



**MÉTIS NATION – SASKATCHEWAN**  
**PROVINCIAL MÉTIS COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
*held February 27, 2020*

Minutes of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) Regular Meeting held February 27, 2020 in the Top of the Inn Room at the Sheraton Cavalier Saskatoon Hotel, 612 Spadina Crescent East, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

**PRESENT:** *(as indicated on a circulated sign-in sheet)*

Glen McCallum, President, Chair

Gerald Morin, Vice-President

(departed at 2:05 p.m.)

Earl Cook, Treasurer

Lisa McCallum, Secretary

Jaycee Bell, Youth Council

Mervin “Tex” Bouvier, Northern Region 3

Ryan Carriere, Eastern Region 1

Marg Friesen, Eastern Region 3

Wendy Gervais, Western Region 3

Penny Hurton, Western Region 2A

Billy Kennedy, Western Region 1A

Derek Langan, Eastern Region 2A

Sherry McLennan, Western Region 2

Leonard Montgrand, Northern Region 2

Sherry Soll, Eastern Region 2

**ALSO PRESENT:** *(seated with the Provincial Métis Council)*

Wade Daigneault, Métis Veteran

Norman Fleury, Elder

Max Morin, Elder

Josie Searson, Elder

**MN-S OFFICE:**

Brandy LaRonde, Office Manager

Dorothy Myo, Senior Director of Policy and Research

Richard Quintal, Chief Executive Officer

Hamid Shahzad, Chief Financial Officer

**RECORDING SECRETARY:**

Carrie Peacock, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

**AGENDA VARIED**

The order of the Agenda was varied throughout the meeting. Items are indicated in these minutes in the order in which they were considered.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

President Glen McCallum called the meeting to order at approximately 9:25 a.m. and acknowledged Elders, guests, and others present, including representatives from Canadian Geographic.

**2. OPENING PRAYER**

Elder Norm Fleury offered an Opening Prayer.

President McCallum recognized the importance of keeping citizens informed of the MN-S' successes, and recalled the Oath of Office and confidentiality rules PMC members committed to uphold, during the June 25-26, 2017 PMC meeting at Jackfish Lodge.

**3. APPOINTMENT OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY**

**It was MOVED (Leonard Montgrand) and SECONDED (Sherry McLennan)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council appoints Carrie Peacock, Raincoast Ventures Ltd., as Recording Secretary for the February 27, 2020 meeting.

**CARRIED (200227-01)**

**4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

During discussion on the agenda, it was noted that “Ministerial Reports” would be included as a regular item on future PMC meeting agendas.

**It was MOVED (Derek Langan) and SECONDED (Marg Friesen)**

That the Agenda for the February 27, 2020 Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council meeting be adopted as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Prayer
3. Approval of the Recording Secretary
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Review of the Previous Minutes
  - 5.1 Approval of the Minutes
  - 5.2 Business Arising from the Minutes
6. Third Quarter Financials
7. Regional Issues – Minister McLennan
8. Saskatchewan Métis Rights Conference
9. Métis Nation Legislative Assembly
10. Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) Representative Appointments
11. Western Region 2A Resolutions
12. Identity, Citizenship and Homeland
13. Other Business:
  - 13.1 Concerns
  - 13.2 First Time Home Buyers Program / Emergency Home Renovations and Repair Program
  - 13.3 Other Matters – Secretary McCallum
14. Closing Prayer.

**CARRIED (200227-02)**

**5. REVIEW OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**5.1 Approval of the December 17, 2019 PMC Minutes**

Secretary Lisa McCallum read aloud the decisions and resolutions indicated in the draft minutes.

**It was MOVED (Penny Hurton) and SECONDED (Sherry Soll)**

That Minutes of the December 17, 2019 Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting be approved as presented.

**CARRIED (200227-03)**

**5.2 Business Arising from the December 17, 2019 PMC Minutes**

During discussion on the minutes, Richard Quintal, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), offered updates on the following:

- Resolutions 191217-05 and 191217-06:
  - MLT Aikins prepared the affidavits they required to represent PMC members individually
  - EY submitted a claim to the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) on the PMC's behalf
  - Further updates will be provided when information becomes available
- Resolution 191217-04:
  - The Minutes of the July 18, 2019 PMC meeting were referred back to staff for clarification and will be provided for consideration later in the meeting.

**6. THIRD QUARTER FINANCIALS**

*Related information: "Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Balance Sheet" and "Departmental Income Statements", dated December 31, 2019*

Hamid Shahzad, Chief Financial Officer, referred the meeting to the information provided.

During discussion on the financial statements, comments were offered regarding:

- The "Other Director Project Costs", which includes costs related to housing program costs
- The "Guardian Program", which refers to climate monitoring
- Delayed funding from federal government for the current fiscal year
- The budget for the next fiscal year, estimated at just over \$40 million
- Publicly-available audited financial statements posted on the MN-S website
- Adjustments being considered to the format of future MN-S "Departmental Income Statements", to:
  - Avoid reflecting a negative budget in instances where funding was pending
  - Attaching clarifying "notes"
- Travel and expense claims, based on federal Treasury Board guidelines
- The potential for future increased capacity funding for the regions.

Comments were offered on recent discussions with federal government representatives, and the opportunity for the MN-S to pursue an Interim Fiscal Financing Agreement (IFFA), prior to negotiating towards a longer-term Fiscal Financing Agreement (FFA).

**Request for Action**

*It was requested that potential dates and locations for a two-day facilitated PMC retreat be sent to PMC members for consideration.*

During discussion on coordinating a two-day PMC retreat, it was suggested that:

- With the support of a third-party facilitator, discussions could focus on matters including (but not limited to):
  - Salaries and workloads of elected officials and ministerial positions
  - Updates from each of the Ministers
- To assist the retreat's discussions, the following would be prepared:
  - A list of the PMC roles and responsibilities
  - A flow chart indicating all MN-S ministries.

Additional comments were provided regarding:

- Personal vehicles being used for MN-S business:
  - Options are needed to address increased vehicle operations and maintenance costs
  - Utilizing MN-S-owned vehicles for MN-S business, could be a cost-effective approach
- The multiple roles of the CEO, including addressing external matters that impact the MN-S:
  - Additional support may be assigned to assist the CEO's office
- The recent decision to retain in-house legal counsel to support the MN-S government
- The protocol for PMC members seeking information from MN-S staff (e.g. through the CEO's office or otherwise).

**It was MOVED (Penny Hurton) and SECONDED (Sherry McLennan)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council approve as presented, the "Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Balance Sheet" and "Departmental Income Statements", dated December 31, 2019.

**CARRIED (200227-04)**

**Health Break**

The meeting recessed at 11:05 a.m. and reconvened at 11:20 a.m.

**7. REGIONAL ISSUES – Minister McLennan (Western Region 2)**

Minister Sherry McLennan reported on some regional issues, and commented on:

- The importance of Locals complying with the Constitution's protocol for elections, including:
  - Locals posting their Annual General Meetings in a paid newspaper announcement, at least 30 days in advance, and inviting the Regional President to attend
- Reminding the provincial Executive members of the established procedures for communicating with the region (through the Regional President)
- Western Region 2's recent decision to request support from the MN-S to seek legal advice on addressing lateral violence, and to inform the police of some recent slanderous allegations.

During discussion, additional comments were offered on the Urban Programming for Indigenous Peoples (UIP) funding (previously known as “Urban Aboriginal Strategy” funding), including:

- UIP funding was intended for urban programming
- Terms and criteria enable communities to apply for UIP funding through their respective Regional Councils.

#### **Health Break**

Max Morin provided a meal blessing. The meeting recessed at 12:15 p.m. and reconvened at 12:55 p.m.

#### **8. SASKATCHEWAN MÉTIS RIGHTS CONFERENCE**

President McCallum referred to the agenda provided for the February 28-29, 2020 Métis Rights Conference, which all members of the public could attend.

#### **9. MÉTIS NATION LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**It was MOVED (Wendy Gervais) and SECONDED (Marg Friesen)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council directs that a MN-S Métis Nation Legislative Assembly be held May 22-24, 2020 at the Evraz Place in Regina, Saskatchewan.

**CARRIED (200227-05)**

#### **10. GABRIEL DUMONT INSTITUTE (GDI) REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENTS**

##### **10.1 Western Region 3**

**It was MOVED (Sherry McLennan) and SECONDED (Penny Hurton)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council appoint Dennis Brooks to represent Western Region 3 on the Gabriel Dumont Institute Board of Directors.

**CARRIED (200227-06)**

##### **10.2 Western Region 2**

**It was MOVED (Sherry Soll) and SECONDED (Mervin “Tex” Bouvier)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council appoint Jeff Joannette to represent Western Region 2 on the Gabriel Dumont Institute Board of Directors.

**CARRIED (200227-07)**

**11. WESTERN REGION 2A RESOLUTIONS**

**11.1 Child Care**

*Related information: Proposed resolution titled “Motion for Childcare for Meetings”, submitted by Western Region 2A and dated February 25, 2020*

It was confirmed that the intent of the proposed resolution was that childcare for MN-S events, would be coordinated for attendees through the region in which the event was being held.

**It was MOVED (Glen McCallum) and SECONDED (Marg Friesen)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council endorse the following resolution as presented:

“That the Métis Nation and Ministries of the MN-S, when planning conferences, engagements, Métis Nation Legislative Assemblies, and Annual General Assemblies, make available for participants, all-day childcare for the duration of the above-mentioned events;

That the duty of organizing the childcare and activities will be at the direction of the relevant region’s Regional Council, which will make the necessary preparations for the children; and

That all participating childcare providers will have completed CPR training, a babysitters’ course, and a criminal record check, before being allowed to interact with the children”.

**CARRIED (200227-08)**

**11.2 Honorarium**

*Related information: Proposed resolution titled “Motion for Honorarium”, submitted by Western Region 2A and dated February 11, 2020*

It was confirmed that the proposed resolution intended to provide honorarium for elected officials attending meetings.

**It was MOVED (Sherry McLennan) and SECONDED (Wendy Gervais)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council endorses the following resolution as presented:

“That any conferences, engagements, Métis Nation Legislative Assemblies, and Annual General Assemblies held by the MN-S (or Ministries of the MN-S) will make available an honorarium of \$150/day for attendance, participation and contributions, to the Local Presidents and their delegates in the home region in which the before-mentioned events are held, effective February 27, 2020”.

**CARRIED (200227-09)**

## **12. IDENTITY, CITIZENSHIP AND HOMELAND**

The meeting acknowledged an upcoming Metis Nation Gathering on Identity, Citizenship and Homeland, scheduled March 9-10, 2020 in Saskatoon, which conflicted with a Self-Governance Meeting, that representatives from the Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA), Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) and MN-S, were scheduled to attend on March 8-10, 2020 in Gatineau, Quebec.

Comments were offered on:

- Recent Tri-Council Meetings attended by representatives of the MNA, MNO and MN-S where:
  - Information was shared by the Métis governments' registrars on their respective citizenship registration criteria and processes
  - Discussion ensued on next steps in advancing their respective Métis Government Recognition and Self-Government Agreements (MGRSAs)
  - An agreement was reached to explore further opportunities to share information, and address common concerns and priorities
- Communications with the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations, including discussions regarding the MNA, MNO and MN-S submitting separate budget requests.

## **13.2 First Time Home Buyers Program / Emergency Home Renovations and Repair Program**

*Related information: Report from the Provincial Métis Housing Corporation (PMHC) on the "MN-S Housing Strategy Emergency Home Renovations and Repair Program (EHRRP)"; and attached "Motion to Fund the MN-S EHRRP for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021"*

Derek Langan, Minister of Housing, reported on the First Time Home Buyers Program (FTHBP), which did not receive as many requests as anticipated; and the Emergency Home Renovations and Repair Program (EHRRP), which received more requests than anticipated. Transferring \$1 million from the FTHBP to the EHRRP, was suggested.

### **It was MOVED (Mervin "Tex" Bouvier) and SECONDED (Lisa McCallum)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) endorse the following resolution:

"WHEREAS the PMC has established the MN-S Emergency Home Renovations and Repair Program (EHRRP) in the fiscal year 2019-2020;

WHEREAS the MN-S EHRRP, administered by the Provincial Métis Housing Corporation (PMHC) for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year, has been an established and successful housing program that is being utilized by Métis citizens across the province to provide for emergency home renovations and repairs for Métis citizens; and

WHEREAS it has been determined that the success of the EHRRP program for the fiscal year 2019-2020 has determined that an increase in funding for the MN-S EHRRP program is required.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PMC endorse increasing funding for the EHRRP program from \$2,875,000 to \$3,875,000, for the 2020-2021 fiscal year".

**CARRIED (200227-10)**

**It was MOVED (Sherry Soll) and SECONDED (Penny Hurton)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council endorse the following revisions to the First Time Home Buyers Program (FTHBP) Guidelines:

- Increase the maximum household income to be eligible for assistance under the FTHBP, from \$92,000 to \$150,000
- Amend the current indication in the FTHBP Guidelines that *"Applicants cannot have any ownership in any real estate with a market value of more than \$7,500"* to: *"Applicants may have ownership of real property intended to be used as the land associated with the FTHBP purchase. The property must be of reasonable value and cannot be deemed to be ineligible as per the guidelines"*
- Change the current indication in the FTHBP Guidelines that: *"Homes purchased cannot exceed 3.5 times the applicant(s)' household income"* to instead, utilize an analysis of affordability, based on:
  - Using a gross debt service of 32%, to determine the maximum home price an applicant can afford
  - "Home debt", including mortgage payment, property taxes and heating, being less than 32% of an applicant's gross income
  - The applicant's total debt service (including home debt and personal debt) being less than 42% of the applicant's gross income; and
- Revise the current FTHBP Guidelines to include that anyone who has not owned a home in over five years, be considered as a possible First Time Home Buyer
- If it is determined achievable by the Minister of Housing, through discussions with the appropriate policy analysts or others, the above-listed revisions to the FTHBP Guidelines will be retroactively effective.

**CARRIED (200227-11)**

Minister Langan suggested that a Housing Conference, similar to the Early Learning and Child Care Conference and the Rights Conference, be coordinated with the President and the CEO.

**13.1 Concerns**

Future opportunities to provide "Ministerial Updates" were acknowledged, including at PMC meetings and the upcoming PMC retreat.

**2:05 p.m.**

Vice President Morin departed the meeting.

**5. REVIEW OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES (Continued)**

*Related information: On-table Minutes of the July 18, 2020 PMC Committee Meeting*

Secretary McCallum read aloud the decisions and resolutions indicated in the draft minutes.

During review of the minutes, updates were offered on Resolution #190719-02 and the PMC's directions related to scholarship funding:

- GDI's priority order for sponsorship allocation (posted on GDI's website), including:
  - First - to students pursuing their first degree;



- Second - to students pursuing a second, or advanced degree;
- Third - to students pursuing a third, and advanced degree; and
- Fourth - to students pursuing three or more degrees of any level.

Comments were offered the PMC's July 18, 2019 discussion on scholarship funding, including the general understanding that:

- GDI would be the mechanism through which MN-S scholarship funding would flow
- Discussions would ensue with GDI representatives regarding scholarship criteria
- Arrangements were made with the MN-S Registry Office to enable GDI to confirm that students applying for scholarships were Métis citizens.

***Request for Action***

*It was requested that the Minister of Education provide a report at the PMC retreat on scholarship funding and anticipated next steps, after communicating further with GDI and MN-S staff.*

**It was MOVED (Penny Hurton) and SECONDED (Sherry McLennan)**

That the Minutes of the July 18, 2019 Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting be approved as presented.

**MOTION WITHDRAWN**

***Request for Action***

*It was requested that the minutes of the July 18, 2019 MN-S PMC Meeting, be referred to staff to revise, to include additional information related to the post-secondary funding discussion.*

**13.3 Other Matters – Secretary McCallum**

President McCallum confirmed he would communicate directly with Secretary McCallum to clarify the request to be included in discussions on matters related to the Provincial Secretary's role.

**13.4 Batoche - Update**

Richard Quintal recalled the January 13-14, 2018 PMC resolution to seek "Exploratory Discussions with Parks Canada Regarding Repatriation of the Batoche Historical Site", and subsequent related discussions with provincial and federal government officials, and confirmed:

- Negotiations were advancing towards the repatriation of approximately 940 acres of Batoche National Historic Site lands to the MN-S; updates will be provided at the MNLA.

**CONCLUSION**

The meeting concluded with a Closing Prayer provided by Josie Searson.

**It was MOVED (Mervin "Tex" Bouvier)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council Meeting held February 27, 2020 now conclude.

**CARRIED (200227-12)**  
(Time: 3:10 p.m.)

## **LIST OF INFORMATION ITEMS**

*The following items were provided for information at the February 27, 2020 meeting:*

1. Agenda for the MN-S Provincial Métis Council Meeting scheduled February 27, 2020
2. Draft Minutes of the December 17, 2019 Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting
3. Draft Minutes of the July 18, 2019 Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting
4. “Métis Nation of Saskatchewan Balance Sheet” and “Departmental Income Statements”, dated December 31, 2019
5. Proposed resolution titled “Motion for Childcare for Meetings”, submitted by Western Region 2A and dated February 25, 2020
6. Proposed resolution titled “Motion for Honorarium”, submitted by Western Region 2A and dated February 11, 2020
7. Report from the Provincial Métis Housing Corporation on the “MN-S Housing Strategy Emergency Home Renovations and Repair Program (EHRRP)”; and the “Motion to Fund the MN-S EHRRP for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021”
8. Agenda for the February 28-29, 2020 MN-S Rights Conference
9. Correspondence to the MN-S President from the President of Local 21, requesting information, dated February 20, 2020

## **LIST OF ACRONYMS**

*The following acronyms are referenced in these minutes:*

CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CFO	Chief Financial Officer
COO	Chief Operating Officer
CRA	Canada Revenue Agency
EHRRP	Emergency Home Renovations and Repair Program
FFA	Fiscal Financing Agreement
FTHBP	First Time Home Buyers Program
GDI	Gabriel Dumont Institute
IFFA	Interim Fiscal Financing Agreement
MGRSA	Métis Government Recognition and Self-Government Agreement
MNA	Métis Nation of Alberta
MNLA	Métis Nation Legislative Assembly
MNO	Métis Nation of Ontario
MN-S	Métis Nation - Saskatchewan
PMC	Provincial Métis Council
PMHC	Provincial Métis Housing Corporation
UPIP	Urban Programming for Indigenous Peoples