

**MÉTIS NATION – SASKATCHEWAN
PROVINCIAL MÉTIS COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES**

Minutes of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) Meeting held June 5 and 8, 2015 in the Aspen Room, Delta Calgary Airport Hotel, 2001 Airport Road NE, Calgary, Alberta.

DAY ONE: June 5, 2015

PRESENT:

Helene Johnson, Chair
Robert Doucette, President (via teleconference) (arrived at 3:34 p.m.) (departed at 4:19 p.m.)
Gerald Morin, Vice-President
Lela Arnold
Michael Bell (via teleconference)
Earl Cook (via teleconference)
Chester Herman
Derek Langan (via teleconference) (departed the meeting at 3:40 p.m.)
Tammy Mah
Glen McCallum
Darlene McKay
Lennard Morin
Bev Worsley

GUESTS:

Karen Larocque
Mavis Taylor

OBSERVERS:

Jim Durocher (arrived at 3:37 p.m.)
Ian Ketcheson, Director, Métis and Non-Status Indian Relations, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC)
Richard Quintal, Negotiator and Senior Policy Advisor, Métis and Non-Status Indian Relations, AANDC

1. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING PRAYER

Vice-President Gerald Morin called the meeting to order at 1:27 p.m.

Lennard Morin offered an Opening Prayer.

2. ROLL CALL

Vice-President Morin conducted a Roll Call and acknowledged a total of 11 members present. He confirmed that quorum was established.

2.1 Status of Robert Doucette

It was noted that as Robert Doucette was an elected representative, he should be recorded as a Participant at the meeting (when he joined via teleconference), rather than as an Observer. Members agreed to inform President Doucette that he needed to be included in the Roll Call and be recorded as being present at the PMC meeting, in order to be permitted to speak.

3. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

It was MOVED (Gerald Morin) and SECONDED (Glen McCallum)

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council appoints Helene Johnson as Chair of the June 5 and 8, 2015 Provincial Métis Council meeting.

CARRIED (150605-01)

4. MINUTE RECORDER

It was confirmed that a minute taker was present.

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

It was MOVED (Tammy Mah) and SECONDED (Lela Arnold)

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council adopts the Agenda for the meeting, with the following amendments:

- Addition of Item 10 – Amendment of Corporate Documents
- Addition of Item 11 – Selection of Administration Committee
- Addition of Item 12 – Third-Party Management
- Addition of Item 13 – Forensic Audit/Information Provided to Prince Albert City Police
- Addition of Item 14 – Update on Pending Court Action
- Revision of the title of Item 8 – “MNS Election” to “MNS Election Date/CEO”.

CARRIED (150605-02)

6. FINANCE/MNLA COMMITTEE UPDATE

Vice-President Morin advised that three joint meetings of the PMC Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA) Committee and the Finance Committee have been held. The records from the meetings will be made available to the PMC. Vice-President Morin noted that:

- Attempts have been made to schedule a MNLA however, no confirmation has been received from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) that funds are available to conduct the MNLA or PMC meetings
- There are no committed funds from the provincial or federal government to hold a face-to-face PMC meeting beyond the current meeting
- The AANDC priority is to find resources for the next MN-S election
- It is estimated that 30% of citizens were left out of the 2012 election because ballot boxes were not available in all Locals
- The need for the required resources to be available in order to achieve the objective of ensuring that there is a ballot box in every community in the next election
- President Doucette’s application that the PMC be found to be in contempt of Court, will be heard by the Court on June 16, 2015

- The PMC is unable to meet without the financial resources to do so.

Discussion ensued on:

- The request for Mavis Taylor and Tammy Mah to provide an update on their conversation with Minister Valcourt
- The need for the Finance Committee to be provided with financial records, access to bank statements, and information on the AANDC funding agreements
- The need to make an application to the Court for the complete financial records to be shared with the PMC
- A limited amount of financial information and documentation shared with the Finance Committee
- The advice provided by the bank that the MN-S signing officers are not privy to information on bank balances
- Concern that the funds are not available to the PMC MNLA Committee to organize a MNLA
- Multiple barriers to the proper organization of an MNLA.

7. RESOLUTIONS

Vice President Morin reported that he had been requested to draft resolutions, based on concerns and issues raised by PMC members.

7.1 Resolution #1 - Seizure of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Financial Records

Chair Johnson read aloud Resolution #1.

It was MOVED (Tammy Mah) and SECONDED (Lela Arnold)

BE IT RESOLVED that given the refusal of President Robert Doucette and Treasurer Louis Gardiner to release any and all financial records pertaining to the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan and its affiliated companies to the Provincial Métis Council;

We – the Provincial Métis Council (PMC), designate the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Finance Committee, which was duly appointed by the PMC at the January 16-17, 2015 PMC meeting, to seize from the MN-S Head Office, or from any other law or accounting office, all financial records of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan and any affiliated companies closely held by the MN-S and/or MN-S Executive, including Provincial Métis Holdco, Round Prairie Ventures, Back to Batoche Festival Inc., etc. immediately; and further

That any such records be taken to and held by Cuelenaere Katzman in trust, ensuring that the Finance Committee maintains control and access of the records, under the instruction of the PMC.

CARRIED (150605-03)

7.2 Resolution #2 – Formation of a Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Registry Committee

Chair Johnson read aloud Resolution #2.

It was MOVED (Darlene McKay) and SECONDED (Glen McCallum)

BE IT RESOLVED that given the lack of funding to the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) and the lack of funding to the MN-S and the formal announcement of President Doucette to close the MN-S Head Office;

We, the Provincial Métis Council (PMC), designate a Registry Committee be formed to oversee all matters in relation to the Registry, and that such Registry Committee be responsible to report to the PMC at each and every meeting of the PMC in writing and in the absence of a PMC meeting, on a monthly basis to the members of the PMC. The members of the Registry Committee shall be: Tammy Mah, Lela Arnold, Chester Herman, and Gerald Morin; and further

That the Registry Committee shall immediately seize and secure all records of the MN-S Registry, Genealogy and Archives. Any such records seized and secured shall be taken to and held by the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) in trust, in partnership with the PMC, ensuring that the Registry Committee maintains control of and access to the records and operation of the Registry, under the instruction of the PMC, until such time as the PMC orders otherwise.

CARRIED (150605-04)

7.3 Resolution #3 – Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Delegates to the Métis National Council 2015 General Assembly

Chair Johnson read aloud Resolution #3.

Discussion ensued on:

- The importance that the selection of delegates to represent the MN-S and the upcoming MNC General Assembly, be based on those present at the PMC
- The assumption that those who are not present at the PMC will not be attending the Annual General Assembly and therefore, are unavailable to be named as delegates
- Confirmation that an airline ticket was purchased and a hotel room was reserved for President Doucette to attend the Métis National Council 2015 General Assembly.

It was MOVED (Tammy Mah) and SECONDED (Darlene McKay)

BE IT RESOLVED that given the fact that the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan (MN-S) is a member of the Métis National Council (MNC) and holds fifteen (15) voting delegates at MNC General Assemblies,

The Provincial Métis Council hereby selects the following individuals to represent the MN-S at the upcoming MNC General Assembly scheduled for June 6 and 7, 2015 in Calgary, Alberta:

- 1) Gerald Morin;
- 2) Glen McCallum;
- 3) Helene Johnson;
- 4) Bev Worsley;
- 5) Mavis Taylor;
- 6) Darlene McKay;

- 7) Lela Arnold;
- 8) Tammy Mah;
- 9) Karen Larocque;
- 10) Chester Herman;
- 11) Lennard Morin; and
- 12) Derek Langan.

CARRIED (150605-05)

7.4 Resolution #4 – Métis Nation Legislative Assembly Date, Funding and Clerk

Chair Johnson read aloud Resolution #4.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 2:37 p.m. and reconvened at 3:00 p.m.

In-Camera Session

The Provincial Métis Council Meeting adjourned to an in-camera session at 3:05 p.m.

Resumption of the Meeting

The Provincial Métis Council Meeting resumed at 3:10 p.m.

Discussion ensued on:

- The appointment of Mavis Taylor as the Chief Executive Officer, which would be conditional upon her agreement to take leave from, or resign, as Local President and Board Member of the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI)
- Ms. Taylor accepted the conditions and the PMC agreed that Ms. Taylor's leave from the positions would commence upon receipt of confirmation of funding for the MNLA.

It was MOVED (Gerald Morin) and SECONDED (Glen McCallum)

BE IT RESOLVED that given the fact that Canada reported on May 5, 2015, on a teleconference, that a decision has not been taken on the funding to the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) to convene the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA), Provincial Métis Council (PMC) meetings, Finance or Human Resources meetings to prepare for an MNLA; and

Given the fact that President Doucette has announced that he has the funding for an MNLA but has failed to demonstrate that such funding exists, and given that Treasurer Louis Gardiner has reported that, as of March 31, 2015, funding sufficient for an MNLA does not exist within MN-S coffers;

The PMC retain Jay Watson, Cuelenaere Katzman, to seek an amendment to Justice Scherman's Order of April 6, 2015 requiring that the calling of an MNLA be done when funding sufficient for meaningful and full participation of the MNLA delegates is secured; and

Further, that Mavis Taylor be appointed to serve as Chief Executive Officer of MN-S and Clerk of the MNLA, whenever called, at a rate to be negotiated by the Finance Committee.

CARRIED (150605-06)

7.5 Resolution #5 – Batoche Funding Issue

Chair Johnson read aloud Resolution #5.

It was MOVED (Tammy Mah) and SECONDED (Chester Herman)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Provincial Métis Council (PMC) Finance Committee establish a plan to address the challenges forthcoming in relation to Back to Batoche Days 2015, and that the PMC Committee work closely with Minister Darlene McKay, Chairperson Responsible for Batoche.

CARRIED (150605-07)

7.6 Resolution #6 – Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Elections

Chair Johnson read aloud Resolution #6.

Discussion ensued on:

- The concern with the requirement for a ballot box to be located in every MN-S Local, as some Locals have fewer than nine members
- The need for Locals with fewer than nine members to be dissolved at the MNLA
- Confirmation that the PMC does not play a role in the processes to create or dissolve a Local.

It was MOVED (Gerald Morin) and SECONDED (Lennard Morin)

BE IT RESOLVED that given that Métis people value democracy and that democracy is the fundamental vision underlying the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Constitution; and further,

Given that since 1976, the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) has held ballot-box elections in every Local and was the first such Aboriginal government in Canada to do so. Every election except for the last one, each MN-S Local was entitled to hold a ballot box to ensure the meaningful and democratic election of MN-S leadership by the grassroots people. It is incumbent on the Federal Government to ensure that the necessary resources are secured to carry out such an election. and that includes ensuring that a ballot box be established in every local;

As such, the Provincial Métis Council (PMC) Finance Committee shall immediately begin discussions with Canada, including Saskatchewan, to secure the necessary funding for the next MN-S election, based on such principles.

CARRIED (150605-08)

7.7 Resolution #7 – Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Designated Representative to Engage with the Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada Ministerial Special Representative Thomas Isaac

Chair Johnson read aloud Resolution #7.

Lennard Morin accepted the appointment as the MN-S delegate to engage with the Ministerial Special Representative Thomas Isaac.

It was MOVED (Tammy Mah) and SECONDED (Lela Arnold)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Provincial Métis Council (PMC) designates Lennard Morin as the representative to engage with the Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada Ministerial Special Representative Thomas Isaac, on Métis s.35 rights.

CARRIED (150605-09)

7.8 Resolution #8 – Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Affiliated Institution Engagement with the Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada Ministerial Special Representative Thomas Isaac

Chair Johnson read aloud Resolution #8.

Discussion ensued on:

- Confirmation that “affiliated institutions” includes GDI and all other MN-S affiliates
- Information available on the AANDC website on individuals to be contacted by organizations who wish to engage with Thomas Isaac on Métis s.35 rights.

It was MOVED (Bev Worsley) and SECONDED (Lela Arnold)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council seeks the engagement of its affiliated institutions in discussions with the Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada Ministerial Special Representative Thomas Isaac.

CARRIED (150605-10)

8. MN-S ELECTION DATE/CEO

Member Arrived

MN-S President Robert Doucette joined the PMC meeting via teleconference at 3:34 p.m., for consideration of Items 8 and 9.

The Chair advised Mr. Doucette of the individuals who were in attendance at the PMC meeting.

There was discussion on proposed MN-S election dates. It was recommended that the MN-S election be held on Friday, November 20, 2015 or alternatively, on November 18 or 19, 2015.

Member Departed

Derek Langan left the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

Discussion ensued on:

- The need for an early election be held to allow the MN-S to recommence its work
- The need to amend the MN-S Constitution to change the election date, requiring the approval of 75% of those present at the MNLA
- The concern with the preference of the elected President to be an Observer, rather than a participant, at the PMC
- The preference to call the election in May 2016
- The preference to have the election held on Saturday, November 21, 2015
- The suggestion that the election not be held during the winter months

- The concern that the delay of an election until May 2016 would delay the recommencement of the work of the MN-S
- The need to confirm at the MNLA that the funds are available to hold an election

Point of Order

The Chair confirmed that she had welcomed President Doucette to the meeting, when he joined to discuss Items 8 and 9.

- The request that the record of the meeting indicate that the MN-S President participated at the PMC meeting and is part of the Board of the PMC
- The request that the MN-S President be recorded in the Roll Call and be included in the quorum requirements of the meeting
- The suggestion that the election be held four years after the last election occurred in September 2012
- The understanding that the MN-S Constitution was amended to require elections to be held during the month of May

***Request for Action 01:** Helene Johnson was requested to ascertain whether there was an error in the printing of the MN-S Constitution, whereby the requirement for elections to be held during the month of May was inadvertently omitted.*

- The request by Vice-President Morin, for access to the corporate minute book and additional documents
- The inability to make a decision on an election date until the federal government confirms the provision of funds to hold an election
- The need to recommend an election date to the MNLA
- The suggestion to hold the election in accordance with the Constitution.

***Request for Action 02:** The PMC members were requested to discuss and reach agreement on the preferred date for an election, prior to the MNLA.*

9. MÉTIS NATION LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

The Chair advised that Order issued by Justice Scherman to hold an MNLA by June 19, 2015 would not be met.

Discussion ensued on:

- The need to set a date for the MNLA in order to negotiate funding with the federal government
- The suggestion that the Treasurer and the President be responsible for providing the funding for the MNLA
- The suggestion to hold the MNLA on September 12 – 13, 2015, as previously resolved by the PMC in January 2015.

Member Departed

President Doucette requested that he be recorded as an Observer to the PMC meeting, and departed the meeting at 4:19 p.m.

Agenda Varied

By consensus, the Agenda was varied to consider Item 13 prior to Item 10.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 4:25 p.m. and reconvened at 4:37 p.m. with Jim Durocher in attendance as an Observer.

13. FORENSIC AUDIT/INFORMATION PROVIDED TO PRINCE ALBERT CITY POLICE

It was MOVED (Darlene McKay) and SECONDED (Tammy Mah)

WHEREAS the Constitution, Acts and legislation of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) sets out the processes of the MN-S; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Métis Council (PMC) of the MN-S is the legitimate authority of the MN-S; and

WHEREAS the PMC of the MN-S has been blocked by the Executive from exercising its fiduciary responsibilities pertaining to any and all aspects of the MN-S; and

WHEREAS the Government of Canada has made significant financial contributions to the MN-S prior to ceasing all funding to the MN-S;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council requests that the Government of Canada conduct a forensic audit on:

- 1) Métis Nation – Saskatchewan;
- 2) Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Secretariat Inc.;
- 3) Any corporations closely held by the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan, including but not limited to Provincial Métis Holdco, Holdco Trust, Round Prairie Ventures Inc., Round Prairie Development Corp., BTB Festival Days Inc., BTB Land Management Inc.; and
- 4) Boards or committees established by President Robert Doucette during the 2007 to 2012 and 2012 to 2015 terms of office.

CARRIED (150605-11)

Request for Action 03: The PMC to provide to Ian Ketcheson, Director, Métis and Non-Status Indian Relations, AANDC, written confirmation of the request for the Government of Canada to conduct a forensic audit.

Agenda Varied

The order of the Agenda was resumed.

Recess

The Métis Nation Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council meeting recessed on June 5, 2015 at 4:43 p.m. after setting the time to reconvene on June 8, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Marie Wright Room, Delta Calgary Airport Hotel, 2001 Airport Road NE, Calgary, Alberta.

* * * * *

**MÉTIS NATION – SASKATCHEWAN
PROVINCIAL MÉTIS COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES**

Minutes of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) Meeting held June 5 and 8, 2015 in the Aspen Room, Delta Calgary Airport Hotel, 2001 Airport Road NE, Calgary, Alberta.

DAY TWO: June 8, 2015

PRESENT:

Helene Johnson, Chair
Gerald Morin, Vice-President
Lela Arnold
Michael Bell (via teleconference)
Chester Herman
Derek Langan
Tammy Mah
Glen McCallum
Darlene McKay
Lennard Morin
Bev Worsley

GUESTS:

Karen Larocque
Mavis Taylor

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:49 a.m., and conducted a Roll Call, confirming members and guests in attendance.

10. AMENDMENT OF CORPORATE DOCUMENTS

It was suggested that the Finance Committee be requested to amend the corporate records to reflect the current PMC members.

Discussion ensued on:

- The suggestion that the corporate records be left uncorrected to demonstrate that MN-S President Doucette has elected to be an “absentee President”
- The suggestion to focus the efforts of the PMC on rebuilding the MN-S and moving the organization forward
- The date of filing of amendments to corporate records, as noted in the public records
- The opinion that the amendment of the corporate records was the beginning of the rebuilding process
- Whether personal liability was associated with placing the names of the PMC members on the Register of Directors in the corporate records

- The suggestion not to amend the corporate records until the Government of Canada completed the forensic audit requested by the PMC
- The concern that failing to take any action to amend the corporate records at this time will place the PMC in a reactionary mode, rather than a proactive mode
- The need for the PMC to begin to execute on the plans to regain control of the MN-S and to obtain the financial resources to do so
- The need to determine who was authorized to make changes to the corporate records.

It was MOVED (Tammy Mah) and SECONDED (Lela Arnold)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council directs the Finance Committee to investigate and correct the corporate records to reflect the current PMC members, and to file the amendments to the corporate records.

CARRIED (150608-01)

11. SELECTION OF ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

It was confirmed that the Finance Committee would be assigned to work with the third-party management. The creation of an Administration Committee would not be required.

12. THIRD-PARTY MANAGEMENT

The PMC received an update on the arrangements for third-party management.

Agenda Varied

By consensus, the Agenda was varied to return to the discussion of Item 13.

13. FORENSIC AUDIT/INFORMATION PROVIDED TO PRINCE ALBERT CITY POLICE (Continued)

The PMC was advised that no update has been received regarding the information provided to the Prince Albert City Police.

Agenda Varied

The order of the Agenda was resumed.

14. UPDATE ON PENDING COURT ACTION

Vice President Morin reported that legal counsel has provided advice on the need to demonstrate to the Courts that the PMC and the MNLA Committee have acted in good faith to comply with the Order issued by Justice Scherman to hold an MNLA by June 19, 2015. The PMC and MNLA were advised that there were no committed funds from the federal government to hold the PMC meetings and the MNLA.

Tammy Mah and Darlene McKay confirmed that they attempted to enter the MN-S office to view the financial records, as recommended by legal counsel. Photographs were taken to document the fact that the MN-S office had been closed.

Discussion ensued on:

- The recommendation that any emails received from MN-S President Doucette or other relevant information be forwarded to legal counsel and Kathy Hodgson-Smith
- The suggestion that all PMC members be present at the June 16, 2015 Court appearance

- President Doucette has made a request to the Court that he be appointed the Clerk of the MNLA.

15. OTHER BUSINESS

It was MOVED (Darlene McKay) and SECONDED (Glen McCallum)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council appoints Kathy Hodgson-Smith as the MN-S Technician to assist the MN-S Designated Representative Lennard Morin to represent the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan in the engagement with the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada Ministerial Special Representative Thomas Isaac.

CARRIED (150608-02)

16. CONCLUSION

The Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) Meeting held June 5 and 8, 2015, concluded on Day 2 – June 8, 2015 at 10:49 a.m.

It was MOVED (Gerald Morin)

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting be now concluded.

CARRIED (150608-03)

* * * * *