



**MÉTIS NATION – SASKATCHEWAN  
PROVINCIAL MÉTIS COUNCIL MEETING**  
*held December 17, 2024*

Minutes of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) Meeting held December 17, 2024, by videoconference.

**PROVINCIAL MÉTIS COUNCIL:**

**Present:**

Glen McCallum, President	Tim Roussin, Eastern Region 2A
Michelle LeClair, Vice President	Marg Friesen, Eastern Region 3
Lisa McCallum, Secretary	Loretta King, Western Region 1
Laura Burnouf, Northern Region 1	Billy Kennedy, Western Region 1A
Leonard Montgrand, Northern Region 2	Sherry McLennan, Western Region 2
Mervin “Tex” Bouvier, Northern Region 3	Kathie Pruden Nansel, Western Region 2A
Ryan Carriere, Eastern Region 1	Wendy Gervais, Western Region 3
Brent Digness, Eastern Region 2 (arrived at 10:30 a.m. approximately)	Autumn Laing-LaRose, Provincial Métis Youth Council

**Absent/Regrets:**

Darlene Langan, Les Filles de Madelaine

**ALSO PRESENT:**

John Lagimodiere, Chair  
Craig Gates, Partner, MNP Consulting (for Item 8)  
Steve Danner, Chief Operating Officer, Clarence Campeau Development Fund (CCDF) (for Item 8)  
Pam Larson, Chief Executive Officer, CCDF (for Item 8)

**MN-S OFFICE:** (additional MN-S representatives attended as “Observers”)

Matt Vermette, Acting Chief Executive Officer	Heather Hallgrimson, Legislative Coordinator,
Dorothy Myo, Deputy Chief, Self-Government	Policy and Self Determination

**PREPARATION OF MINUTES:**

Diane Parsons, Recording Secretary

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

John Lagimodiere, Chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 10:05 a.m.

**2. OPENING PRAYER**

Mervin “Tex” Bouvier 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**

*Related information: Draft Agenda for the December 17, 2024, MN-S PMC Meeting*

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

That the Agenda for the December 17, 2024, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) 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. Consent Agenda:
  - 6.1 Appointment of the Recording Secretary
  - 6.2 Adoption of November 18, 2024, PMC Minutes
7. Resolutions:
  - 7.1 Adoption of the January 25, 2025, Special Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA) Order of the Day
  - 7.2 Recommendation of the Complaints Officer and Adjudicator for the 2025 MN-S Election
  - 7.3 Revision of Designated Signing Authorities
  - 7.4 Appointment of Deputy Speaker for the MNLA
8. Proposed SaskMétis Economic Development Corporation (SMEDCO) Governance Model
9. In-Camera.

**CARRIED (241217-01)**

**5. OPENING REMARKS**

President McCallum indicated that he would forego providing Opening Remarks.

**6. CONSENT AGENDA**

*Related information (provided with the agenda): Draft Minutes of the November 18, 2024, MN-S PMC Meeting*

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

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

- Appointment of Diane Parsons as Recording Secretary for the December 17, 2024, PMC Meeting
- Adoption of the Minutes of the November 18, 2024, PMC Meeting.

**CARRIED (241217-02)**

**7. RESOLUTIONS**

**7.1 Adoption of the January 25, 2025, Special MNLA Order of the Day**

*Related information: Draft Resolution, “Adoption of the Order of the Day/Agenda for the Special Métis Nation Legislative Assembly, January 2025”*

During discussion, it was confirmed that:

- Only items on the approved MNLA Agenda will be considered at the January 25, 2025 MNLA
- The MNLA Resolution #MNLA241102-01, which suspended specific Rules of the House, applied exclusively to the November 2-3, 2024 MNLA.

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

**WHEREAS** the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) recognizes the distinctiveness of Métis identity, culture, values and language - inclusive of knowledge keepers, Lii Vyeu Moond (the “Old Ones” or “Elders”), Youth, Women, and distinctive resources – which is incorporated into proposals and decisions of the Provincial Métis Council (PMC);

**WHEREAS** the PMC, at their duly held meeting on November 18, 2024, resolved that a Virtual Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA) would be held on January 25, 2025;

**WHEREAS** Articles 6.2 and 6.3 of the *Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly Act, 1999* (the Act), as amended, directs the Clerk of the MNLA, as defined in Article 2.4 of the Act, to draft an agenda for the MNLA as directed by the PMC, and to compile the necessary documentation for the Order of the Day; and

**WHEREAS** the Order of the Day is hereby proposed for the MNLA to be held on January 25, 2025;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the PMC approves the Order of the Day as follows for the virtual MNLA on January 25, 2025 as proposed by the Clerk of the MNLA:

**AGENDA – JANUARY 25, 2025**

1. Opening Prayer – Lii Vyeu Moond
2. Opening Remarks – President Glen McCallum
3. Roll Call – Richard Quintal, Clerk of the MNLA/Voting Delegates
4. Adoption of the Order of the Day/Agenda
5. Motions:
  - 5.1 Setting the Date for the 2025 MN-S Election
  - 5.2 Appointing the Adjudicator and Complaints Officer for the 2025 Election
  - 5.3 Appointment of Deputy Speaker
6. Closing Prayer – Lii Vyeu Moond.

**CARRIED (241217-03)**

**7.2 Recommendation of the Complaints Officer and Adjudicator for the 2025 MN-S Election**

*Related information: Draft Resolution titled, “Recommendation of the Complaints Officer and Adjudicator”*

**It was MOVED (Loretta King) and SECONDED (Marg Friesen)**

**WHEREAS** Article 116 of the *Saskatchewan Métis Elections Act, 2007* (the Act) provides that the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA) shall appoint and set the term for a Complaints Officer to enforce compliance with the Act;

**WHEREAS** Article 120 of the Act provides that the MNLA shall appoint and set the term for an Adjudicator to hear all complaints referred by the Complaints Officer and render a decision that is final and binding;

**WHEREAS** the Provincial Métis Council (PMC) has recommended that the date of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Election be set for May 24, 2025 (PMC Resolution #240222-04), which is pending approval by the MNLA at their virtual Assembly on January 25, 2025;

**WHEREAS** it is past practice that the PMC recommends the individuals for the roles of Complaints Officer and Adjudicator as outlined in the Act, subject to the approval of the MNLA of those appointments;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the PMC recommends the following appointments for the roles of Complaints Officer and Adjudicator for a term of one year for the 2025 Election, subject to approval by the MNLA:

- Complaints Officer: Lorne Gibson
- Adjudicator: Gordon Kirkby

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the PMC confirms the appointments of the roles of Complaints Officer and Adjudicator are interpreted within the meanings contained in the *Act*, including the exercise of any administrative powers required to fulfill the duties assigned within the *Act*; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the PMC recommends that a resolution appointing the Complaints Officer and Adjudicator and terms of appointment pursuant to the *Act* be considered at the virtual MNLA scheduled for January 25, 2025.

**CARRIED (241217-04)**

Associate Minister Gervais and Minister McLennan voted in opposition

### 7.3 Revision of Designated Signing Authorities

*Related information: Draft Resolution titled, “Endorsement of Revision to Designated Signing Authorities”*

An overview was provided regarding recent adjustments within the Department of Finance necessitating the reassignment of signing authorities.

#### **It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) and SECONDED (Loretta King)**

**WHEREAS** the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) recognizes the distinctiveness of Métis identity, culture, values and language - inclusive of Knowledge Keepers, Lii Vyeu Moond (the “Old Ones” or “Elders”), Youth, Women, and distinctive resources – which is incorporated into proposals and decisions of the Provincial Métis Council (PMC);

**WHEREAS** the MN-S is committed to promoting transparency and integrity in all aspects of government operations, including prudent and accountable use of MN-S funds;

**WHEREAS** on December 9, 2024, Ayyaz Ahmed, a designated signing authority, returned to the position of Manager of Accounting with MN-S, following the employment of Echo Qin as Director of Finance; and

**WHEREAS** the Finance Committee recommended that Echo Qin replace Ayyaz Ahmed as a designated signing authority at their meeting on December 16, 2024;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the PMC approves the removal of Ayyaz Ahmed as a designated signing authority for MN-S banking documentation and designates Echo Qin as his replacement; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the PMC confirms that MN-S banking-related documentation be signed by any two of the following signing authorities:

- Glen McCallum, President
- Marg Friesen, Minister of Finance
- Richard Quintal, Chief Executive Officer
- Matthew Vermette, Chief Operating Officer
- Echo Qin, Director of Finance.

**CARRIED (241217-05)**

## AGENDA VARIED

### **It was MOVED (Michelle LeClair) and SECONDED (Brent Digness)**

That the order of the agenda for the December 17, 2024, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting be amended to consider “Item 7.4 Appointment of Deputy Speaker for the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly”, during an in-camera discussion.

**CARRIED (241217-06)**

## MEETING ADJOURNED

### **It was MOVED (Michelle LeClair) and SECONDED (Kathie Pruden-Nansel)**

That the December 17, 2024, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting now adjourn for an in-camera meeting, to consider Item 7.4 Appointment of Deputy Speaker for the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.

**CARRIED (241217-07)**

Time: 11:15 a.m.

## MEETING RECONVENED

The meeting reconvened at 12:20 p.m. after the in-camera discussion.

### **8. Proposed SaskMétis Economic Development Corporation (SMEDCO) Governance Model**

*Related information:*

- *Presentation titled, “Building a Bright Future: Proposed Governance and Management Model for SMEDCO”*
- *Draft Resolution titled, “Endorsement of the Proposed Model and Roadmap for SMEDCO Governance and Management”*

Craig Gates, MNP LLP, reviewed the information provided, including governance and management recommendations, and components to consider as part of a long-term agreement between SMEDCO and Clarence Campeau Development Fund (CCDF). It was noted that a report on the material presented, would be provided following the meeting.

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- Recognizing SMEDCO as an MN-S government entity rather than an MN-S Affiliate
- Projected savings of \$703,095 anticipated through an integrated management model between SMEDCO and CCDF
- Consolidating the application process for SMEDCO and CCDF into a streamlined system
- Maintaining distinct Boards of Directors for SMEDCO and CCDF, with overlapping membership
- The current use of the CCDF building which accommodated all operations; the previously-used SMEDCO building remained unoccupied
- Adjusting the structure of the Board of Directors to include representatives from North, Central and Southern Saskatchewan, the MN-S Minister of Economic Development, and appointments approved by the PMC
- Transitioning Muskwa Development Corporation, from SMEDCO to MN-S
- Discussion with Canada on the retention of unspent economic development funding.

**It was MOVED (Brent Digness) and SECONDED (Mervin “Tex” Bouvier)**

**WHEREAS** the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) recognizes the distinctiveness of Métis identity, culture, values and language - inclusive of knowledge keepers, Lii Vyeu Moond (the “Old Ones” or “Elders”), Youth, Women, and distinctive resources – which is incorporated into proposals and decisions of the Provincial Métis Council (PMC);

**WHEREAS**, on January 16, 2024, the PMC resolved to remove certain Board Members from the SaskMétis Economic Development Corporation (SMEDCO) Board of Directors and appoint an interim Board. This decision was made to address serious governance and operational challenges within SMEDCO, by reviewing and modernizing the governance practices and structure of the organization;

**WHEREAS** representatives of MNP LLP and Clarence Campeau Development Corporation (CCDF) presented to the PMC outlining considerations for a future model for SMEDCO and input was provided by the PMC on the presentation;

**WHEREAS** the PMC requested that the MN-S Chief Operating Officer prepare a draft resolution for consideration, outlining a future proposed model for SMEDCO (PMC Request for Action #RFA-IC-240419-02);

**WHEREAS** MNP LLP has submitted a report for consideration to the PMC titled “Proposed Model and Roadmap for SMEDCO Governance and Management” (the “Report”) that provides a number of recommendations for the management and governance of SMEDCO; and

**WHEREAS** the PMC has reviewed the Report and is in support of the recommendations contained therein;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the PMC endorses the recommendations in the Report received from MNP LLP; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** this resolution may be shared with the public upon the completion by all parties of a new agreement regarding the governance and management framework for SMEDCO.

**CARRIED (241217-08)**

**9. IN-CAMERA**

It was agreed to now adjourn the meeting and convene an in-camera discussion.

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

That the December 17, 2024, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting now adjourn for an in-camera discussion.

**CARRIED (241217-09)**

Time: 1:15 p.m.

**MEETING RECONVENED**

The December 17, 2024, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting reconvened at 2:00 p.m. after the in-camera discussion.

**10. ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM IN-CAMERA**

**10.1 In-Camera Item 7.4 – “Appointment of Deputy Speaker for the MNLA”**

The following resolution was duly resolved during the December 17, 2024 in-camera meeting and is included in these minutes for information.

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

**WHEREAS** Article 5 of the *Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly Act, 1999*, directs the Provincial Métis Council (PMC) to appoint a Speaker and Deputy Speaker for the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA), which must be ratified by the MNLA;

**WHEREAS** the MNLA, at their duly held meeting on May 27, 2023, appointed John Lagimodiere and Merelda Fiddler-Potter, to two-year terms as Speaker and Deputy Speaker, respectively; and

**WHEREAS** Merelda Fiddler-Potter has since resigned from the Deputy Speaker position;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the PMC recommends the appointment of Mike Nolin as Deputy Speaker for the January 25, 2025 MNLA; and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the PMC recommends that the MNLA ratify the appointment of the Deputy Speaker for the January 25, 2025 MNLA at the next sitting of the MNLA.

**CARRIED (IC-241217-01)**

**CONCLUSION**

The meeting concluded at 2:05 p.m. with a Closing Prayer offered by Laura Burnouf.

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

That the December 17, 2024, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting now conclude.

**CARRIED (241217-10)**

Time: 2:05 p.m.

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**LIST OF ATTACHMENTS**

*The following items are attached to these minutes:*

- List of Information Items
- List of Acronyms

### **LIST OF INFORMATION ITEMS**

*The following items were referenced or presented for consideration at the meeting:*

1. Provincial Métis Council Meeting Roll Call
2. Draft Agenda for the December 17, 2024, MN-S PMC Meeting
3. Draft Minutes of the November 18, 2024, MN-S PMC Meeting
4. Draft Resolution titled, “Adoption of the Order of the Day/Agenda for the Special Métis Nation Legislative Assembly, January 2025”
5. Draft Resolution titled, “Recommendation of the Complaints Officer and Adjudicator”
6. Draft Resolution titled, “Endorsement of Revision to Designated Signing Authorities”
7. Draft Resolution titled, “Appointment of Deputy Speaker for MNLA”
8. Presentation titled, “Building a Bright Future: Proposed Governance and Management Model for SMEDCO”
9. Draft Resolution titled, “Endorsement of the Proposed Model and Roadmap for SMEDCO Governance and Management”

### **LIST OF ACRONYMS**

*The following acronyms are referenced in these minutes:*

CCDF	Clarence Campeau Development Fund
MN-S	Métis Nation – Saskatchewan
PMC	Provincial Métis Council
MNLA	Métis Nation Legislative Assembly
SMEDCO	SaskMétis Economic Development Corporation