



Resolution Duly Approved by the
Métis Nation-Saskatchewan
Provincial Métis Council on August 19, 2025
#250819-09

Developing a Plan for a Wetacihowin Policy

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 Preamble of the *Constitution of the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan* (the “*Constitution*”) affirms Métis have the inherent right to self-determination; choosing their political path and pursuing economic, social and cultural development;

WHEREAS Kih̓t̓y̓ak are vital to the growth and vision of MN-S, serving as the primary Knowledge Keepers of Métis languages, culture, traditions, history, and providing spiritual guidance through opening and closing prayers, starting meetings in a good way that focuses on the issues that matter most to citizens and families;

WHEREAS historically, Kih̓t̓y̓ak played a vital role within the MN-S, offering guidance and accountability through ceremonial leadership, swearing-in ceremonies, and the presentation of awards;

WHEREAS Kih̓t̓y̓ak contributions to mediation, arbitration, advisory and cultural representation remain a respected part of MN-S’s governance legacy;

WHEREAS Métis Kih̓t̓y̓ak have been central to guiding community dispute resolution, drawing upon traditional laws, customs, and cultural protocols to uphold connectedness and fairness;

WHEREAS through their traditional teachings, Kih̓t̓y̓ak have instilled in the Métis people a shared responsibility to care for and support one another as family;

WHEREAS Article 22 of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* calls for special attention to Indigenous Elders’ rights and needs, which further affirms MN-S’s determination to uphold international human rights standards by developing a policy that honours and supports Métis Kih̓t̓y̓ak;

WHEREAS a plan for MN-S is necessary to identify what would be required for MN-S to outline a clear, consistent, and culturally grounded Wetacihowin Policy that would clarify how Kih̓t̓y̓ak are engaged, supported, and recognized in MN-S governance and decision-making; and

WHEREAS the plan would outline proposed costs, timelines and allocation of resources required to develop a comprehensive Wetacihowin Policy;

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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC directs the MN-S to draft a plan that would outline the resources required and proposed approach to develop a comprehensive Wetacihowin Policy that would clarify Kihitêyak's essential role within the MN-S Government, consistent with the *Constitution* and in a way that supports MN-S's continued journey toward self-government;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the PMC directs that the plan be developed as an interministerial collaboration across MN-S, recognizing the critical role of Kihitêyak throughout the work and activities of the entire MN-S Government; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the draft plan be presented to the PMC for review and approval at a future meeting, with the work anticipated to take at least one year to complete.

Dated this 19th day of August, 2025

Moved by: Brennan Merasty, Northern Region 3

Seconded by: Glen McCallum, President

