999*” to provide for a process of registering eligible persons as Métis citizens; and

**WHEREAS** it is necessary and expedient to amend the said *Act* to more accurately reflect the actual registration process, to protect the privacy rights of Métis citizens, and to preserve and enhance the Registry and in so doing to link the definition of Métis to the definition contained in the *Constitution of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan* (MN-S) rather than to membership in a Local and to provide for appeals to be made to the MNLA;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the MN-S Provincial Métis Council (PMC) recommend to the MNLA the adoption of the proposed amendments to the “*Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Citizenship Act, 1999*”, which are dated December 11, 2020 and set out in the attached Schedule “A”.

**CARRIED (201211-05)**

*Regional Director Wendy Gervais voted in opposition*

**Request for Action**

*It was requested that staff incorporate any additional housekeeping updates needed to the “Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Citizenship Act, 1999”, including replacing references to “Membership” with “Citizenship” where appropriate (to be more conducive with the MN-S’ recognition as a Nation).*

**5.2 MN-S Elections Act, 2007**

*Related information:*

- *Chart titled, “Schedule “A” to Resolution # \_\_ of the Provincial Métis Council – Proposed Amendments to the Saskatchewan Métis Elections Act, 2007”*
- *Resolution to Amend the “Saskatchewan Métis Elections Act, 2007”*

During a review of the proposed amendments to the “*Saskatchewan Métis Elections Act, 2007*” (*Elections Act*), the following additional comments were offered:

- A Métis citizen who leaves the province to attend school, remains a resident of their community, and will not be excluded from voting
- The proposed *Elections Act* amendments reflect the directions of the November 23, 2019 MNLA resolution on “Proof of Citizenship of Voters” (introduced as Resolution #11-2019-7)
- A communications strategy will be developed in preparation for the upcoming MN-S election
- Section 12 of the *Elections Act* outlines evidence required to prove a citizen’s eligibility to register to vote.

**It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) and SECONDED (Earl Cook)**

**WHEREAS** the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA) has adopted the “*Saskatchewan Métis Elections Act, 2007*” to provide for a process of conducting the election of Executive Members and Regional Representatives to the Provincial Métis Council (PMC), and;

**WHEREAS** it is necessary and expedient to amend the said Act to provide for the MNLA to fix the date of the election, to require persons who wish to vote or run for election to be registered Métis citizens, to provide protection for voters lists and voter information, and to extend the hours for voting to increase accessibility for Métis citizens to vote;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the MN-S PMC recommend to the MNLA the adoption of the proposed amendments to the “*Saskatchewan Métis Elections Act, 2007*”, which are provided and dated December 11, 2020, and set out in Schedule “A”.

**CARRIED (201211-06)**

*Regional Director Wendy Gervais voted in opposition*

**10:50 a.m.**

Brian Heinrichs and Jan Zaleschuk, Virtus Group, joined the meeting for consideration of Item 6.1.

**6. 2019/2020 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**6.1 Approval of the 2019/2020 Audited Financial Statements**

*Related information:*

- *MN-S Secretariat Inc., Non-Consolidated Financial Statements, dated March 31, 2020*
- *Resolution to Approve the Audited Financial Statements*

Brian Heinrichs, Virtus Group, reviewed the financial statements of the MN-S Secretariat Inc. and offered the following additional comments:

- MN-S staff provided access to MN-S financial information to support completion of the audit process
- The accounting standards used by the MN-S will transition from Not-for-Profit Standards to Canadian Public Accounting Standards (consistent with other government offices)
- No contradictions to the financial statements, were reported.

In response to requests for clarification on the financial statements, it was noted that:

- Back to Batoche expenses in the financial statements reflect 2019 Back to Batoche events
- The amount shown under “Investments” relates to funding held under an agreement through Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) for scholarships (as per Note 3 of the financial statements)
- “Schedule 9 – Schedule of Child and Family Services” includes salaries allocated for staff time attributed to the Child and Family Services portfolio (up to March 31, 2020)
- The “Travel” section of “Schedule 2 – Schedule of Governance” includes costs for kilometric rates, flights, accommodations, conference attendance etc.; future financial statements could be clarified to include more specific “Travel” sub-sections.

**It was MOVED (Leonard Montgrand) and SECONDED (Mervin “Tex” Bouvier)**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the draft annual financial statements for the financial year 2020, dated March 31, 2020, including: the financial position as of March 31, 2020; the Statement of Operations for the year ending March 31, 2020, along with the notes appended thereto; and the Cash Flow Statement for the year ending March 31, 2020, as presented to the Provincial Métis Council on December 11, 2020, be hereby approved.

**CARRIED (201211-07)**



## **6.2 Appointment of the Auditor for 2020/2021**

*Related information: Resolution to Appoint the Auditor*

Appreciation was extended to Treasurer Earl Cook, the Finance Department, the Finance Committee, and the Auditors for their efforts and support in preparing the financial statements in a clear manner.

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

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Provincial Métis Council (PMC) approves the appointment of Virtus Group L.L.P., Chartered Professional Accountants, as the auditors for the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Secretariat Inc., for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the PMC recommend to the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly, to appoint Virtus Group as the Auditors for Métis Nation - Saskatchewan for fiscal years 2020 and 2021.

**CARRIED (201211-08)**

In response to a query, members of the Finance Committee and Human Resources Committee were recognized.

**11:40 a.m.**

Brian Heinrichs and Jan Zaleschuk, Virtus Group, departed the meeting.

## **7. RESOLUTIONS**

### **7.1 Post-Secondary Education - Renewal**

*Related information:*

- *Briefing Note on “MN-S Post-Secondary Education Program”, dated December 9, 2020*
- *Resolution to Approve the Service Agreement for the Administration of the Post-Secondary Education Program by Gabriel Dumont Institute*

Earl Cook, Minister of Education and Early Learning, reviewed the proposed recommendation to extend the current Service Agreement with GDI, for administering and delivering student services.

During discussion, additional comments were offered on:

- Supports available for students (including living allowances, travel to and from home, etc.)
- Providing supported access to post-secondary education (PSE) opportunities and minimizing youth addiction rates
- Collaboration between GDI’s Acting Director of Training and Employment and MN-S’ Senior Director of Policy and Research.

**It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) and SECONDED (Jaycee Bell)**

**WHEREAS** the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan’s (MN-S) Post-Secondary Education Program (PSE Program) was created to support registered MN-S citizens to attend post-secondary institutions of their choice;

**WHEREAS** on August 1, 2019, the MN-S and Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI), an affiliate of MN-S, agreed to terms and conditions for the administration and delivery of the PSE Program over a two year term, expiring on March 31, 2021 (First Agreement);

**WHEREAS** the MN-S Ministry of Education has recommended to the PMC at this meeting on December 11, 2020, that the MN-S and GDI enter into an agreement for GDI to administer the PSE Program for an additional five-year term;

**WHEREAS** it is desirable for the PSE Program to be administered in alignment with MN-S post-secondary priorities as referenced in Article 2.1 in the First Agreement or as may otherwise be established by PMC;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the PMC at this meeting of December 11, 2020, hereby confirms its approval of MN-S entering into a new Service Agreement with GDI for an additional five-year term to administer the PSE Program, without prejudice to any rights MN-S may have under the First Agreement or any other agreement between the MN-S and GDI;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the new Service Agreement shall include terms substantially similar to those in the First Agreement and shall reflect MN-S post-secondary priorities as outlined in Article 2.1 of the First Agreement or as otherwise established by the PMC;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the new Service Agreement require that the PSE Program be administered according to PSE Program Guidelines developed in collaboration between GDI and MN-S technicians; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that under the new Service Agreement, only registered Métis citizens or applicants who have applied to the MN-S registry to become registered Métis citizens, shall be eligible to access funding under the PSE Program.

**CARRIED (201211-09)**

PMC members were welcomed to contact Minister Cook directly with inquiries regarding specific PSE-related matters.

## **7.2 Housing – Emergency Repairs Program**

*Related information:*

- *Briefing Note on “MN-S Emergency Repairs and Renovation Program”, dated December 8, 2020*
- *Resolution to Approve Revised MN-S Emergency Repairs Program Guidelines and Budget Allocations*

Christena Konrad, Director of Housing, reviewed the proposed recommendation to approve the revised “MN-S Emergency Repairs Program (ERP)” guidelines and budget allocations.

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- Funding available (through the ERP or other programs) for home repairs required by vulnerable citizens and people with disabilities
- Encouraging housing authorities to address the current lack of accessible housing to meet the needs of people with disabilities
- Revisions to program guidelines to address priority health and safety concerns (e.g. mold remediation, etc.), including a shorter application form and clarification on eligible repairs

- Tasking certified instructors to identify health and safety concerns and capital items to maintain a home's integrity
- Improvements and efficiencies proposed in the updated process, which will reduce delays
- Specifying a maximum annual household income of \$100,000, to accommodate families particularly in areas where the cost of living is higher.

**It was MOVED (Leonard Montgrand) and SECONDED (Mervin "Tex" Bouvier)**

**WHEREAS** the current Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Emergency Repairs and Renovation Program (the "ERRP") does not meet the definition of "core housing need" for reasons including *inter alia*:

- a) The current maximum household income to be eligible is \$150,000.00;
- b) The current maximum forgivable loan is currently at \$15,000.00; and
- c) Cosmetic renovations are currently acceptable expenses;

**WHEREAS** an adjudication panel currently reviews and recommends applications to the ERRP for approval;

**WHEREAS** revised guidelines that meet the definition of "core housing need" (the "New Guidelines") were submitted at this meeting on December 11, 2020, and have been recommended for the Provincial Métis Council's (PMC's) approval;

**WHEREAS** the ERRP 2019/20 fiscal year budget of \$2,875,000.00, representing \$2,500,000.00 for program funding and \$375,000.00 for administration has been fully expended;

**WHEREAS** a proposed four year budget of \$12,075,000.00 for fiscal years 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23, and 2023/24 (the "Four Year Budget") as part of a five year plan was presented at this meeting on December 11, 2020;

**WHEREAS** the aforementioned Four Year Budget, as submitted at this meeting, has been recommended for the PMC's approval;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the PMC hereby approves of the New Guidelines, as submitted at the December 11, 2020 PMC meeting, which shall include *inter alia* the following noted changes:

- a) The maximum household income to be eligible will be \$100,000.00;
- b) Grant amounts will be calculated on a case-by-case basis to address health and safety concerns, capital replacement items and senior adaptation;
- c) The revised Emergency Repair Program (ERP) will be administered under the MN-S immediately;
- d) The Adjudication Panel will no longer be utilized; and
- e) Backlogged files will be reviewed under the new program design;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the PMC approves, substantially in the form presented at the December 11, 2020 PMC Meeting, the proposed Four Year Budget of \$12,075,000.00 in the following allocations:

- a) \$3,450,000.00 for fiscal year 2020/21, representing \$3,000,000.00 for program funding and \$450,000.00 for administration;
- b) \$2,875,000.00 for fiscal year 2021/22, representing \$2,500,000.00 for program funding and \$375,000.00 for administration;
- c) \$2,875,000.00 for fiscal year 2022/23, representing \$2,500,000.00 for program funding and \$375,000.00 for administration; and

d) 2,875,000.00 for fiscal year 2023/24, representing \$2,500,000.00 for program funding and \$375,000.00 for administration.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the appropriate officers of the MN-S be and they hereby are authorized and directed to take all actions and execute all such documents as they deem necessary or appropriate to effectuate this resolution.

**CARRIED (201211-10)**

### **7.3 United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

*Related information:*

- *Briefing Note on “Draft Federal Legislation on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples”, dated December 8, 2020*
- *Resolution to Approve a Preliminary Response to Draft UNDRIP Legislation*

Vice President Morin reviewed the proposed recommendation to approve a preliminary response to the draft UNDRIP legislation.

#### **It was MOVED (Penny Hurton) and SECONDED (Marg Friesen)**

**WHEREAS** in 2016, Canada announced its full support of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP);

**WHEREAS** on September 29, 2020, Canada presented to the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan (MN-S) proposed draft legislation to fully implement UNDRIP into Canadian law (Draft Legislation);

**WHEREAS** the MN-S had a limited window to review, consider and respond to the Draft Legislation;

**WHEREAS** the federal government introduced the Draft Legislation into the House of Commons on December 3, 2020;

**WHEREAS** MN-S technicians submitted a preliminary response to the Draft Legislation on or about October 30, 2020, under the express caveat that the aforesaid response was subject to the approval and direction of the PMC and feedback obtained through citizen engagement (Preliminary Response);

**WHEREAS** on account of COVID-19 restrictions, virtual feedback and information sessions were held with citizens on November 7 and 9, 2020;

**WHEREAS** MN-S administration presented the Preliminary Response to the PMC for its review and approval at this meeting of December 11, 2020;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the PMC hereby approves and endorses the Preliminary Response presented for the PMC’s review and approval at this meeting of December 11, 2020;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the PMC shall recommend to the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA) the Preliminary Response for approval and endorsement; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that subject to the approval of the MNLA, a final draft of the Preliminary Response be submitted to Canada.

**CARRIED (201211-11)**

#### **7.4 Early Learning and Child Care**

*Related information:*

- *Briefing Note on “Education – Early Learning and Child Care”, dated December 9, 2020*
- *Resolution to Approve a Land Purchase for the Métis Early Learning Centre of Excellence*

Lisa Fleming, Director, Early Learning and Childcare / Child and Family Services, reviewed the proposed resolution to purchase land to create a Métis Early Learning Centre of Excellence.

During discussion, additional comments were offered on funding available in the master agreement for early learning spaces (including two programs in the north, two programs in central Saskatchewan and two programs in the south).

#### **It was MOVED (Mervin “Tex” Bouvier) and SECONDED (Billy Kennedy)**

**WHEREAS** Métis children can expect to learn in a high-quality early learning environment, and parents of Métis children can expect to leave their children in a safe, caring and culturally affirming childcare centre while they attend work or school;

**WHEREAS** the establishment of a Métis Early Learning Centre of Excellence (Centre of Excellence) will provide a strong cultural identity guided by the voice of Métis Elders and Language Keepers;

**WHEREAS** the Sub-Accord of the Early Learning and Child Care agreement allows for the establishment of such centres;

**WHEREAS** the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan (MN-S) Ministry of Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) has identified 0.9 acres of land located one block east of the Gabriel Dumont Institute at the corner of 22<sup>nd</sup> Street and Avenue H North (the Land) as a suitable site for a Center of Excellence;

**WHEREAS** the Ministry of ELCC has recommended to the Provincial Métis Council (PMC) that the Land be purchased as the site of the Centre of Excellence at this meeting of December 11, 2020, subject to satisfactory completion of all necessary due diligence inquiries;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the PMC hereby approves of the purchase of the land located at the corner of 22<sup>nd</sup> Street and Avenue H North as presented to the PMC on December 11, 2020, as the future site of the Centre for Excellence; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the aforementioned approval by PMC is conditional upon the satisfactory completion of an environmental assessment and any due diligence measures necessary to ensure the land is suitable for its intended purpose.

**CARRIED (201211-12)**

#### **7.5 Health – Mental Health and Addictions Feasibility Study**

*Related information:*

- *Briefing Note on “Cedar Lodge Due Diligence and Planning Budget Request”, dated December 9, 2020*
- *Resolution to Support the Exploration and Evaluation of Cedar Lodge for a Mental Health and Addictions Healing Infrastructure*

Marg Friesen, Minister of Health, and Matt Vermette, Consultant, reviewed the proposed resolution to support the exploration and evaluation of Cedar Lodge, for a mental health and addictions healing centre.

During discussion, additional comments were offered on:

- The suitability of Cedar Lodge as a land-based cultural healing facility, and as an asset to be held by Muskwa Development Corporation (the MN-S' economic development office)
- Other land-based healing models and facilities considered, including "Recovery Lake"
- Expanding relationships with First Nations by offering access to wellness and healing services
- Seeking approval for "due diligence" planning, to inspect the validity of Cedar Lodge as an investment for the MN-S; stimulus funding could be subsequently pursued in 2021.

**It was MOVED (Mervin "Tex" Bouvier) and SECONDED (Marg Friesen)**

**WHEREAS** the Provincial Métis Council (PMC) is supportive of enhancing Métis citizens' access to addictions and land-based healing facilities that are grounded in Métis culture and the Michif language;

**WHEREAS** the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan (MN-S) Ministry of Health, Métis Addictions Council of Saskatchewan Inc. (MACSI), and Muskwa Development Corporation (Muskwa Development) have identified certain lands and facilities located on Blackstrap Lake that would be suitable for the aforementioned purposes (Cedar Lodge);

**WHEREAS** the PMC is supportive of MN-S Ministry of Health, MACSI and Muskwa Development working together to acquire Cedar Lodge and develop a land-based mental health and addiction healing centre;

**WHEREAS** it is in the best interests of MN-S, that Muskwa Development, MN-S Ministry of Health, and MACSI adequately explore and evaluate Cedar Lodge and conduct all necessary due diligence inquiries to ensure that Cedar Lodge can fulfill its intended purpose as a land-based mental health and addiction healing centre as presented at this meeting, on December 11, 2020, and;

**WHEREAS** a due diligence planning budget of \$355,000.00 was presented at this meeting on December 11, 2020, and has been recommended for approval by the MN-S Minister of Health;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the PMC approves of all due diligence inquiries presented at this meeting on December 11, 2020, in order to evaluate Cedar Lodge and its suitability for development as a land-based healing centre at the facility, prior to any subsequent acquisition; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the PMC approves, substantially in the form presented at this meeting on December 11, 2020, the proposed \$355,000.00 due diligence planning budget.

**CARRIED (201211-13)**

**8. OTHER BUSINESS**

**8.3 Provincial Secretary's Work Plan**

Secretary Lisa McCallum requested support and approval for the Provincial Secretary's work plan and budget. During discussion, additional comments were offered on:

- The importance of the PMC receiving the Provincial Secretary's work plan and budget to review, before considering an informed decision
- Efforts needed to address the impacts of trauma on citizens and communities
- Benefits of preparing a job description for the Provincial Secretary's role
- Potentially revisiting discussion on the Provincial Secretary's work plan and budget in early 2021.

## **8.2 Schedule of PMC Meetings**

*Related information: Resolution to Establish a Calendar Schedule of PMC Meetings*

Dorothy Myo reviewed the resolution proposing to establish a calendar schedule of PMC meetings, to be held the third Tuesday of each month beginning on January 19, 2021.

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- Benefits of holding frequent PMC meetings, including enabling departments to respond promptly to matters as they arise
- Sufficient time required to prepare and review materials in advance of PMC meetings
- The *Constitution* (Article 3) which indicates the PMC will meet at least once every two months
- PMC members' commitment to maintaining the confidentiality of PMC meeting materials.

### **It was MOVED (Penny Hurton) and SECONDED (Wendy Gervais)**

**WHEREAS** a calendar schedule of Provincial Métis Council (PMC) meetings would promote efficient planning and preparation, so that PMC members have an appropriate amount of time to review meeting materials and decision items;

**WHEREAS** a calendar schedule will provide Métis Nation-Saskatchewan (MN-S) administration with advance notice of PMC meetings, making it easier for administration to ensure that PMC members have access to meeting materials, and decision items can be distributed to PMC members in advance of PMC meetings; and

**WHEREAS** all decision items and supporting materials distributed in advance of PMC meetings are distributed for internal purposes and are intended only for members of PMC and those members of MN-S administration whose presence is required;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the PMC hereby confirms that PMC meetings shall be held every third Tuesday of each month to conduct MN-S government business and to make decisions relating to the government of the MN-S; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that any and all PMC meeting materials and decision items distributed to members of the PMC and MN-S administration shall be protected by the rule of confidentiality, in order to uphold the principle of Métis government solidarity.

**CARRIED (201211-14)**

## **9. CONCLUSION**

It was confirmed that the next PMC meeting was scheduled January 19, 2021, and that meeting materials would be provided two to three days in advance of the meeting.

A Closing Prayer was offered by Elder Norman Fleury.

### **It was MOVED (Leonard Montgrand) and SECONDED (Sherry McLennan)**

That the December 11, 2020 Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Regular Meeting now conclude, for an in-camera discussion.

**CARRIED (201211-15)**

(Time: 2:30 p.m.)

## **LIST OF ACRONYMS**

*The following acronyms are referenced in these minutes:*

CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CST	Central Standard Time
ELCC	Early Learning and Child Care
ERP	Emergency Repair Program
ERRP	Emergency Repair and Renovation Program
GDI	Gabriel Dumont Institute
MACSI	Métis Addictions Council of Saskatchewan Inc
MNLA	Métis Nation Legislative Assembly
MN-S	Métis Nation - Saskatchewan
PMC	Provincial Métis Council
PSE	Post-Secondary Education
UNDRIP	United Nation Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

## **LIST OF INFORMATION ITEMS**

*The following items were provided for information at the December 11, 2020 meeting:*

1. Agenda for the MN-S Provincial Métis Council Regular Meeting scheduled December 11, 2020
2. DRAFT Minutes of the MN-S PMC Regular Meeting held July 18, 2019
3. DRAFT Minutes of the MN-S PMC Regular Meeting held December 3, 2020
4. Chart titled, "Schedule "A" to Resolution # \_\_\_ of the Provincial Métis Council - Proposed Amendments to the MN-S Citizenship Act, 1999"
5. Resolution to Amend MN-S Citizenship Act
6. Chart titled, "Schedule "A" to Resolution # \_\_\_ of the Provincial Métis Council - Proposed Amendments to the Saskatchewan Métis Elections Act, 2007"
7. MN-S Secretariat Inc., Non-Consolidated Financial Statements, dated March 31, 2020
8. Resolution to Approve the Audited Financial Statements
9. Resolution to Appoint the Auditor
10. Briefing Note on "MN-S Post-Secondary Education Program", dated December 9, 2020
11. Resolution to Approve the Service Agreement for the Administration of the Post-Secondary Education Program by Gabriel Dumont Institute
12. Briefing Note on "MN-S Emergency Repairs and Renovation Program", dated December 8, 2020
13. Resolution to Approve Revised MN-S Emergency Repairs Program Guidelines and Budget Allocations
14. Briefing Note on "Draft Federal Legislation on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples", dated December 8, 2020
15. Resolution to Approve a Preliminary Response to Draft UNDRIP Legislation
16. Briefing Note on "Education - Early Learning and Child Care", dated December 9, 2020
17. Resolution to Approve a Land Purchase for the Métis Early Learning Centre of Excellence
18. Briefing Note on "Cedar Lodge Due Diligence and Planning Budget Request", dated December 9, 2020
19. Resolution to Support the Exploration and Evaluation of Cedar Lodge for a Mental Health and Addictions Healing Infrastructure
20. Resolution to Establish a Calendar Schedule for PMC Meetings