

**MÉTIS NATION – SASKATCHEWAN  
PROVINCIAL MÉTIS COUNCIL MEETING  
JANUARY 16, FEBRUARY 5 AND 6, 2016**

Minutes of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) Meeting held January 16, 2016 in the Salon Batoche, Delta Bessborough Hotel, 601 Spadina Crescent East, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and February 5 and 6, 2016 in the South Oak Room at the Quality Inn, 67 13<sup>th</sup> Street East, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

**DATE: Friday, February 5, 2016**

**PRESENT:**

Gerald Morin, Vice-President and Co-Chair  
Helene Johnson, Co-Chair  
Lela Arnold  
Michael Bell  
Earl Cook  
Chester Herman  
Billy Kennedy  
Derek Langan  
Glen McCallum  
Darlene McKay  
Tammy Mah (departed 12:45 p.m.)  
Lennard Morin (arrived 2:00 p.m.)

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Ian Ketcheson, Director, Métis and Non-Status Indian Relations, INAC  
Richard Quintal, Negotiator and Manager of Métis Relations, INAC

**RECORDING SECRETARY**

Carrie Peacock, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

**16. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING PRAYER**

Vice-President Gerald Morin called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Glen McCallum offered an Opening Prayer and led the meeting in a moment of silence in recognition of the recent tragedy in La Loche, Saskatchewan.

**17. ROLL CALL**

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

**18. RECORDING SECRETARY**

**It was MOVED (Glen McCallum) and SECONDED (Tammy Mah)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council appoints Carrie Peacock, Raincoast Ventures Ltd., as Recording Secretary for the February 5 and 6, 2016 meeting.

**CARRIED**

**19. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES – JANUARY 16, 2016**

Draft Minutes of the January 16, 2016 portion of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council (PMC) meeting, was distributed.

During discussion regarding the minutes, the following comments were offered:

- The February 5 and 6, 2016 meeting is a continuation of the January 16, 2016 meeting (which recessed rather than concluding)
- Resolutions passed by the PMC on January 16, 2016 confirmed appointments to the Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) Board of Directors, and will be conveyed to the GDI in advance of their February 13, 2016 Annual General Meeting
- It is important to reference in the minutes the January 16, 2016 discussion on the urgent payments required of the MN-S' office costs (i.e. rent, insurance, etc.).

During discussion on the resolution under Item 13.4, it was agreed to expand the resolution to enable the Vice-President to approve documentation, in the event that the President declined. The Mover and Seconder of the resolution agreed to the change.

**It was MOVED (Darlene McKay) and SECONDED (Chester Herman)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council (PMC) approve the January 16, 2016 portion of the January 16 and February 5 and 6, 2016 PMC Minutes, with the following amendments:

- Page 2: Insert the following sentence, immediately prior to members departing at 10:04 a.m.: “It was requested that consideration be given on how to proceed towards paying MN-S office costs and insurance (i.e. rent, etc.)”; and
- Page 8: Insert the following at the end of the resolution under Item 13.4: “and further, authorizes Vice-President Morin to sign letters and other documents as approved by the PMC, in the event that the President declines to sign.”

**CARRIED**

**Appointment of Co-Chairs**

**It was MOVED (Glen McCallum) and SECONDED (Tammy Mah)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council appoints Helene Johnson and Gerald Morin, as Co-Chairs for the meeting.

**CARRIED**

**20. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (February 5 and 6, 2016)**

Co-Chair Morin reviewed the discussions held and decisions made on January 16, 2016, and confirmed that the February 5 and 6, 2016 agenda included presentations from:

- Prospective third-party expert advisors on February 5, 2016 (Ernst & Young and MNG); and
- MNC President Clément Chartier on February 6, 2016.

The meeting considered additional items for inclusion on the February 5 and 6, 2016 agenda.

**Recess**

The meeting recessed at 10:45 a.m. and reconvened at 11:15 a.m.

**It was MOVED (Derek Langan) and SECONDED (Lela Arnold)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council adopts the following Agenda for its February 5 and 6, 2016 meeting:

- Presentations:
  - Prospective Third Party Expert Advisors
  - MNC President Clément Chartier
- Other Business:
  - Reimbursement of PMC Expenses
  - Vice-President Morin's Representation of the MN-S
  - Approach for the Third Party Expert Advisor
  - Finance and MNLA Committees
  - MNLA and Pre-Election Discussions
  - Update on the MN-S President's Role
  - Update on Batoche.

**CARRIED**

**21. PRESENTATIONS**

**21.1 PROSPECTIVE THIRD PARTY EXPERT ADVISORS**

**21.1a) MNP**

The meeting was informed that a number of independent firms in Saskatchewan were contacted to potentially assume the role of expert advisor to the MN-S. The MN-S President had not indicated any concerns with respect to the firms selected to present at the meeting.

**11:25 a.m.**

Brian Drayton, Partner, Assurance Services, and Keith Fonstad, Provincial Director, Aboriginal Services, MNP, joined the meeting.

Mr. Drayton explained that MNP is a national professional accounting and advisory firm, operating throughout Saskatchewan. MNP currently has approximately 75 partners and 450 team members providing resources to multiple active engagements.

The meeting further was informed that:

- MNP served as third party managers for a number of First Nations organizations, and previously assisted in the management of funds for the First Nations University
- MNP assisted the MN-S on funding and accountability matters during the 2007 election process, and also helped guide the 2012 election process

- If selected, Mr. Drayton and Mr. Fonstad would both be involved in assisting the MN-S, along with a registered trustee and other specialist resources from the Saskatoon office, as required.

Participants were informed that based on the “Expert Advisor – Statement of Work – Key Elements” document, responsibilities of the expert advisor within the current phase (until March 31, 2016) included:

- Working with the landlord to ensure that rent (and insurance) was paid retroactively to December 1, 2015
- Gaining sufficient access to the MN-S’ financial information, to determine the current financial position of the organization in preparation for the MNLA
- Working in collaboration with the Provincial Métis Council (PMC), towards an MNLA and a general election while ensuring compliance to the new contribution agreement.

MNP representatives added that the MNP has relevant experience and resources, and familiarity with the MN-S’ operations. MNP welcomed the opportunity to assist in achieving the organization’s objectives.

**12:41 p.m.**

Messrs. Drayton and Fonstad departed the meeting.

**Member Departed**

Tammy Mah departed the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

**Recess**

The meeting recessed at 12:45 p.m. and reconvened at 2:00 p.m.

**Member Arrived**

Lennard Morin joined the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

**2:00 p.m.**

Evan Shoforost, Managing Partner, Brock McMillan, Partner, and Michael Campbell, Associate, Ernst & Young, joined the meeting.

**21.1b) Ernst & Young**

Messrs. Shoforost, Campbell and McMillan introduced themselves to the meeting. They confirmed that Ernst & Young (EY) is a global accounting firm with 700 offices in 150 different countries, with experience in restructuring and access to multiple resources, as required. The meeting was further informed that:

- As an independent third party, EY would provide efficiency to the restructuring process, after learning more about the organization’s constitution and finances
- EY would work collaboratively with the PMC to determine the organization’s current situation, and to ensure its present needs were met
- Although EY had not assisted many First Nations or Métis organizations with their restructuring processes, EY would commit the time necessary to achieve the MN-S’ objectives, within the confines of the engagement agreement
- If selected, Mr. Shoforost and Mr. Campbell would be the two primary contacts for the organization; additional resources could be involved based on the organization’s needs.

During further discussion, comments were offered on:

- Collaboration required with the Finance Committee and MNLA Committee
- The distinct history, culture and status of Métis people
- The structure of the MN-S and its past leaders.

EY representatives extended thanks for the opportunity to meet with the PMC and welcomed the opportunity to assist the organization in its efforts forward.

**3:10 p.m.**

Messes. Shoforost, McMillan and Campbell departed the meeting.

**Recess**

The meeting recessed at 3:10 p.m. and reconvened at 3:35 p.m.

**22. OTHER BUSINESS**

**22.1 Reimbursement of PMC Expenses**

**It was MOVED (Billy Kennedy) and SECONDED (Lela Arnold)**

That the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council (PMC) direct that INAC reimburse the Prince Albert Métis Women for expenses incurred related to the PMC members' participation in the following:

- The February 5 and 6, 2016 PMC Meeting
- The January 16 and 17, 2015 PMC (Royal Reporting) Meeting, including the Travelodge costs
- PMC conference calls.

**CARRIED**

**22.3 Approach for the Third Party Expert Advisor**

INAC representatives led the meeting in a review of the document titled "Expert Advisor – Statement of Work – Key Elements". It was confirmed that funds from Canada, would flow through the expert advisor (the initial transfer of funds would cover immediate office costs, such as rent and insurance).

Members acknowledged that the contribution agreement needed to be signed, and endorsed by the PMC. The majority of the PMC could then enter into a contract with the expert advisor (which INAC would prepare).

The following additional comments were offered:

- The Statement of Work could clarify that: "The expert advisor will work in collaboration with the PMC and its established committees (Finance Committee and MNLA Planning Committee) to accomplish the following:"
- Although the PMC has some questions regarding the organization's finances, an extensive forensic audit may not be required
- A compliance audit could be undertaken, with respect to the funds provided to MN-S by Canada.

**22.2 Vice-President Morin's Representation of the MN-S**

This item was considered under Item 19 – Approval of Previous Minutes – January 16, 2016.

**4:20 p.m.**

Ian Ketcheson, Richard Quintal and the Recording Secretary left the meeting.

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m. on February 5, 2016 for a brief in-camera discussion, and agreed to reconvene at 9:00 a.m. on February 6, 2016.