



**MÉTIS NATION – SASKATCHEWAN
PROVINCIAL MÉTIS COUNCIL MEETING**
held March 15, 2023

Minutes of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) Meeting held March 15, 2023, at the 4th Floor Boardroom, 310 – 20th Street East, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

PMC MEMBERS PRESENT:

Glen McCallum, President	Wendy Gervais, Western Region 3
Michelle LeClair, Vice President	Loretta King, Western Region 1
Lisa McCallum, Secretary (Chair)	Autumn Laing-LaRose, Provincial Métis Youth Council
Mervin “Tex” Bouvier, Northern Region 3	Sherry McLennan, Western Region 2
Laura Burnouf, Northern Region 1	Leonard Montgrand, Northern Region 2
Ryan Carriere, Eastern Region 1	Kathie Pruden Nansel, Western Region 2A
Brent Digness, Eastern Region 2	Tim Roussin, Eastern Region 2A
Marg Friesen, Eastern Region 3	

REGRETS:

Billy Kennedy, Western Region 1A

ELDER:

Elder Norman Fleury

ALSO PRESENT:

Merelda Fiddler-Potter*	Claire Letendre, Technical Support*
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MN-S OFFICE:

Janice Braden, Senior Policy Analyst
Christopher Gall, Deputy Chief of Legal and General Counsel*
Zareen Jawaid, Deputy Director of Finance, Affiliates and Subsidiaries
Christena Konrad, Acting Chief Operating Officer
Brandy Laronde, Manager, Cabinet and Legislative Services
Justine Morrisette, Advisor to Deputy Chief of Self-Government
Dorothy Myo, Deputy Chief of Self-Government
Kelly Pruden, Deputy Chief of Housing and Infrastructure
Erin Reid, Chief Strategy Officer (CSO)*
Cassi Smith, Advisor to the CSO*
Matt Vermette, Acting Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Marc Wang, Advisor to the Deputy Chief of Legal and General Counsel*

MINUTES PREPARED BY:

Jessi Connaughton, Recording Secretary*

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice President LeClair, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Vice President LeClair conducted a roll call and confirmed a quorum was present.

3. OPENING PRAYER

Elder Norman Fleury provided an Opening Prayer.

4. OPENING REMARKS

President McCallum welcomed PMC members, MN-S staff and citizen observers and commented on relationship building with the federal and provincial governments, which continue to strengthen the MN-S and allow for robust program delivery to Métis citizens across the province.

5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was MOVED (Laura Burnouf) and SECONDED (Marg Friesen)

That the Agenda for the March 15, 2023, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council (PMC) Meeting be approved, as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Opening Prayer
4. Opening Remarks
5. Approval of the Agenda
6. Appointment of the Recording Secretary
7. Review and Approval of the January 17, 2023 Minutes
8. Budget 2023/2024
9. Financial Approval Authorities
10. Consent Agenda
11. Appointment of Provincial Métis Council Chair
12. Human Resources Committee (In-Camera)
13. Other Business
14. Conclusion and Closing Prayer.

CARRIED (230315-01)

6. APPOINTMENT OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY

It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) and SECONDED (Sheri McLennan)

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council appoints Jessi Connaughton as Recording Secretary for its March 15, 2023, meeting.

CARRIED (230315-02)

7. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 17, 2023, MINUTES

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

It was MOVED (Leonard Montgrand) and SECONDED (Brent Digness)

That the Minutes of the January 17, 2023, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council meeting be approved, as presented.

CARRIED (230315-03)

8. BUDGET 2023/2024

Related information (provided with the agenda): Draft Resolution titled, “MN-S Operating Budget for 2023-2024”, dated March 15, 2023

Marg Friesen, Minister of Finance, commended the work of the MN-S Finance staff on preparing the balanced 2023-2024 Operating Budget.

Matt Vermette, Acting CEO, congratulated Ministers and staff for developing strategic workplans for their respective portfolios, to inform the preparation of individual departmental budgets.

Zareen Jawaid, Deputy Director of Finance, Affiliates and Subsidiaries, reviewed the information provided. In response to questions, comments were offered on:

- A percentage of unused administrative funding that could be applied to operational programs
- Funding allocated under “Storytelling and Content Services”, which included internal transfers from Ministries to cover communications and creative needs
- The 2023-2024 Operating Budget, which would be posted online after the Spring 2023 Métis Nation Legislative Assembly.

Request for Action (RFA-230315-01)

It was requested that the Finance Committee schedule one in-person workshop at the Spring 2023 Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA), and one virtual workshop in advance of the MNLA, to review the MN-S Operating Budget for 2023-2024.

It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) and SECONDED (Autumn Laing-LaRose)

WHEREAS the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan (MN-S) adheres to established financial standards and accounting policies for all funds received on behalf of the Métis citizens of Saskatchewan; and

WHEREAS the MN-S government is committed to delivering on the commitments made to its funding partners and citizens;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Provincial Métis Council (PMC) approves the operating budget for 2023-2024 as presented to the PMC on March 15, 2023, and recommends it be presented to the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly for ratification.

CARRIED (230315-04)

9. FINANCIAL APPROVAL AUTHORITIES

Related information (provided with the agenda):

- Briefing Note titled, “Adoption of New Financial Authorities”, dated March 13, 2023
- Draft Resolution titled, “MN-S Operations Financial Authorities”

The Acting CEO reviewed the briefing note, which included proposed authorities to support the timely authorization of financial transactions, and to accommodate the increase in the number of transactions associated with the 2023-2024 MN-S Operational Budget.

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- The composition of the Finance Committee appointed by the PMC
- The MN-S’ organizational chart to be reviewed at the PMC’s March 17, 2023 Technical Workshop.

It was MOVED (Marg Friesen) 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, Elders, Youth, and distinctive resources – which is incorporated into proposals and decisions of the Provincial Métis Council (PMC);

WHEREAS the Ministry of Finance works across all MN-S Ministries to create a collaborative process to review new and existing programs;

WHEREAS the MN-S adheres to established financial standards and accounting policies for all funds received on behalf of Métis citizens of Saskatchewan;

WHEREAS the MN-S government is committed to delivering on the commitments made to its funding partners and citizens; and

WHEREAS the proposed amendments to financial authorities were reviewed and endorsed by the Finance Committee;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PMC approves the amended sub-delegated financial authorities as outlined in Schedule A (attached).

CARRIED (230315-05)

11:10 a.m.

President McCallum assumed the Chair for consideration of Items 9 and 10.

10. CONSENT AGENDA

Related information (provided with the agenda):

- Briefing Note titled, "Adoption of Consent Agenda Format", dated March 13, 2023
- Draft Resolution titled, "Approval of a Consent Agenda"

It was MOVED (Lisa McCallum) and SECONDED (Michelle LeClair)

WHEREAS the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan recognizes the distinctiveness of Métis identity, culture, values, and language – inclusive of Knowledge Keepers, Elders, youth, and distinctive resources – which is incorporated into proposals and decisions of the Provincial Métis Council (PMC);

WHEREAS at their duly held meeting on January 17, 2023, the PMC agreed to explore the use of a consent agenda format;

WHEREAS a consent agenda allows for administrative resolutions to be bundled into a single motion; and

WHEREAS consent agendas expedite meetings and reserve time for more important, substantive matters that require discussion, and expand opportunities for the PMC members to engage in and focus on strategic discussions and action planning;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PMC adopts the use of a consent agenda at the next scheduled meeting and henceforth for all duly scheduled future PMC meetings.

CARRIED (230315-06)

11. APPOINTMENT OF PROVINCIAL MÉTIS COUNCIL CHAIR

Related information (provided with the agenda): Draft Resolution titled, “Resolution on Appointment of Provincial Métis Council Chair”

Request for Action (RFA-230315-02)

It was requested that revisions to the “Handbook for Executives, Ministers and Members of the Provincial Métis Council”, include clarification on the Chair of Provincial Métis Council meetings.

It was MOVED (Michelle LeClair) and SECONDED (Leonard Montgrand)

WHEREAS the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan recognizes the distinctiveness of Métis identity, culture, values, and language – inclusive of Knowledge Keepers, Elders, Youth, and distinctive resources – which is incorporated into proposals and decisions of the Provincial Métis Council (PMC);

WHEREAS the efficient running of the monthly meeting of the PMC would benefit from the appointment of a meeting Chair who was not selected from among the elected officials and allows for fuller participation for all members in discussions, action planning and decision-making;

WHEREAS only one Chair is required per meeting, but the appointment of more than one alternative will ensure an approved person is available for all meetings; and

WHEREAS both John Lagimodiere and Merelda Fiddler-Potter have both proven themselves to bring excellence to the role of meeting Chair at the 2022 Métis Nation Legislative Assembly;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PMC appoints John Lagimodiere and Merelda Fiddler-Potter to serve as meeting Chairs in 2023 at the monthly meetings of the PMC.

CARRIED (230315-07)

11:31 a.m.

Vice President LeClair resumed the Chair.

12. HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE

MEETING ADJOURNED

It was MOVED (Autumn Laing-LaRose) and SECONDED (Wendy Gervais)

That the March 15, 2023, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council meeting now adjourn for an in-camera discussion, to consider “Item 12 – Human Resources Update”.

CARRIED (230315-08)

(Time: 11:31 a.m.)

MEETING RECONVENED

It was MOVED (Leonard Montgrand) and SECONDED (Brent Digness)

That the March 15, 2023, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council meeting now reconvene.

CARRIED (230315-09)

(Time: 11:45 p.m.)

13. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business items were considered.

14. CONCLUSION AND CLOSING PRAYER

The March 15, 2023, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting concluded with a Closing Prayer provided by Elder Norman Fleury.

It was MOVED (Autumn Laing-LaRose)

That the March 14, 2023, Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Meeting now conclude.

CARRIED (230315-10)

(Time: 11:50 a.m.)

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ATTACHMENT

The following item is attached, as approved at the March 15, 2023 PMC meeting:

1. Schedule A (as per Resolution #230315-05)

LIST OF INFORMATION ITEMS

The following items were considered at the March 15, 2023 PMC meeting:

1. Draft Agenda for the March 14, 2023, MN-S PMC Meeting
2. Draft Minutes of the January 17, 2023, MN-S PMC Meeting
3. Draft Resolution titled, “MN-S Operating Budget for 2023-2024”, dated March 15, 2023
4. Briefing Note titled, “Adoption of New Financial Authorities”, dated March 13, 2023
5. Draft Resolution titled, “MN-S Operations Financial Authorities”
6. Briefing Note titled, “Adoption of Consent Agenda Format”, dated March 13, 2023
7. Draft Resolution titled, “Approval of a Consent Agenda”
8. Draft Resolution titled, “Appointment of Provincial Métis Council Chair”

LIST OF ACRONYMS

The following acronyms are referenced in these minutes:

CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CSO	Chief Strategy Officer
MN-S	Métis Nation – Saskatchewan
PMC	Provincial Métis Council



SCHEDULE A - MN-S NEW FINANCIAL AUTHORITIES

Position	Dollar-Limit for Non-Payroll Expenditure
Finance Committee	\$250,000 – \$1,000,000 per transaction
CEO	Up to \$250,000 per transaction
COO / CSO	Up to \$100,000 per transaction
Deputy Chief	Up to \$25,000 per transaction and within an approved budget
Director	Up to \$10,000 per transaction and within their department's approved budget