



**MÉTIS NATION - SASKATCHEWAN
PROVINCIAL MÉTIS COUNCIL MEETING**
held November 18, 2025

Minutes of the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) Meeting held November 18, 2025, by videoconference, prepared by Diane Parsons, Recording Secretary.

PROVINCIAL MÉTIS COUNCIL:

Present:

Michelle LeClair, Vice President
Marlene Hansen, Secretary
Jeremy Denomie, Treasurer
Laura Burnouf, Northern Region 1
(arrived at 9:40 a.m.)
Ryan Carriere, Eastern Region 1
Brent Digness, Eastern Region 2
Marg Friesen, Eastern Region 3
Beverly Fullerton, Western Region 2A

Billy Kennedy, Western Region 1A
(arrived at 10:35 a.m.)
Loretta King, Western Region 1
Rachael Heiser, Provincial Métis Youth Council
Darlene Langan, Les Filles de Madeleine
Darcy Lepowick, Eastern Region 2A
Brennan Merasty, Northern Region 3
Leonard Montgrand, Northern Region 2

Absent:

Glen McCallum, President
Wendy Gervais, Western Region 3

Sherry McLennan, Western Region 2

ALSO PRESENT:

John Lagimodiere (Chair)
Elder Norman Fleury
Elder Caroline Laliberte

Craig Kutarna Gates, MNP (Item 9)
Susan Mowbray, MNP (Item 9)
Diane Parsons, Recording Secretary

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

Richard Quintal, Chief Executive Officer
Matthew Vermette, Chief Operating Officer
Dorothy Myo, Deputy Chief, Self-Government
Hilary Peterson, Senior General Counsel / Head Legal Officer
Echo Qin, Director of Finance
Heather Hallgrimson, Acting Cabinet and Legislative Services Manager - Policy and Self Determination

1. CALL TO ORDER

John Lagimodiere, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:15 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

Related information: Draft Agenda for the November 18, 2025, MN-S PMC Meeting

In response to questions, it was confirmed that:

- A discussion on communications and responsiveness to citizens will be added to a future Government Day agenda
- The Finance Committee will review a recently submitted resolution from the Treasurer, regarding investment income.

It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) and SECONDED (Brennan Merasty)

That the Agenda for the November 18, 2025, Métis Nation - Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) Meeting be approved as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Prayer - Lii Vyeu Moond (the “Old Ones”)
3. Roll Call
4. Review/Approval of the Agenda
5. Opening Remarks - President Glen McCallum
6. Approval of the Consent Agenda Items:
 - 6.1 Approval of Recording Secretary
 - 6.2 Review and Approval of the October 28, 2025, PMC Minutes
7. Resolutions:
 - 7.1 Gabriel Dumont Institute Board of Governors Appointment for Northern Region 3
 - 7.2 Protection of the Saskatchewan River Delta
 - 7.3 Signing Authority Treasurer
 - 7.4 Métis Nation Legislative Assembly Delegate Honorariums
8. Finance Update:
 - 8.1 Second Quarter (Q2) Variance Analysis
9. Socio-Economic Impact Assessment Presentation
10. In-Camera
11. Conclusion and Closing Prayer - Lii Vyeu Moond (the “Old Ones”).

CARRIED (251118-01)

5. OPENING REMARKS

Due to President McCallum’s absence, “Opening Remarks” were not provided.

6. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Related information (provided with the agenda): Draft Minutes of the October 28, 2025 PMC Meeting

In response to a question, it was confirmed that a friendly amendment proposed during discussion of the draft resolution on “Amendments to the Constitution of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan for Provincial Election for Women and Youth Representative to PMC” was not reflected in the October 28, 2025 minutes, as the resolution was deferred to a future meeting. PMC minutes are recorded at a high level and focus on documenting decisions made.

It was MOVED (Beverly Fullerton) and SECONDED (Marg Friesen)

That the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council (PMC) approves the following items included on the Consent Agenda:

- Appointment of Diane Parsons as Recording Secretary for the November 18, 2025, PMC Meeting; and
- The Minutes of the October 28, 2025, PMC Meeting.

CARRIED (251118-02)

9:40 a.m.

Laura Burnouf joined the meeting.

7. RESOLUTIONS

7.1 Gabriel Dumont Institute Board of Governors Appointment for Northern Region 3

Related information (provided with the agenda): Draft Resolution on, “Gabriel Dumont Institute Board of Governors Appointment for Northern Region 3”

It was MOVED (Brennan Merasty) 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, Kihitâyak, Lii Vyeu Moond (“the Old Ones” or Elders), Youth, Women and distinctive resources – which are incorporated into proposals and decisions of the Provincial Métis Council (PMC);

WHEREAS Article 5-3 of the *Constitution of the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan* states “The Regional Council shall have the responsibility of making all appointments to the Institutions and Affiliates at the Regional and Provincial levels”; and

WHEREAS Northern Region 3, at their duly held meeting, recommended that Camellia Couillonneur be appointed to the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) Board of Governors as the Northern Region 3 representative;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC ratify the appointment of Camellia Couillonneur to the GDI Board of Governors as the Northern Region 3 representative.

CARRIED (251118-03)

7.2 Protection of the Saskatchewan River Delta

Related information (provided with the agenda): Draft Resolution on, “Protection of the Saskatchewan River Delta and Support for Métis Environmental Stewardship”

During discussion, comments were offered on potential pathways for environmental protection of the delta, including seeking designation as a *United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization* “Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area”, and engaging with federal, provincial, and Parks Canada partners.

It was MOVED (Ryan Carriere) and SECONDED (Brent Digness)

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

WHEREAS the community of Cumberland House is the oldest permanent settlement in Saskatchewan, established through the Hudson's Bay Company's first inland trading post and fort and predates the formation of the province of Saskatchewan;

WHEREAS the Saskatchewan River Delta is one of the largest inland freshwater deltas in North America, and has been home to generations of Métis families who depend on the Delta for hunting, fishing, trapping, harvesting, spiritual practices, and a way of life tied to the land and waters;

WHEREAS Cumberland House is a historic Métis community, whose citizens continue to assert their inherent rights and uphold traditional practices rooted in the Saskatchewan River Delta territory;

WHEREAS the E.B. Campbell Dam, constructed without meaningful consultation or consent of the Métis communities downstream, along with subsequent industrial and agricultural development, including major irrigation projects, has drastically altered the hydrology of the Delta, resulting in environmental degradation and significant harms to the traditional lands and ways of life of Métis citizens;

WHEREAS current and proposed upstream developments, including the Saskatchewan Government's \$4 billion irrigation expansion project at Diefenbaker and Buffalo Pound, present a clear and ongoing threat to the health of the Saskatchewan River Delta ecosystem and the constitutional rights of downstream Métis communities;

WHEREAS historically, the community of Cumberland House accessed clean, potable water from the Saskatchewan River; however, cumulative upstream damage and altered flow patterns have rendered this source no longer viable, resulting in a boil-water advisory, and efforts by the Saskatchewan Water Agency to drill ground wells have not resolved the issue, resulting in a persistent humanitarian and ecological crisis;

WHEREAS the MN-S is the recognized government of the Métis Nation within Saskatchewan, and is responsible for upholding Métis rights and safeguarding Métis ways of life, which includes protecting the lands and resources used by Métis peoples for generations;

WHEREAS, in response to the province of Saskatchewan's refusal to engage with the MN-S on matters associated with the Crown's duty to consult, and its failure to engage with the MN-S on a government-to-government basis, the PMC directed the MN-S to pursue litigation challenging the validity of the province's 2010 "First Nations and Métis Consultation Policy Framework" (as per Resolution #200608-07), and the MN-S initiated an Action in 2020 with respect to the province's consultation policy; and

WHEREAS in 2023, the MN-S commenced a further Action (the "2023 Action") seeking a determination that the province of Saskatchewan's refusal to consult with Aboriginal people, including the MN-S, was unconstitutional as it was inconsistent with section 35 rights, and a decision on the 2023 Action is pending;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC declares the MN-S is committed to the protection, stewardship and assertion of Métis rights for the historic Métis community of Cumberland House, and other Métis communities whose livelihoods are connected with the Saskatchewan River Delta;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC directs the MN-S President, and any other individuals designated by the President, to meet with First Nations, provincial and federal governments,

and other relevant parties, including, but not limited to, Cumberland House Cree Nation, Saskatchewan Water Agency, SaskPower, and the United Nations, to explore actionable solutions to remedy the ongoing issues affecting the Delta; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC directs that MN-S Legal report back to the PMC, after the decision is rendered for the 2023 Action, with an update on the possibility for future legal action with respect to the issues outlined in this resolution.

CARRIED (251118-04)

7.3 Signing Authority Treasurer

Related information (provided with the agenda): Draft Resolution on, “Signing Authority Treasurer”

It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) 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, Kihtêyak, Lii Vyeu Moond (“the Old Ones” or Elders), Youth, Women and distinctive resources – which are 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 the prudent and accountable use of MN-S funds;

WHEREAS the *Constitution of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan* (the “*Constitution*”), in Article 3.4(b) states that the PMC “shall designate persons who may have signing authority for the purpose of conducting the affairs of the Organization, which shall include the Treasurer”; and

WHEREAS at its duly convened meeting on November 12, 2025, the Finance Committee recommended that the PMC approve the addition of the Treasurer to the approved signing authorities of the MN-S, in alignment with the requirement in Article 3.4(b) of the *Constitution*, for the following designated signing authorities:

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

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC approve the addition of the Treasurer to the approved signing authorities of the MN-S, in alignment with the requirement in Article 3.4(b) of the *Constitution*; and

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

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

CARRIED (251118-05)

7.4 Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA) Delegate Honorariums

Related information (provided with the agenda): Draft Resolution on “Métis Nation Legislative Assembly Delegate Honorariums”

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- Recognizing the sacrifices of delegates to attend an MNLA; and
- The feasibility of continuing MNLA delegate honorariums into the next fiscal year.

It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) and SECONDED (Jeremy Denomie)

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

WHEREAS the Locals are the foundation of the MN-S government, serving as the primary link between citizens and their government, ensuring that community voices are heard and represented in all decision-making;

WHEREAS Local Presidents (or Vice Presidents attending in place of a Local President), Women’s Delegates, and Youth Delegates attending the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA) each play vital and complementary leadership roles within their communities—providing governance, advocacy, mentorship, and cultural continuity on behalf of Métis citizens across Saskatchewan;

WHEREAS these community leaders are expected to attend the MNLA to represent their constituents, contribute to laws, policies, and budgets, and uphold the democratic functioning of the MN-S;

WHEREAS attendance at the MNLA requires significant personal sacrifice, including time away from family, employment, education, and community obligations, and these leaders currently receive no compensation for their dedicated service in this capacity;

WHEREAS empowering grassroots leadership through fair recognition and financial support strengthens the Métis Nation’s governance, accountability, and ability to deliver effective programs and services to citizens;

WHEREAS on November 12, 2025, the Finance Committee considered that Local Presidents (or Vice Presidents attending in their place), the four Women’s Delegates, and the four Youth Delegates each receive an honorarium of \$250 per day for each day they attend the MNLA; and

WHEREAS on November 12, 2025, the Finance Committee further considered that the honorariums take effect for the November 21-23, 2025, MNLA;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC approves that Local Presidents (or Vice Presidents attending in their place), the four Women’s Delegates, and the four Youth Delegates each receive an honorarium of \$250 per day for each day they attend the MNLA; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC approves that the honorariums take effect for the November 21-23, 2025, MNLA.

CARRIED (251118-06)

Health Break

The meeting recessed at 10:25 a.m. and reconvened at 10:45 a.m. Billy Kennedy was present when the meeting resumed.

8. FINANCE UPDATE

8.1 Q2 Variance Analysis

Related information (provided with the agenda): Presentation titled, “Q2-25/26 Financial Update”

Echo Qin, Director of Finance, reviewed the Q2 financial update and offered comments on:

- Filing of 2023-24 funding reports, bringing MN-S into compliance with financial requirements
- Ongoing work to strengthen financial controls, including segregation of duties, fraud prevention measures, and implementation of document approval software
- A decline in cash reserves since Q1, indicating increased operational activity as projects transitioned into active phases
- Revenue appearing to be over budget due to funder’s timing and “up-front” payments, anticipated to normalize over the year
- Approximately \$34,000 in “cost of sales”, connected to goods for online and Batoche sales
- Lower than projected expenses and administrative fee recovery, attributed to delays in program delivery and infrastructure construction; senior management was working collaboratively to address impacts
- Additional funding received through the federal Urban Programming for Indigenous Peoples (UPIP) and School Food Program (SFP).

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- The Finance Committee’s review of distribution options for UPIP and SFP allocations, and PMC’s oversight role in approving new program funding
- PMC and MNLA approval of the overall budget, supported by internal operational budgeting and financial controls, and an upcoming draft budget workshop for the PMC
- Risks associated with underspending and impacts on internal services; monitoring and contingency planning was critical
- Infrastructure delays linked to pandemic impacts; strong foundational systems were needed
- Challenges arising from siloed ministries; strong collaboration and clear roles in budgeting and program development were required
- The value of financial education, including workshops, and clear communication on financial policies; PMC’s review and approval was required of major financial policies
- Including financial update information in materials for the November 22-23, 2025 MNLA.

Meal Break

Elder Caroline Laliberte provided a meal blessing. The meeting recessed at 12:05 p.m. and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

Roll Call

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

9. SOCIO ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT PRESENTATION

Related information (provided at the meeting):

- MNP Report titled, “Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Socio-Economic Impact Assessment”
- Presentation titled, “Socio-Economic Impact Assessment”

Susan Mowbray and Craig Kutarna Gates, MNP, reviewed the presentation regarding the MN-S’s socio-economic impacts, noting that MN-S investments generated strong economic and social returns for Saskatchewan, including measurable improvements in housing, education, health, and cultural vitality.

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- Investments in MN-S, which produced approximately \$2.00 in provincial economic activity for every dollar invested; these impacts were expected to increase with program spending
- The inclusion of MNP’s report with materials for the November 22-23, 2025 MNLA.

10. IN-CAMERA

It was MOVED (Rachael Heiser) and SECONDED (Beverly Fullerton)

That the November 18, 2025, Métis Nation - Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting now conclude for an in-camera discussion.

CARRIED (251118-07)

11. CONCLUSION

The MN-S PMC Meeting held November 18, 2025 concluded at 1:35 p.m.

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LIST OF INFORMATION ITEMS

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

1. Draft Agenda for the November 18, 2025, MN-S PMC Meeting
2. Draft Minutes of the October 28, 2025 PMC Meeting
3. Draft Resolution titled, “Gabriel Dumont Institute Board of Governors Appointment for NR3”
4. Draft Resolution titled, “Protection of the Saskatchewan River Delta and Support for Métis Environmental Stewardship”
5. Draft Resolution titled, “Signing Authority Treasurer”
6. Draft Resolution titled, “Métis Nation Legislative Assembly Delegate Honorariums”
7. Presentation titled, “Q2-25/26 Financial Update”
8. MNP Report titled, “Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Socio-Economic Impact Assessment”
9. Presentation titled, “Socio-Economic Impact Assessment”

LIST OF ACRONYMS

The following acronyms are referenced in these minutes:

GDI	Gabriel Dumont Institute
MN-S	Métis Nation - Saskatchewan
MNLA	Métis Nation Legislative Assembly
PMC	Provincial Métis Council
SFP	School Food Program
UPIP	Urban Programming for Indigenous Peoples