MÉTIS NATION - SASKATCHEWAN
PROVINCIAL MÉTIS COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
held May 6, 2026

Minutes of the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan (MN-S) Provincial Métis Council (PMC) Special Meeting held May 6, 2026, by videoconference.

PROVINCIAL MÉTIS COUNCIL:
Present:
Glen McCallum, President
Michelle LeClair, Vice President
Marlene Hansen, Secretary (joined at 10:35 a.m.)
Jeremy Denomie, Treasurer (joined at 10:35 a.m.)
Laura Burnouf, Northern Region 1
Marilyn Ekert, Eastern Region 2 (Interim)
Marg Friesen, Eastern Region 3 (departed by 1:00 p.m.)
Beverly Fullerton, Western Region 2A
Loretta King, Western Region 1
Rachael Heiser, Provincial Métis Youth Council (joined at 10:35 a.m.)
Billy Kennedy, Western Region 1A
Darcy Lepowick, Eastern Region 2A
Brennan Merasty, Northern Region 3
Leonard Montgrand, Northern Region 2

Absent:
Ryan Carriere, Eastern Region 1
Wendy Gervais, Western Region 3
Darlene Langan, Les Filles de Madelaine
Sherry McLennan, Western Region 2

ALSO PRESENT:
John Lagimodiere, Chair
Elder Norman Fleury
Elder Caroline Laliberte
Merrilee Rasmussen, Legal Counsel
Diane Parsons, Recording Secretary

MN-S OFFICE: *(additional MN-S representatives attended as "Observers")*
Matthew Vermette, Chief Operating Officer
Darryl Bazylak, Deputy Chief, Programs and Services
Billie Jo Natomagan, Director, Planning and Priorities
Heather Hallgrimson, Cabinet and Legislative Services Manager, Policy and Self-Determination
Gerald Morin, Governance Specialist
Dexter Bricker, General Counsel
Courtney Usselman, Legislative Services Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER
John Lagimodiere, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:16 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL
A roll call was conducted, and it was confirmed that a quorum was present.

3. LEADERSHIP TRANSITION

Related information (provided with the agenda): Draft Resolution on "Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Transition"

During discussion, comments were offered on incorporating friendly amendments that were accepted by the mover and seconder regarding:

- Reporting relationships for a proposed Chief of Staff position
- Oversight of the CEO recruitment process
- The PMC's authority to make the final hiring decision.

MEETING RECESSED

The meeting recessed from 10:50 a.m. to 11:35 a.m. to consider the incorporation of multiple friendly amendments to the proposed resolution.

3. LEADERSHIP TRANSITION *(Continued)*

It was MOVED (Rachael Heiser) and SECONDED (Marlene Hansen)

That the proposed resolution titled, "Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Transition" be tabled to a future meeting.

DEFEATED

Merrilee Rasmussen, Legal Counsel, advised that the multiple proposed friendly amendments would substantially alter the original motion and were therefore out of order. As such, the Mover did not accept the proposed amendments.

Meal Break

The meeting recessed at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened at approximately 1:00 p.m. Marg Friesen was absent when the meeting resumed.

ROLL CALL

A roll call was conducted, and it was confirmed that a quorum was present.

POINT OF ORDER

In response to a point of order, the Chair ruled that, although the proposed revisions could not be accepted as friendly amendments, a motion to amend the resolution incorporating the proposed revisions could be considered.

It was MOVED (Beverly Fullerton) and SECONDED (Rachael Heiser)

That the resolution titled "Leadership Transition" be amended by incorporating the text revisions proposed at the May 6, 2026, Métis Nation–Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Special Meeting.

CARRIED (260506-01)

The amended resolution was then considered as follows:

It was MOVED (Glen McCallum) and SECONDED (Brennan Merasty)

WHEREAS the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) recognizes the distinctiveness of Métis identity, culture, values, and language - inclusive of Knowledge Keepers, Kihtêyak, Lii Vyeu Moond (the Old Ones or Elders), Youth, Women and distinctive resources – which are incorporated into proposals and decisions of the Provincial Métis Council (PMC);

WHEREAS to support the next phase of the MN-S self-government, aligned with the Distinctions Based Focus Plan, the PMC has directed that the MN-S undertake a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) role restructuring and appoint a new CEO following a leadership search and open call process;

WHEREAS the PMC has directed the separation of the roles of CEO and Chief of Staff;

WHEREAS the PMC recommends that the MNLA consider a legislative amendment to separate the role of CEO and Clerk of the MNLA;

WHEREAS the PMC affirms that an open call process for CEO must be transparent and fair;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC hereby establishes a formal open call process for the appointment of the CEO which will include, at a minimum:

a. Development of a detailed job description, including core responsibilities, accountabilities, required qualifications, leadership competencies, and alignment with MN-S governance and the core values and principles of the Distinctions Based Focus Plan;
b. Confirmation that the open call shall be publicly advertised for a period of no less than 30 days, using appropriate platforms to ensure broad and equitable awareness, which shall include posting on MN-S websites and social media platforms;
c. Eligibility criteria that are consistent with MN-S legislation and policies and that prioritize demonstrated experience, education, and the hiring of qualified MN-S citizens;
d. A structured recruitment and assessment process that is supported by a third-party executive search firm;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the draft job description, including compensation range and benefits, shall be approved by the PMC before it is posted publicly;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC directs that a CEO Search Committee be established consisting of the President and three (3) members to be selected from the PMC from among their members by way of nomination and simple vote;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC directs that the open call process will be contracted to an external and impartial third party, and authorizes the CEO Search Committee to engage a third party and provide day-to-day direction regarding oversight of the open call process which will culminate in recommendation(s) for appointment to the PMC;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC confirms that interim leadership arrangements approved by the May 4, 2026 Resolution #IC-260504-03 shall remain in effect for a period of 90 days. Should more than 90 days elapse before a new CEO is identified, the PMC may extend this duration by increments of 90 days by resolution at future meetings, as required;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC directs the CEO position restructuring be undertaken by the MN-S which will include, at a minimum:

a. Separation of the roles of CEO, Chief of Staff, and Clerk of the MNLA;
b. Identification of required legislative amendments or policy changes that may be necessary or recommended to fully implement the restructuring;
c. Implementation of timelines and proposals to undertake a phased restructuring approach recognizing legislative timelines and MNLA schedules;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC directs that the CEO role restructuring be contracted to an external and impartial third party, and authorizes the CEO Search Committee to engage a third party and provide day-to-day direction regarding oversight of the process which will culminate in recommendation(s) for consideration to the PMC;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT to protect public confidence in the CEO restructuring process, the Interim CEO be prohibited from participating in this process as it would constitute a real or perceived conflict of interest and that such an ethical wall be a condition for his interim appointment;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC affirms that the CEO role restructuring is not deemed complete until all the required approvals confirmed through the restructuring have been achieved;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT given the high priority nature of the CEO role restructuring, all financial approvals and budget amendments required for either the open call or CEO role restructuring processes will require approval by the PMC only, regardless of previously established budget approval limits; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC retains the sole authority to approve the appointment of the CEO, direct the CEO's activities, provide strategic direction, and approve structural changes, subject only to the supreme authority of the MNLA.

CARRIED (260506-02)

POINT OF ORDER
In response to a point of order, the Chair clarified voting procedures applicable when eligible voting delegates were present but did not cast a vote.

4. GOVERNANCE RENEWAL PROCESS – *Resolution Deferred*

Related information (provided with the agenda): Draft Resolution on "Governance Renewal Process"

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- Ensuring MN-S's governance structure evolves to support self-government and treaty implementation
- Clarifying roles, authorities, and decision-making processes to strengthen transparency, accountability, and governance effectiveness
- Engaging citizens, Locals, Regions, and University of Saskatchewan students in shaping a modern governance framework
- Preference that the matter be discussed further in a PMC workshop format.

Friendly amendments to the proposed motion were accepted by the Mover and Seconder to reflect:

- Inclusion of the University of Saskatchewan Métis Research Chair, the MN-S Executive, and the Minister of Self-Determination and Self-Government as Co-Chair of the proposed Task Force
- Replacement of the CEO on the Task Force with an MN-S Governance Specialist to provide administrative support
- Revision of the final resolved clause to replace "daily honorariums" with "honorariums".

It was MOVED (Michelle LeClair) and SECONDED (Darcy Lepowick)

WHEREAS the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) recognizes the distinctiveness of Métis identity, culture, values, and language – inclusive of Knowledge Keepers, Kihtêyak, Lii Vyeu Moond ("the Old Ones"), Elders, Youth, Women, and distinctive resources – which are incorporated into proposals and decisions of the Provincial Métis Council (PMC);

WHEREAS the MN-S is the government representing the Métis collectivity within Saskatchewan, and possesses the inherent right to self-determination including self-government;

WHEREAS the MN-S has established the Constitution of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (the "Constitution") which sets out the governance structures of the MN-S inclusive of the PMC, Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA), Regions, and Locals;

WHEREAS the MN-S is actively engaged in the self-government recognition of inherent Métis rights through negotiation of a government-to-government treaty, land claims, assumption of child and family services jurisdiction, and a long-term fiscal financing relationship with the Government of Canada;

WHEREAS the PMC has developed and implemented the Distinctions Based Focus Plan which sets out the priorities, guiding principles, core values, mission and vision for the MN-S, aligned with the goals and aspirations of MN-S citizens;

WHEREAS the PMC, on May 4, 2026, approved a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) role restructuring separating the roles of CEO, Chief of Staff and Clerk of the MNLA, which will support the next phase of self-government recognition for the MN-S;

WHEREAS the PMC, as provincial and regional democratically elected government representatives of the MN-S, is responsive to the priorities and concerns brought forward by MN-S citizens;

WHEREAS the MN-S has grown rapidly over the past nine years and there is a need to ensure that governance systems and structures of the MN-S, in particular governance design, decision making authority, service delivery, funding equity and transparency measures, are in alignment with the needs and vision of MN-S Citizens, Locals, Regions, PMC, and MNLA; and

WHEREAS in 2017, the PMC and MNLA mandated a constitutional reform process with the goal of examining existing governance structures, constitutional issues, and legislation, and the process engaged with MN-S citizens on priorities resulting in a comprehensive package of constitutional reform items and legislative development and amendments, which affirmed the need for broad governance reform measures for the MN-S;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC endorses a governance renewal initiative for the MN-S, to be time-bound, transparent, and focused on restoring trust, clarity, unity, and effective decision-making across all levels of MN-S governance;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC directs that governance renewal be a core focus of the upcoming MNLA, scheduled for May 23-24, 2026, for the MNLA to consider the merits of a governance renewal initiative and, if endorsed, to provide the mandate for the project;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT in preparation for the governance renewal initiative, the PMC directs that an open call for an external, independent and third-party consultant be issued, requiring that the consultant complete the project within 120 days after MNLA endorsement and mandating resolution(s);

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT pursuant to Article 3(4) of the *Constitution*, the PMC affirms the establishment of a Governance Renewal Task Force (Task Force), a focused, time-limited group which will work directly with the third-party consultant, and recommends the composition of the Task Force as follows:

- Vice President, MN-S (Co-Chair)
- The Minister of Self-Determination and Self-Government, MN-S (Co-Chair)
- President, Secretary, and Treasurer, MN-S
- One youth to be selected by the Provincial Métis Youth Council
- One woman to be selected by the Métis Women of Saskatchewan
- Twelve members of MNLA, to be selected by each of the 12 Regional Councils
- Two Elders to support the task force
- The Métis Research Chair, Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy, University of Saskatchewan
- Governance Specialist, MN-S, *ex-officio*, to provide administrative support as requested;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC recommends the establishment of minimum requirements for the Task Force, including, but not limited to, terms of reference to guide the project, honorariums, travel and accommodation to be provided to members of the Task Force when necessary.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the matter would be discussed further in a PMC workshop. Consideration of this resolution was deferred to the May 19, 2026, PMC meeting.

5. MEETING ADJOURNED

It was MOVED (Rachael Heiser) and SECONDED (Beverly Fullerton)

That the May 6, 2026, Métis Nation–Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Special Meeting now recess and reconvene in camera.

CARRIED (260506-03)
Time: 2:40 p.m.

MEETING RECONVENED
The meeting reconvened at 4:05 p.m.

6. ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM IN-CAMERA

6.1 In-Camera – "Establishment of a Standing Resolutions Committee for the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly"

The following May 6, 2026 PMC resolution (IC-260506-03) was read into the record.

It was MOVED (Glen McCallum) and SECONDED (Rachael Heiser)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT a committee of the Provincial Métis Council be established with a mandate to review the resolutions submitted for the May 23-24, 2026 Métis Nation Legislative Assembly, consisting of:

- Vice President Michelle LeClair
- Treasurer Jeremy Denomie
- Secretary Marlene Hansen
- Minister Beverly Fullerton
- Minister Brennan Merasty; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Clerk compile the Order of the Day in accordance with section 6.3 of the *Métis Nation Legislative Assembly Act, 1999* as recommended by the committee.

CARRIED (IC-260506-03)

6.2 In-Camera Item – "Retraction of Cease-and-Desist Letters"

The following April 21, 2026 PMC resolution (IC-260421-01) was read into the record.

It was MOVED (Jeremy Denomie) and SECONDED (Beverly Fullerton)

WHEREAS the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) recognizes the distinctiveness of Métis identity, culture, values, and language - inclusive of Knowledge Keepers, Kihtêyak, Lii Vyeu Moond (the Old Ones or Elders), Youth, Women, and distinctive resources – which are incorporated into proposals and decisions of the Provincial Métis Council (PMC);

WHEREAS, in response to a significant rise in harassing and defamatory comments against the MN-S and its employees since November 2024, the PMC passed Resolution #IC-250819-02 at its August 19, 2025 meeting, directing a number of urgent and immediate actions, including:

a) Preparation and issuance of cease-and-desist letters to individuals identified as posting harassing or defamatory comments against the MN-S and/or its employees;
b) The release of a public statement affirming zero tolerance for such conduct; and
c) The issuance of a communique regarding alleged false statements;

WHEREAS, while the actions directed by PMC Resolution #IC-250819-02 resulted in a strong stance against harassing and defamatory comments against the MN-S and its employees, the PMC recognizes that the cease-and-desist letters issued to the individuals identified as posting harassing or defamatory comments against the MN-S are no longer the most effective singular mechanism to mitigate the harms against the MN-S and/or its employees; and

WHEREAS the PMC recognizes that MN-S events and meetings, including sessions of the MNLA and PMC are important political forums for citizens to attend to observe democratic processes in person and stay informed on critical issues, and affirms that the PMC as an employer must ensure that MN-S events are safe spaces for MN-S employees, elected officials, citizens and observers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC directs that the cease-and-desist letters issued to individuals identified as posting harassing or defamatory remarks against the MN-S and its employees be retracted, and that the retraction confirm that any directives within the cease-and-desist letters are no longer in effect;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC affirms that the rescinding of the cease-and-desist letters directed by this resolution may not be construed as an admission of liability or wrongdoing by the MN-S or the PMC, but rather reflects the PMC's recognition that alternative methods may be better to address the harms against MN-S and its employees in relation to the harassing or defamatory remarks; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the PMC reaffirms MN-S's zero tolerance for harassing or defamatory remarks directed at MN-S employees and directs that the MN-S explore actions or other mechanisms that may be more efficient or effective to address harassing and defamatory remarks against MN-S employees to maintain safe spaces and work environments.

CARRIED (IC-260421-01)

7. CONCLUSION

The MN-S PMC Special Regular Meeting held May 6, 2026 concluded at 4:10 p.m. Closing Prayers were offered by Elder Caroline Laliberte and Elder Norman Fleury.

It was MOVED (Rachael Heiser) and SECONDED (Brennan Merasty)

That the May 6, 2026, Métis Nation - Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council Special Meeting now conclude.

CARRIED (260506-04)

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LIST OF INFORMATION ITEMS

The following items were referenced or presented for consideration at the meeting:

1. Resolution titled, "Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Chief Executive Officer Transition"
2. Resolution titled, "Governance Renewal Process"
3. In-Camera Resolution titled, "Establishment of a Standing Resolutions Committee for the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly"
4. In-Camera Resolution titled, "Retraction of Cease-and-Desist Letters"

LIST OF ACRONYMS

The following acronyms are referenced in these minutes:

CEO	Chief Executive Officer
MN-S	Métis Nation - Saskatchewan
MNLA	Métis Nation Legislative Assembly
PMC	Provincial Métis Council
PMYC	Provincial Métis Youth Council