



**MÉTIS NATION – SASKATCHEWAN
PROVINCIAL MÉTIS COUNCIL MEETING**
held February 22, 2024

Minutes of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) Meeting held February 22, 2024, in the Tatanka Room at the Dakota Dunes Resort, 203 Dakota Dunes Way, Whitecap, Saskatchewan.

PROVINCIAL MÉTIS COUNCIL:

Present

Glen McCallum, President	Wendy Gervais, Western Region 3
Michelle LeClair, Vice President	Billy Kennedy, Western Region 1A
Lisa McCallum, Secretary	Loretta King, Western Region 1
Mervin “Tex” Bouvier, Northern Region 3	Darlene Langan, Les Filles de Madeleine
Laura Burnouf, Northern Region 1	Sherry McLennan, Western Region 2
Ryan Carriere, Eastern Region 1	Leonard Montgrand, Northern Region 2
Brent Digness, Eastern Region 2	(arrived at 10:10 a.m. / departed by 12:30 p.m.)
Marg Friesen, Eastern Region 3	Kathie Pruden Nansel, Western Region 2A

Regrets

Autumn Laing-LaRose, Provincial Métis Youth Council

Absent

Tim Roussin, Eastern Region 2A

ALSO PRESENT:

Elder Norman Fleury	John Lagimodiere, Chair
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MN-S OFFICE: *(additional MN-S representatives attended as “Observers”)*

Richard Quintal, Chief Executive Officer
Erin Reid, Chief Strategy Officer
Matt Vermette, Chief Operating Officer
Dorothy Myo, Deputy Chief of Self Government
Brandy Laronde, Manager, Cabinet and Legislative Services
Claire Letendre, Technical Support
Brennan Merasty, Advisor to the President

PREPARATION OF MINUTES: Carrie Peacock, Recording Secretary

AGENDA VARIED

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

John Lagimodiere, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

2. OPENING PRAYER

Elder Norman Fleury provided an Opening Prayer.

3. ROLL CALL

A roll call was conducted, and it was confirmed that a quorum was present.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

During discussion, it was agreed to vary the order of the agenda, and to include consideration of “Regional Representative Accountability”.

It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) and SECONDED (Michelle LeClair)

That the Agenda for the February 22, 2024, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting be approved as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Prayer
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Opening Remarks – President Glen McCallum
6. Approval of the Consent Agenda:
 - Appointing the Recording Secretary
 - Approval of the January 16, 2024 Provincial Métis Council Meeting Minutes
7. Requests for Action:
 - 7.1 RFA 240116-01 – Organizing the 2017-2023 MNLA Roll Call by Region
 - 7.2 RFA 240116-02 – Interim Policy on Keeping Locals in Good Standing
8. Regional Representative Accountability
9. Resolutions:
 - 9.1 Approval of the Draft Budget 2024/2025
 - 9.2 Setting the Date for the 2025 MN-S Election
 - 9.3 Appointment of the Registrar
 - 9.4 Prince Albert Housing Project
10. In-Camera Session:
 - 10.1 Appointments to the CCDF Board of Directors
 - 10.2 SMEDCO Update
 - 10.3 Human Resources Update
 - 10.4 Legal Update
 - 10.5 Constitutional Reform Update
11. Conclusion and Closing Prayer.

CARRIED (240222-01)

5. OPENING REMARKS

President McCallum acknowledged recent and upcoming events, and commented on:

- Priorities considered during the February 20-21, 2024 PMC Technical Workshops
- The Manitoba government’s recognition of Louis Riel as Manitoba’s honorary first premier
- Structuring the MN-S government to serve the best interests of Métis people
- Inviting MN-S Ministers to provide updates on their respective ministries at future MNLAs.

6. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Related information (provided with the agenda): Draft Minutes of the January 16, 2024, MN-S PMC Meeting

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

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council (PMC) approves the following items presented on the “Consent Agenda”:

- Appointment of Carrie Peacock as Recording Secretary for the February 22, 2024, PMC Meeting; and
- Adoption of the Minutes of the January 16, 2024, PMC Meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (240222-02)

7. REQUESTS FOR ACTION (From Previous PMC Meetings)

7.1 RFA 240116-01 – Categorizing the “MNLA Roll Call 2017-2023” Into Regions

It was noted that the “MNLA Roll Call 2017-2023” (categorized by Regions) will be provided to the PMC within the week.

7.2 RFA 240116-02 – Interim Policy on Keeping Locals in Good Standing

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- Advising Locals prior to the MNLA, of the information required to be deemed “in good standing”, in accordance with MN-S legislation
- Engaging with Locals and sharing information on the draft “Locals Act” on the MN-S website.

10:10 a.m.

Leonard Montgrand joined the meeting.

8. REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE ACCOUNTABILITY

Discussion ensued on the importance of PMC members being engaged in PMC and MNLA processes and being available to support their citizens.

Health Break

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

9. RESOLUTIONS

9.1 Approval of the Draft Budget 2024/2025

Related information:

- “Resolution on the MN-S Operating Budget for 2024-2025” (provided with the agenda)
- “MN-S Draft Budget, 2024-2025” (provided at the meeting)

Marg Friesen, Minister of Finance, referenced the information provided and offered additional comments on:

- Cost saving strategies intended to uphold the MN-S’ fiscal responsibilities
- Funding allocated for mental health and addictions services, and resources available to continue supporting MN-S citizens for the next five years.

During discussion, comments were offered on capacity funding for Locals, and the importance of implementing programs with funding available to sustain them for multiple years.

It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) and SECONDED (Billy Kennedy)

WHEREAS the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) adheres to established financial standards and accounting policies for all funds received on behalf of Métis citizens of Saskatchewan; and

WHEREAS the MN-S government is committed to delivering on the commitments made to its funding partners and citizens;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Provincial Métis Council approves the operating budget for 2024-2025 as presented and recommends it to the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly for ratification.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (240222-03)

9.2 Setting the Date for the 2025 MN-S Election

Related information (provided with the agenda): “Resolution on Setting the Date for the 2025 Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Election”

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

WHEREAS Article 8.2 of the *Constitution of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan* 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);

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council recommend to the MNLA that May 24, 2025 be fixed as election day for the election of the Executive and Regional Representatives of the MN-S.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (240222-04)

9.3 Appointment of the Registrar

Related information (provided with the agenda): “Resolution on Appointment of the Registrar” and “Biography of Deb Donaldson, Registrar”

It was MOVED (Glen McCallum) and SECONDED (Michelle LeClair)

WHEREAS the *Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Citizenship Act*, Article 2.12, states that the “Registrar” shall mean the “Registrar appointed by the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly to administer the Central Registry” (Amended September 9, 2008);

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Provincial Métis Council recommend that Deb Donaldson be appointed as the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Registrar for the term of April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (240222-05)

9.4 Prince Albert Housing Project

Related information (provided with the agenda): “Resolution on Prince Albert Housing Project”

Jason Mercredi, Director of Social Infrastructure, reviewed the objective of the Prince Albert Housing Project and Rent-to-Own pilot program, to support citizens who may be unable to secure a mortgage.

It was MOVED (Loretta King) and SECONDED (Sherry McLennan)

WHEREAS the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) recognizes the distinctiveness of Métis identity, culture, values and language – inclusive of knowledge keepers, Elders, Youth and distinctive resources – which is incorporated into proposals and decisions of the Provincial Métis Council (PMC);

WHEREAS the Ministry of Housing works across all MN-S ministries to create a collaborative process to review new and existing programs;

WHEREAS the Ministry of Housing has an anticipated surplus of \$6,926,951.20 from a number of sources including the First Time Home Buyers fund (\$6,108,052.21), Emergency Repair fund (\$506,866.65), Training and Capacity (\$116,000.00), and the Housing Conference (\$196,032.34);

WHEREAS the Ministry of Housing has developed a Rent-to-Own pilot program;

WHEREAS the Ministry of Infrastructure is developing a subdivision in Prince Albert;

WHEREAS there are MN-S citizens that face barriers entering into home ownership and the Ministry of Housing strives to create economic and social prosperity for all citizens; and

WHEREAS the Finance Committee recommends to the PMC and is in support of homeownership opportunities for Metis citizens and addressing housing shortages;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC approve the reallocation of surplus funds in the 2023-24 fiscal year in the amount of \$6,926,951.20 within the Housing portfolio, to be utilized for a Rent-to-Own pilot program in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (240222-06)

10. IN-CAMERA

It was agreed to adjourn the meeting and convene an in-camera meeting to consider:

- 10.1 Appointments to the CCDF Board of Directors
- 10.2 SMEDCO Update
- 10.3 Human Resources Update
- 10.4 Legal Update
- 10.5 Constitutional Reform Update.

MEETING ADJOURNED

It was MOVED (Sherry McLennan) and SECONDED (Laura Burnouf)

That the February 22, 2024, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting now adjourn.

CARRIED (240222-07)

Time: 11:55 a.m.

MEETING RECONVENED

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

That the February 22, 2024, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting now reconvene.

CARRIED (240222-08)

Time: 3:30 p.m.

10. IN-CAMERA DISCUSSION

10.1 Appointments to the CCDF Board of Directors

Related information (provided with the agenda): “Resolution to Appoint Board Members of Clarence Campeau Development Fund (CCDF)”

The following item was considered during the February 22, 2024 In-Camera Meeting.

It was MOVED (Brent Digness) and SECONDED (Glen McCallum)

WHEREAS the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) recognizes the distinctiveness of Métis identity, culture, values, and language – inclusive of knowledge keepers, Elders, Youth, and distinctive resources – which is incorporated into proposals and decisions of the Provincial Métis Council (PMC);

WHEREAS the Clarence Campeau Development Fund (CCDF) is an affiliate of the MN-S, and the PMC has the authority to approve by resolution, appointments to the CCDF Board of Directors;

WHEREAS the CCDF, through a process defined in their policies and procedures, shall appoint a Nominations Committee to identify a list of qualified candidates to fill any vacancies on its Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS the MN-S through a motion of the PMC will appoint individuals to fill positions available on the CCDF Board of Directors, from the names provided by the Nominations Committee;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC approve the appointment of Rebeca Johnstone and Tony Playter to the CCDF Board of Directors for a term of three years effective immediately, ending March 31, 2027.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (240222-09)

11. CONCLUSION AND CLOSING PRAYER

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

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

That the February 22, 2024, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting now conclude.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (240222-10)

Time: 3:50 p.m.

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