

Moved by Phillip Chartier, seconded by Sheena Alison.
Motion carried.

Resolution 002 – Métis Harvesting:

“WHEREAS the Supreme Court of Canada has affirmed in the Powley case that the Métis are full fledged rights-bearing aboriginal people with constitutionally protected harvesting rights.

AND WHEREAS Saskatchewan courts have affirmed Métis throughout Saskatchewan have existing constitutionally protected harvesting rights.

AND WHEREAS the Supreme Court of Canada has also affirmed in a series of cases called Haida Nation, Taku River and Mikisew Cree that the Crown has a duty to consult and accommodate proven and asserted Métis rights, consistent with the honour of the Crown and the purpose of S.35 of the Constitution Act, 1982.

AND WHEREAS the Saskatchewan Government's current fish and wildlife laws do not recognize, respect or accommodate Métis harvesting rights throughout the province and the Government continues to determine, based on it's own policies and procedures, who has a Métis right and whether they will exercise their discretion whether to lay charges.

AND WHEREAS the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan is the Government of the Métis Nation within the province of Saskatchewan and has the responsibility to ensure Métis rights are recognized and respected by other governance so Métis people can continue to harvest as they have done for generations without fear of harassment, investigation or prosecutions.

AND WHEREAS the Métis recognize that with rights come responsibilities and has continued to actively fulfill it's responsibilities by listening to and learning from Métis Elders, adopting a MN-S Wildlife Act in 1994, developing a centralized registry for the identification of Métis Nation citizens, consulting Métis citizens on how to move forward and engaging with governments to ensure Métis rights are recognized and respected.

AND WHEREAS Métis citizens in Saskatchewan support the MN-S, as their representative government to begin formal negotiations with the Saskatchewan Government on arriving at a province wide Métis harvesting accommodation agreement based on the following directions and principles:

- The Métis are one nation, one people and are united in support of the recognition of Métis rights in all parts of the province;
- Any agreement must be province wide and appreciate the Métis have historically been and continue to be a mobile people in relation to the exercise and practice of their harvesting rights;
- Any agreement must recognize the Métis Nation's self government role in relation to the regulation of Métis rights and co-management of lands and resources in the province;
- Any agreement must ensure that only the Métis Nation determines who is a Métis citizen and who has harvesting rights through a Métis controlled identification and registration system;
- Any agreement must build on the MN-S Wildlife Act, recognizing that this act may need to be amended by a future MNLA based on consultations with Métis citizens and the recognition that the law has changed since 1994;
- Any agreement must not limit or take away from the Métis harvesting rights that have already been recognized by Saskatchewan courts in the Morin and Daigneault, Laviolette and Bellhumeur cases.

Therefore be it resolved:

1. The 2008 MNLA mandate to MN-S to engage in formal negotiations for a province wide Métis harvesting agreement with the Government of Saskatchewan based on the directions and principles outlined above.
2. The 2008 MNLA directs that while these negotiations are ongoing the MN-S work to assist Métis harvesters who are charged or investigated by putting in place interim measures or processes with the Saskatchewan Government to assist Métis harvesters in exercising their rights.
3. The 2008 MNLA direct the MN-S to undertake province wide consultations on Métis harvesting issues in order to update citizens on harvesting issues and to consult on potential changes to the MN-S Wildlife Act and potential options for a province wide Métis harvesting agreement.
4. The 2008 MNLA direct the MN-S to report back to the next MNLA on the progress in the negotiations and provide any suggested changes to the MN-S Wildlife Act in advance of the next MNLA."

Motion 016: To approve Resolution 002 – Métis Harvesting.

Moved by Bob McLeod, seconded by Lennard Morin.

Motion carried.

Motion 017: To request that the MNLA delegation support the Métis Wildlife Defense Fund proposal, and that each local contribute annually based on financial resources available.

Moved by Phillip Chartier, seconded by Lennard Morin.

Motion carried.

Motion 018: The Métis Nation – Saskatchewan only employ Métis people that are qualified to work in the areas we need to hire in, and that in lieu of finding qualified Métis people, the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan hire Aboriginal people.

Moved by Shirley Isbister, seconded by Shirley Ross.

Motion defeated.

Resolution 003:

"Whereas the Northwest Métis Council and the Northwest Municipalities Association have a protocol agreement and therefore be it resolved these two (2) Northwest governing agencies expeditiously review and amend this protocol agreement to address the oil and gas and other economic development opportunities for the Métis residents in the area. Be it further resolved that the Duty to Consult and Accommodate be effectively utilized by the Crown, Industry, and the Northwest Métis Council and the Northwest Municipalities Association and be it further resolved that the Métis residents of Northwest Saskatchewan must benefit from all economic development opportunities within the area in the North and be it finally resolved that these Northwest Métis economic development business opportunities will effectively recruit provincial Métis residents into these evolving employment and joint venture opportunities as convenient for all parties."

Resolution brought forward by Alec Maurice, seconded by Phillip Chartier.

Resolution 003 withdrawn.