Minutes of the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC)/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia (MPCBC) 2016 Annual General Meeting held September 24 – 25, 2016 in the Radisson Hotel Vancouver Airport, 8181 Cambie Road, Richmond, British Columbia.

BOARD DIRECTORS PRESENT:
Clara Morin Dal Col, President
Lissa Smith, Vice President
Gary Biggar
Cassidy Caron
Michael Dumont
Raynie Gervais

ALSO PRESENT:
Bill Bresser, AGM Chair
Dale Drown, AGM Clerk
Susie Hooper
Walter Mineault
Daniel Pitman
Victoria Pruden
Marilynn Taylor

TOTAL ATTENDANCE
A total of 130 MNBC Registered Voting Delegates (Quorum therefore being 66).

PREPARATION OF MINUTES
Carol Lee, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

OPENING CEREMONIES
AGM Emcee Dave Peltier called the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2016 Annual General Meeting (AGM) to order at 8:35 a.m. and acknowledged the unceded territory of the Musqueam Nation.

FLAG PARTY, GRAND ENTRY AND PROCESSION
The day commenced with the Flag Party and Grand Entry and Procession of Métis Veterans, Senators, the Board Directors and dignitaries.

Delegates joined in the singing of “O Canada” and the “Métis National Anthem”.

OPENING PRAYER
MNBC Senators Betty Hoogendoorn and Phillip Gladue offered Opening Prayers in English and Cree, respectively.
GREETINGS FROM THE MUSQUEAM NATION
On behalf of Chief Wayne Sparrow, Council members, the Musqueam people and the ancestors, Debra Sparrow welcomed delegates to the unceded territory of the Musqueam Nation. Ms. Sparrow commented that when she sees the beautiful Métis sashes, she is reminded that the fabric of life is intricately woven and the Indigenous people of Canada must recognize this fact as they proceed on the path to reconciliation. First Nations and Métis people must remember who they are and reclaim their rights on their lands. It is also important to remember the teachings of the ancestors and to teach the children and youth who they are and to be proud of their heritage.

INAUGURATION
Senators Alan Edkins, Phillip Gladue, Betty Hoogendoorn and Margaret Penner led the newly elected MNBC President, Vice-President, Board of Directors, Regional Youth Representatives and Women’s Representatives in the swearing of the Oaths of Office.

OPENING REMARKS
Dawson Creek Mayor Dale Bumstead offered congratulations to the newly elected President and Board of Directors, and to Bruce Dumont on his retirement. He acknowledged those who ran for office and were not successful and expressed gratitude for their willingness to serve the Métis people of British Columbia. Mayor Bumstead recounted the story of his family’s loss of their Métis culture. Mayor Bumstead expressed his honour at being at the 2016 MNBC AGM and celebration of the Métis people.

Méti Nation of Ontario (MNO) President Margaret Froh extended greetings on behalf of the MNO and acknowledged the unceded territory of the Musqueam Nation. She thanked Ms. Sparrow for the welcome that she offered. MNO President Froh recognized the Senators for the Opening Prayers and the Veterans for the work that they have done. President Froh acknowledged outgoing President Dumont, incoming President Clara Morin Dal Col and the Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) President Audrey Poitras.

MNO President Froh commented that the Métis Nation is at an unprecedented moment of recognition and respect in Canada, founded on the struggles of those who came before. The recently released report from Special Ministerial Representative to the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (MSR) Thomas Isaac speaks to the role of the Métis people in the creation of Canada and the work that must be done by Canada to reconcile with the Métis people.

MNA President Poitras brought greetings on behalf of the MNA and offered congratulations on the 20th anniversary of the MNBC. The MNBC has made tremendous progress since its inception. The past court cases, the report of MSR Thomas Isaac (Isaac Report), the Calls to Action issued by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and Canada’s commitment to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) will provide many opportunities to move the Métis Nation forward. MNA President Poitras expressed her honour at being able to work with President Morin Dal Col and welcomed her to the Métis National Council (MNC).

Minister John Rustad thanked the MNBC for the opportunity to be present at the MNBC AGM and acknowledged the territory of the Coast Salish peoples. He noted that 20 years ago, the two threads of the Métis and the Province of British Columbia signed the Métis Nation Relationship Accord (MNRA) to establish how they would work together. Discussions are underway to include the Federal Government as the third thread in a renewed MNRA.

BC welcomes the Daniels decision and looks forward to working with the Métis. The Provincial Government is prepared to walk the path toward recognition and reconciliation with the Métis.
people. Minister Rustad recognized his colleagues: Marc Dalton, Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA), Maple Ridge-Mission; and Scott Fraser, MLA, Alberni-Pacific Rim.

Minister Rustad thanked outgoing President Dumont for his dedication and his work in moving Métis rights and the Métis Nation forward in BC. He welcomed incoming President Morin Dal Col and thanked her for her work in organizing the three-day gathering of the families of murdered and missing Aboriginal women and girls in BC in early 2016. Minister Rustad acknowledged the shared priorities of the Province and the MNBC and looks forward to working together and signing the renewed MNRA.

Marc Dalton, MLA, Maple-Ridge-Mission thanked all who participated in the MNBC democratic process and congratulated all who have been elected. Mr. Dalton expressed gratitude for the opportunity to be amongst family, noting that many people are only now discovering that they are Métis. He encouraged the Delegates to help people discover their Métis roots and to share the Métis culture. He thanked Minister Rustad for his willingness to travel throughout BC to truly engage with Indigenous people.

Scott Fraser, MLA, Alberni-Pacific Rim, recognized the unceded territory of the Musqueam Nation and the surrounding Coast Salish people. He noted that events such as the MNBC AGM bring all MLAs together in a common cause. Mr. Fraser noted the Supreme Court of Canada’s Tsilhqot’in decision and commented that the politicians should do what is right, without the need for the courts to tell them to do so. Mr. Fraser remarked that several Delegates are wearing squares of moose hide and commented on the objective of the Moose Hide Campaign.

MNO Youth Council President Mitch Case thanked the Musqueam people for allowing the MNBC to gather on their territory. Mr. Case offered congratulations to the newly elected MNBC Council, particularly the newly elected Youth Council Representative, Cassidy Caron. He noted the positive working relationship between the MNO and MNBC Youth Councils, reporting that they worked together to craft a resolution to reconstitute the National Youth Council, which was introduced and adopted at the June 2016 MNC General Assembly.

Lower Mainland Regional Director Gary Biggar welcomed all to the MNBC AGM and noted the words of Ms. Sparrow on the importance of weaving a blanket with all government partners. There is much work to do, to have the rights of the Métis people affirmed and recognized throughout BC and Canada.

President Morin Dal Col thanked the Coast Salish and Musqueam people, on whose territory the MNBC AGM is being held and the Delegates for attending the AGM. She expressed her sincere gratitude to outgoing President Dumont and Board members for their service to the Métis people in BC over the past four years.

President Morin Dal Col remarked that there is much work to be done to achieve the benefits from the Daniels decision and the Isaac Report. The Provincial Government is supportive of the MNBC, and provides sponsorship of the AGM, but has been resistant on the issue of Métis rights.

President Morin Dal Col reviewed her priorities over the next four years: having Métis rights recognized; increasing the resources and capacity of Métis communities, increasing the number of Métis citizens registered in BC, preserve and promote Métis language and culture, support Métis veterans and ensuring that their needs are raised with the Federal Government; and making a difference in the lives of Métis people every day.
Vice President Lissa Smith thanked the Veterans for performing their flag party duties and the Senators for officiating the swearing in ceremony. Vice President Smith welcomed all to the 20th MNBC AGM and thanked the staff for their efforts in organizing the AGM. She remarked on the increase in the voter response in the recent election and thanked all candidates who put their names forward.

Vice President Smith noted the commitment of outgoing President Dumont and his family, over the last 12 years of serving the Métis people.

Vice President Smith offered to assist the Regional Directors in any way she can during her Vice-Presidency. She will work with President Morin Dal Col to obtain the funding required for communities, health benefits, post-graduate education funding and support for communities. This is a time of tremendous opportunity for the Métis people due to the Isaac Report and the Daniels decision.

**Health Break**
The Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2016 Annual General Meeting recessed at 10:41 a.m. and resumed at 11:07 a.m.

**OPENING REMARKS (CONTINUED)**
Emcee Peltier read aloud the greetings from the Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) President David Chartrand, British Columbia Premier Christy Clark and Richmond Mayor Malcolm Brodie.

On behalf of the MNBC Board of Directors, President Morin Dal Col presented former President Dumont with the Order of the Sash.

**QUORUM ANNOUNCED**
AGM Clerk Dale Drown announced a total of 130 registered voting delegates at the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2016 Annual General Meeting, quorum therefore being 66 (a majority of voting delegates).

1. **AGM 2016 CALLED TO ORDER**
   Chair Bill Bresser called the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2016 Annual General Meeting to order at 11:26 a.m. Chair Bresser provided an overview of the meeting ground rules and discussed expectations for the conduct of business.

2. **ACCEPTANCE OF 2016 AGM AGENDA**

   It was MOVED (Lissa Smith) and SECONDED (Susie Hooper)
   That the Agenda for the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2016 Annual General Meeting scheduled September 24 – 25, 2016, be accepted as presented.

   **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM1601-01)**
3. Review and Approval of the 2015 Annual General Meeting Draft Minutes


By consensus, it was agreed that the requirement to read aloud the minutes of the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2015 Annual General Meeting held September 26 – 27, 2015, be waived.

It was MOVED (Daniel Pitman) and SECONDED (Jean Sulzer)
That the Minutes of the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2015 Annual General Meeting held September 26 – 27, 2015, be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM1601-02)

4. “Ta Saantii” Métis Youth Health in BC Report

Jessica Tourand, Research Assistant, McCreary Centre, led the review of a presentation titled “Ta Saantii – A Profile of Métis Youth Health in BC” and highlighted:

- Data for the report was derived from the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey
- Findings and recommendations regarding:
  - Education
  - Nutrition
  - Community engagement and relationships
  - Sleep
  - Violence and abuse
  - Mental health
  - Access to services and support
  - Substance use
  - Overall health and injuries
  - Sexual health
  - Physical activity and leisure
  - Cultural connectedness
  - Health disparities with non-Métis youth
  - Homeless and street-involved Métis youth

- Conclusions:
  - Many positive changes from 2008
  - Continuing disparities exist.

Ms. Tourand advised that copies of the report are available for download on the website and a webinar is being held during the week of September 26, 2016 for a more in-depth discussion of the report.

Dale Drown, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), commented on the importance of the report and thanked Ms. Tourand and the MNBC staff, who assisted with the survey.

5. “Anything is Possible If You Try” – The Terry Fox Story and Legacy

Darrell Fox, Terry Fox Foundation, recounted the life story of his grandmother, Mary Ann Gladue and noted their close relationship despite the physical distance between their homes. Mr. Fox noted that his grandmother did not share her heritage because of concerns about the stigma attached to being Métis. Mr. Fox stated his intention to use the Terry Fox legacy to share and promote his Métis heritage.
Mr. Fox shared stories of his brother, Terry Fox, that illustrate his determination throughout his life, his fight with cancer and during the Marathon of Hope. The Terry Fox Research Institute has raised over $700 million for cancer research and as a result, progress has been made in the fight against cancer. Mr. Fox thanked volunteers such as Tanya Davoren, Director of Sport, MNBC, who help the Terry Fox Run to continue to grow and to keep his legacy alive.

Health Break
The Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2016 Annual General Meeting recessed at 12:15 p.m. and resumed at 1:20 p.m.

**QUORUM CONFIRMED**

AGM Clerk Drown acknowledged the total number of registered voting delegates at the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2016 Annual General Meeting, and confirmed that at this time, quorum had been established.

6. **AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (FISCAL YEAR 2015-16)**


Jeffrey Hunt, Partner, Manning Elliott Chartered Accountants, provided an overhead presentation titled “MNBC 2016 Financial Report”, and confirmed that the statements were fairly presented in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. The opinion was deemed a “clean opinion”.

Mr. Hunt offered comments on:
- The Statement of Operations, including total revenue, total expenses, surplus for the year and accumulated deficit
- The Statement of Financial Position, including total assets, liabilities, revenue, and long term debt
- A comparison of the revenues and the total administrative expenses.

Karen Nagra, Chief Financial Officer, continued with the overhead presentation, and provided comments on:
- Achievements during the fiscal year:
  - Increase in the surplus
  - Decrease in the deficit
  - Decrease in the balance of the RBC debt
- Revenue sources in 2015–16 fiscal year and income statement result
- Comparison of 2015–16 results to the prior year
- Comparison of the past five years:
  - Surplus/deficit results
  - Administration expense
  - Audit fees
  - Bank charges and interest
  - Balance outstanding of the RBC long-term loan
  - MNBC Aboriginal Skills and Education Training Strategy (ASETS) statistics.
**Q&A PERIOD**

Questions and comments (Q/C) were welcomed on the foregoing report, and responses (R) were provided accordingly:

Q/C: Is there a plan to use operating surpluses to repay the long-term debt?

R: Previously, the Board authorized a lump sum payment to be made every third year. The incoming Board will decide whether they wish to continue with this.

Q/C: How were the reductions in administration costs achieved?

R: Much of the decrease was due to cost cutting through efficiencies, including the rationalization of printer and cellular phone costs and outsourcing payroll functions.

Q/C: What is the amount of ASETS funding received annually from the Federal Government?

R: MNBC receives $6.349 million per year of ASETS funding.

Q/C: Will MNBC be renegotiating for additional ASETS funding due to the increase in the population?

R: MNBC will be renegotiating the ASETS funding with the Federal Government in the next few months as the current agreement expires on March 31, 2017. We had hoped to negotiate a new five-year agreement, but have been advised that the existing agreement may be extended for one year until March 31, 2018. After the expiration, MNBC intends to negotiate a new agreement with a seven-year term and additional funding.

Q/C: What is the nature of the revenue sources from partnerships e.g. one-time donations or recurring revenue?

R: MNBC has been very successful over the past number of years in entering into protocols or memorandums of understanding (MOU) with industry for capacity funding. There is flexibility in the usage of the funding to engage in consultation or to better understand the impacts of projects. It is unlikely that the same extent of funding will be achieved next year due to the softening in the oil and gas sector.

Q/C: Can we still govern properly with the low administration costs?

R: Administrative costs are required to run the organization and we have negotiated effectively to reduce them. We have more staff now than in 2012 and our reputation with the Federal and Provincial Government has improved. We have not sacrificed governance in order to reduce administration costs.

Q/C: Will the for-profit activities continue at the same level in 2016–17?

R: We expect that there will be a decrease due to the downturn in the energy sector but we continue to negotiate with our industry partners.

Q/C: In 2012, the Board of Directors eliminated their salary, which made a significant contribution to the reduction in administration costs.
Q/C: Is MNBC considering investing in environmentally cleaner organizations in order to diversify and reduce its dependence on the oil and gas sector?

R: The MNBC Board will be considering making this strategic shift over the next few months. There are opportunities for MNBC to become a joint venture partner in the health care sector.

Q/C: Are there any provisions in the MoUs requiring private sector companies to employ Métis citizens and to procure from Métis businesses, similar to First Nations?

R: The MoUs set the table for discussion on these types of issue to take place.

Q/C: Are there sufficient resources in the administrative budget to negotiate with the private sector companies for economic development and employment opportunities?

R: We believe we do have sufficient resources to do this.

Q/C: Has an economic development corporation been established by MNBC?

R: MNBC is currently working with the Federal Government to establish a capital corporation for Métis in BC.

Q/C: I am concerned that the sponsorship of the AGM by Enbridge and Kinder Morgan will be considered as “consultation”. Would MNBC consider only investing in sustainable energy opportunities?

R: If we do not accept the sponsorship fees, the cost of the AGM will need to be funded wholly from administration costs and this will impact the operations of bodies such as the Senate. We need to consider all revenue sources to offset costs.

Q/C: I exhort the MNBC Directors to look after the excellent staff that has been assembled and to retain them.

Q/C: Are partnership and sponsorship opportunities with resource extraction companies brought to the Youth Council and Senators for consideration? The voices of all the people who make up the Métis Nation of BC need to be heard before proceeding with these opportunities.

It was MOVED (Daniel Pitman) and SECONDED (Lissa Smith)
That the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2016 Annual General Meeting accept as presented, the “Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia Financial Statements for the Year Ended March 31, 2016”.

CARRIED (AGM1601-03)
(One abstention)
It was MOVED (Jean Sulzer) and SECONDED (Deb Fisher)
That the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2016 Annual General Meeting accept as presented, the “Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia Chief Financial Officer’s report for the Year Ended March 31, 2016”.

CARRIED (AGM1601-04)
(One abstention)

It was MOVED (Daniel Pitman) and SECONDED (Susie Hooper)
That Manning Elliott Chartered Accountants be appointed as the Auditor for the 2016–17 fiscal year.

CARRIED (AGM1601-05)
(One abstention)

Health Break
The Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2016 Annual General Meeting recessed at 2:21 p.m. and resumed at 2:45 p.m.

QUORUM CONFIRMED
AGM Clerk Drown acknowledged the total number of registered voting delegates at the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2016 Annual General Meeting, and confirmed that at this time, quorum had been established.

7. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT

Chief Executive Officer Report AGM 2016 Annual Report

Mr. Drown led the meeting in a review of an overhead presentation titled “Chief Executive Officer Report”, and highlighted some significant events of the prior year, and objectives for the year ahead, including:

- The move of the MNBC office to Surrey in October 2015
- The election of the government of Prime Minister Trudeau in October 2015 has resulted in a new positive working relationship between the Government of Canada and the Métis Nation
- The Supreme Court of Canada Daniels decision
- Report of the Special Ministerial Representative to the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (MSR) Thomas Isaac titled “A Matter of National Import” that includes 17 recommendations to address Métis rights under s.35, Constitution Act, 1982 and the MMF land claim
- Priorities for the next 12 months:
  - Framework for negotiations under the Daniels decision
  - MNBC citizenship community acceptance
  - Implementation of the 17 recommendations in the Isaac Report to address Métis rights
  - Renewal of the MNRA
  - Increased support for communities
  - Increased involvement with communities.
Q&A PERIOD
Questions and comments (Q/C) were welcomed on the foregoing report, and responses (R) were provided accordingly:

Q/C: Are MNBC citizens who are descendants of the MMF citizens eligible to receive benefits from the MMF land claim?

R: This is a dynamic situation and there will be more information from the MMF forthcoming on this issue.

Q/C: How can the Métis become more involved in housing?

R: We will likely hear some news about housing very soon. The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) will be engaging with Métis. The MNBC will be attending a meeting Ottawa in early October 2016 to discuss housing.

Q/C: I would like to acknowledge CEO Dale Drown’s work in having the Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD MoU) renewed. I encourage the new Board and staff to place a priority on reducing the number of Métis children in care in their future work plans.

R: The MCFD MoU included additional clauses recognizing the Métis as a distinct people and the jurisdiction of the MNBC over its children.

Q/C: When will the community engagement mentioned in your report and in the remarks of the new Board members begin?

R: We hope to start the engagement on children and families, at a minimum, by the end of November 2016. We have submitted a funding proposal for a one-day forum on children and family, education and health to provide the Board with feedback on these issues. We expect that we will be able to fund at least two members from each community to attend the forum.

Q/C: We must take care of our own children; there are not enough foster homes.

Q/C: Métis citizens, as Aboriginals, have a right to native housing provided by the Federal Government. We must strengthen and support the locals at the community level.

It was MOVED (Vincent Van Wieringen) and SECONDED (Barb Reese)
That the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2016 Annual General Meeting accept, as presented, the Chief Executive Officer’s Report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM1601-06)

8. MNBC MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AND BC MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT – MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING RENEWAL SIGNING
MNBC Minister for Children and Families Daniel Pitman and the Honourable Stephanie Cadieux, Minister for Children and Family Development (MCFD) remarked on the importance of the MCFD MoU to support ongoing dialogue in the shared goal of providing services to Métis children and youth and their families.
Minister Cadieux advised that Senior Advisor on Aboriginal Child Welfare to the MCFD, Grand Chief Ed John, would soon be issuing his report with recommendations on improving service to Aboriginal children in care in BC.

Ferne Strain, President, Métis Commission for Children and Families of BC, introduced the Commission Board members. Mr. Drown introduced the representatives of the service providers that will be witnesses to the signing of the renewed MCFD MoU.

Minister Pitman stressed that the children are the greatest assets and they will be the legacy of the leaders in the room.

9. MINISTRY REPORTS

Related materials distributed in the MNBC/MPCBC AGM 2016 Agenda package:
- Ministry of Health AGM 2016 Annual Report submitted by Tanya Davoren, Director of Health
- Ministry for Women AGM 2016 Annual Report submitted by MNBC Staff
- Ministry of Youth AGM 2016 Annual Report submitted by Colette Trudeau, Director of Youth
- Ministry of Sport AGM 2016 Annual Report submitted by Tanya Davoren, Director of Sport
- Ministry of Veterans AGM 2016 Annual Report submitted by Tanya Davoren, Director of Veterans
- Ministry of Culture, Heritage and Language AGM 2016 Annual Report submitted by Leona Shaw, Culture, Heritage and Language Coordinator
- Ministry of Central Registry AGM 2016 Annual Report submitted by Laurel Katernick, Director of Registry
- Ministry of Employment and Training AGM 2016 Annual Report submitted by Arlene Lambert, Director of Employment and Training
- Ministry of Natural Resources AGM 2016 Annual Report submitted by Christopher Gall, Director of Natural Resources
- Ministry of Children and Families AGM 2016 Annual Report submitted by Jason Woodman Simmonds, Director of Children and Families
- Ministry of Economic Development AGM 2016 Annual Report submitted by Colleen Hodgson, Director of Partnerships and Education
- Ministry of Education AGM 2016 Annual Report submitted by Colleen Hodgson, Director of Education.

8.1 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Jason Woodman Simmonds, Director of Children and Families, acknowledged the work of his predecessor, Cole McGillivary. The work of Mr. McGillivary, Minister Pitman and Mr. Drown has improved in the relationship with the MCFD to the point where Métis children in care can now be identified.

Mr. Woodman presented the AGM 2016 Annual Report and highlighted:
- Key objectives of the Ministry of Children and Families;
- Key initiatives 2015–16:
  o Métis Working Table
  o Supporting youth aging out of care
  o MCFD Awareness and Education Strategy
  o Adoptive and foster families.
Q&A PERIOD

Questions and comments (Q/C) were welcomed on the foregoing report, and responses (R) were provided accordingly:

Q/C: I hope that we can find the underlying factors for the increasing number of Métis children in care. It is important to expand the holistic view to support our people to bring the children home.

R: The children and families are the heart and soul of Métis culture and we must all come together to change the status quo.

Q/C: How are the children who are apprehended identified as Métis?

R: It is the responsibility of the social worker to identify the child as Métis and to build a cultural plan. However, this is not performed consistently.

R: Identification is a critical factor and the MNBC Ministry of Children and Families continues to work on this. Part of the identification results from asking the right questions. We need to help the social workers to ask the right questions.

Q/C: There are roots workers who provide genealogy services but additional resources are required to enable them to educate the social workers.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ADJOURNED

Day 1 – The Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2016 Annual General Meeting scheduled September 24 – 25, 2016 adjourned at 4:25 p.m. and set the time to reconvene on Day 2 – September 25, 2016 at 8:30 a.m.

D I A Y 2 – S E P T E M B E R 2 5 , 2 0 1 6

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING RECONV redefine

Chair Bresser reconvened the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2016 Annual General Meeting on Day 2 – September 25, 2016 at 8:38 a.m.

MNBC Senator Phillip Gladue offered an Opening Prayer in Cree.

QUORUM CONFIRMED

AGM Clerk Drown acknowledged the total number of registered voting delegates at the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2016 Annual General Meeting, and confirmed that at this time, quorum had been established.

8. MINISTRY REPORTS (CONTINUED)

8.2 CENTRAL REGISTRY / CITIZENSHIP

Laurel Katernick, Director of Registry, presented the AGM 2016 Annual Report and highlighted:
- Background of the MNBC Central Registry
- 2016–17 key objectives:
  o Central Registry community outreach
Historical community outreach
Community Membership Database Management Software
Métis Chartered Community AGM and community cultural event notifications
Webinars
Hard copy publications
MNBC quarterly newsletter support
Central Registry Digitization Project

2015–16 initiatives and accomplishments:
- 14,500 Citizenship cards issued to date
- 54% decrease in application processing time
- Secured funding to increase Registry staffing
- Preparation and processing of 2016 MNBC Election Official Voter’s and Candidates Lists
- Updated Community Acceptance process
- Provided support to Métis Chartered Communities with updating membership lists and providing membership application and consent to release information forms
- Created a social media presence for the Central Registry.

Q&A PERIOD
Questions and comments (Q/C) were welcomed on the foregoing report, and responses (R) were provided accordingly:

Q/C: Does the MNBC Central Registry have the capability of accessing a genealogical database to reduce the documentation that must be submitted with citizenship applications?

R: We have this capability for the more recent applications and are looking for ways to connect the genealogical database to older applications.

Q/C: Can the Central Registry print Community Cards, with the same security features as Citizenship cards? Can there be an expiry date included on the Citizenship Card? If there was an expiry date, it would provide the opportunity to connect with those citizens who do not otherwise engage with the community.

R: We are investigating software to allow the Central Registry to print Community Cards. We understand the frustration of citizens not connecting with their community and are looking for ideas to address this.

Q/C: We include a five-year expiry date on our Community Cards.

Q/C: Can Chartered Communities be provided with the Voter’s Lists to allow them to connect with the members in their community?

R: That is one of the reasons that the communities were issued laptops. Within the next week or two, we will be emailing the confidential address lists of the members to the communities to the email addresses associated with the laptops.

Q/C: Are there intra-provincial policies put in place to allow students moving from BC to Alberta to apply for scholarships?
There was a memorandum of understanding signed between the MNBC and the MNA a few years ago. The student will submit the application to the Métis Governing Member in the jurisdiction to which they are moving and the other Governing Member will transfer the genealogical information.

8.3 **NATURAL RESOURCES / HARVESTING**
Christopher Gall, Director of Natural Resources, presented the AGM 2016 Annual Report and highlighted 2015–16 key objectives:
- Historical research
- Mapping research to document Métis harvesting across BC
- Harvester survey
- Community engagement
- Rights issues
- Supporting the British Columbia Métis Assembly of Natural Resources (BCMANR), Captains on issues of harvesting and rights.

8.4 **CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANGUAGE**
Leona Shaw, Culture, Heritage and Language Coordinator, presented the AGM 2016 Annual Report and highlighted:
- Events:
  - University of the Fraser Valley Métis Awareness Day in November 2015
  - MNBC/MCMANR Youth Harvesting Camp in November 2015
  - Fort Langley Métis Celebration/Daniels Decision Forum in June 2016
  - Métis Days in Fort St. John in September 2016
- Awareness and promotion:
  - Discussions regarding a Métis display at the Surrey Museum
  - Métis cultural awareness day at the Surrey Museum in August 2017
  - Engagement with Parks Canada
  - Updating/maintaining a language website
  - Celebration of Louis Riel Day.

8.5 **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**
Colleen Hodgson, Director of Partnerships and Education, presented the Ministry of Economic Development AGM 2016 Annual Report and highlighted the 2015–16 key achievements:
- Métis Business and Entrepreneur Workshops in Prince George, Richmond, Terrace, Cranbrook, Nanaimo and Kelowna
- Métis economic development website launched in March 2016
- Research into the creation of a Métis capital corporation for MNBC citizens
- Métis Economic Development Fund monies to be provided by the Ministry of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) for the next five years.

**Q&A PERIOD**
Questions and comments (Q/C) were welcomed on the foregoing report, and responses (R) were provided accordingly:

Q/C: Métis businesses must be given the same opportunities as First Nations businesses, to bid on procurement opportunities in northern BC. Currently, First Nations approval must be granted before industry can award the work to a Métis business.
R: We recognize that there is conflict with First Nations and industry in northern BC. The recognition of Métis rights is changing but it has been challenging. We must put the things in place, such as business databases, to prepare for the time when Métis rights are recognized as being equal to First Nations rights.

8.6 EDUCATION
Colleen Hodgson, Director of Partnerships and Education, presented the Ministry of Economic Development AGM 2016 Annual Report and highlighted the 2015–16 objectives to increase the awareness of Métis in the education system in BC:

- Representing the interest of Métis communities in the development of policy on Aboriginal education in early learning, kindergarten to Grade 12 and post-secondary education and training
- Imagination Library
- BC Ministry of Education Curriculum Project
- Métis Grade 4 and 7 teacher guides
- K-12 community survey
- Increasing Métis specific materials and resources
- Participation in the Aboriginal Post-Secondary Indigenization Project Steering Committee.

Q&A PERIOD
Questions and comments (Q/C) were welcomed on the foregoing report, and responses (R) were provided accordingly:

Q/C: I asked a BC Ministry of Education official about the inclusion of Métis within the BC education system and was told it is not included.

R: We will be asking the Honourable Mike Bernier, Minister of Education, for a Métis specific education program and dedicated resources. We will be relying on the Isaac Report that states that Métis have equal rights to First Nations for programs and services.

Q/C: We are on the third renewal of the Education Agreement. It is critical that the Métis community engage with their local school boards.

9. "DARE TO BE A FORCE OF NATURE": ENVIRONMENTAL AND REGULATORY REVIEW
Chris Gall, Director for Natural Resources, led the review of a presentation highlighting the new Federal Government initiative to rebuild trust in environmental assessment processes:

- Legislation to be reviewed:
  - Canadian Environmental Assessment Act
  - National Energy Board Act
  - Fisheries Act
  - Navigable Waters Protection Act
- Community consultation will be undertaken by the MNBC to collect information to provide input into the review.

10. BC MÉTIS HISTORY: TRANS-MOUNTAIN COMMUNICATION AND CONSANGUINE RELATIONS
Brodie Douglas, Central Registry Database Records Clerk, led the review of a presentation of events and facts supporting the existence of historic communities in BC:

- Map showing the MNC recognized homeland
- Factors supporting the existence of historic Métis communities in the BC
Kinship ties
Mobility
Marital patterns
Sacramental records
• List of persons holding a minimum of 20 acres of land on Vancouver Island – January 1855 who have been identified as potentially having Métis ancestry.

11. **MÉTIS NATIONAL COUNCIL REPORT**

MNC President Clément Chartier offered congratulations to the newly elected MNBC Board of Directors and commented that he looks forward to working with them over the coming months and years.

MNC President Chartier referenced a number of events that had occurred, since his previous report to the MNBC:
- Federal election in 2015 and a change in government
- Supreme Court of Canada decision in the Daniels case
- Release of the Isaac Report
- Federal Government commitment to implement the UNDRIP.

The *Daniels* decision has set the framework for the MNC to move forward and the MNC and Governing Members must work collectively to ensure that the benefits are derived for Métis citizens. The Isaac Report states that the *Daniels* decision leaves open the possibility that there are Aboriginal peoples other than those specified in Section 35(2), *Constitution Act, 1982*. MNC President Chartier emphasized that the Métis are not now “Indians” for the purposes of the *Indian Act*. It is possible however, that through negotiation, Métis will receive Federal Government services and programs, to which they are entitled.

The Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Affairs Canada appointed Thomas Isaac as the Special Ministerial Representative in 2014 and the new Federal Government reaffirmed his appointment when they assumed power in 2015. When Mr. Isaac commenced his work, the Federal Government did not recognize Métis rights under s. 35, *Constitution Act, 1982*. Mr. Isaac’s report provides the legislative rationale to support the new Federal Government’s recognition of Métis rights. Mr. Isaac further acknowledged the evidence of Métis self-government, such as the exercise of democratic processes and the establishment of criteria for recognizing Métis citizens from Ontario west to British Columbia.

MNC President Chartier highlighted the contents of Mr. Isaac’s report, including the need to establish a framework to negotiate the recognition of Métis’ s.35 rights.

MNC President Chartier noted the importance of the Liberal Party campaign platform promising a renewed, nation-to-nation relationship with Indigenous Peoples, based on recognition of rights, respect, cooperation and partnership. The communiqué that was released with the Isaac Report provides further reason for optimism and the belief that there will be progress in asserting Métis rights over the coming months and years.

**Health Break**
The Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council British Columbia 2016 Annual General Meeting recessed at 10:37 a.m. and reconvened at 11:05 a.m.
QUORUM CONFIRMED
AGM Clerk Drown acknowledged the total number of registered voting delegates at the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2016 Annual General Meeting, and confirmed that at this time, quorum had been established.

12. “THE BC PERSPECTIVE”
AGM Clerk Drown introduced the Panel members who will be discussing the BC perspective of the Daniels decision and the Isaac Report:

- Christopher Gall, Director of Natural Resources
- Joe Gereluk, MNBC Legal Counsel.

Mr. Gall provided clarification on recent court decisions and highlighted the following issues:

- The Daniels decision is clearly not about rights
- The Powley decision is the test for determining Métis rights
- The MNBC is gathering the evidence to support its claim of rights in BC.

Mr. Gereluk noted:

- It is unfortunate that the resolution of legal actions is lengthy while the daily lives of Métis citizens is negatively impacted
- The Daniels decision clearly states that Métis are classified as “Indians” for the purposes of the Indian Act and are under federal jurisdiction
- Requirement of governments to enter into negotiations with Métis in good faith
- The citizen registration process and democratic government are integral to demonstrating that the Métis are a self-governed people
- There is a need for the Federal Government to establish an agency to deal with Métis specifically.

Q&A PERIOD
Questions and comments (Q/C) were welcomed on the foregoing report, and responses (R) were provided accordingly:

Q/C: What is the duty to consult for non-land based rights?

R: The duty to consult arose from the Haida decision, and is triggered by the assertion of rights. The assertion of rights does not have to be strong in order to trigger the duty to consult. There have been challenges with asserting Métis rights with the Provincial Government. In Federal Government projects, we are consulted but we are not consulted on Provincial Government projects, even if they are in the same area.

Q/C: Can the duty to consult be linked to the fiduciary duty to provide programs and services where the Métis do not have land-based rights?

R: The argument that the Métis do not have land-based rights is not valid. The duty to consult must be tied to the honour of the Crown.

R: There are rights that can be asserted on the basis that Métis are self-governing.

R: If you are in the MNBC Central Registry, you will automatically be entitled to the programs and services to be provided to Métis citizens by the Federal Government.
Q/C: How are we approaching the need to ensure that the Federal Government programs are consistent amongst all MNC Governing Members? Has the Provincial Government done the research to support its position that Métis rights do not exist?

R: MNBC will be meeting with the Federal Government in early October 2016 to discuss the provision of services and programs. In addition, the Regional Director General has requested a meeting with MNBC.

R: The Provincial Government has stated that their decision is based on a lack of evidence that Métis rights exist. We will be continuing to work to develop this evidence and will be providing it to the Provincial Government.

R: The Isaac Report clearly states the need for reconciliation.

8. MINISTRY REPORTS (CONTINUED)

8.7 HEALTH
Tanya Davoren, Director of Health, presented the AGM 2016 Annual Report and highlighted the 2015–16 key initiatives:

- 2016 AGM health fair
- Engagement and Letters of Understanding (LOUs) with health authorities
- Métis Public Health Surveillance Program
- McCreary Centre reports
- Métis youth engagement
- Canadian Partnership Against Cancer
- Métis Elder resources

8.8 SPORT
Tanya Davoren, Director of Sport, presented the AGM 2016 Annual Report and highlighted:

- North America Indigenous Games 2017 in Toronto
- Call for nominations for the Premier’s Aboriginal Youth Athletic Achievement Award
- Regional Leader Training sessions
- Connection with the Terry Fox Foundation.

8.9 VETERANS
Tanya Davoren, Director of Veterans, presented the AGM 2016 Annual Report and highlighted:

- Métis Veterans of British Columbia (MV-BC) Committee members
- 2015–16 key accomplishments:
  - Attendance by four delegates at Back to Batoche
  - Changes to the Veterans Act to be considered at the March 2017 Métis Nation General Assembly
- MV-BC AGM in March 2017
- Funding provided by MV-BC for Remembrance Day wreaths.
8.10 EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING
Arlene Lambert, Director of Employment and Training, presented the AGM 2016 Annual Report and highlighted:

- 2015–16 key initiatives:
  - Preparation for renewal of the ASETS program focused on partnership, demand and accountability
  - Youth aging out of care
  - Career Placement Work Experience Program placing clients in community offices
- 2015–16 results:
  - 601 clients were funded
  - 762 applications were processed and approved
  - Service provided to 3,807 unfunded Aboriginal clients
- Details of the types of training provided.

8.11 YOUTH
Collette Trudeau, Director of Youth, presented the AGM 2016 Annual Report and highlighted:

- Need for regions and communities to support the youth governance structure and to mentor youth
- 2015–16 key initiatives:
  - Urban Partnerships Program
  - Métis Youth Industry Training Program
  - Métis Youth Group Employment and Training Strategy projects
  - Provincial Métis Youth Forum – Proud of our Skills
  - Urban Aboriginal Strategy – Community Action Planning sessions
  - Participation in the 4 R’s Youth Movement
  - Participation in the Aboriginal Youth Collective
- Upcoming events:
  - Entrepreneurship training in three locations
  - Four additional Urban Aboriginal Strategy – Community Action Planning sessions
- Recommendations arising from the Urban Aboriginal Strategy – Community Action Planning sessions
  - A Métis youth specific website will be launched over the next few months to provide resources on career, education and culture
  - Métis Youth Toolkit to be released in the near future.

8.12 Q&A PERIOD
The following questions and comments (Q/C) were provided on the foregoing reports and responses (R) were provided accordingly:

Q/C: Will a Senators Report and a Women’s Report be provided?
R: The Women’s Report is included in the MNBC/MPCBC AGM 2016 Agenda package. The Senators Report will be posted on the MNBC website.

Q/C: I am disappointed that there was nothing discussed during the entire AGM that relates specifically to my community. We did not discuss the “SS issue” because of privacy and confidentiality. What will be done on economic development in the future? What position that will be taken on the Enbridge Northern Gateway project?
MNBC does not have the ability or the understanding to take any concrete action yet.

Q/C: The MNBC staff does a tremendous amount of work but there is not sufficient time during the AGM to allow staff to share what they are doing for the benefit of the communities. We would like to hear from the community that hosts the next AGM on how to structure the AGM to meet the community's needs.

Q/C: There is a disconnection between the MNBC, the Board of Directors and what is happening in our communities. The AGM should be an opportunity for that connection to occur and to share information from the bottom up and from the top down.

Q/C: There must be an opportunity at the AGM to share information amongst the Delegates. Perhaps a sharing circle could be held on the Friday night before the official AGM.

Q/C: The distribution of the laptops at the September 24, 2016 President’s Meeting facilitates the sharing of information and will address some of the concerns that have been raised. I suggest that each Region create a paid staff position to advocate and write grant proposals to take advantage of the funding that is available from many different sources.

Q/C: We are here to work as a nation and to provide information to our people. We need to extend the length of the AGMs to ensure that Delegates have the information necessary to take back to their communities.

R: We try to accommodate all valid requests within the AGM agenda and this results in a very busy agenda. I understand the suggestion to extend the length of the AGM but this will increase the costs substantially. We have also heard that the Delegates do not like receiving corporate donations. We will need to justify the additional cost to the funders in order to be able to extend the AGM.

R: The laws of confidentiality must be respected in order to respect all of our citizens. We cannot breach those laws. The Forum on Children and Families that was held on September 24, 2016 was very useful and we will move forward to obtain funding to hold a specific forum on children and families issues.

**It was MOVED (Michael Dumont) and SECONDED (Shawn Davoren)**
That the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2016 Annual General Meeting accept, as presented, the Ministry Reports.

**CARRIED (AGM1601-07)**
(One vote in opposition; no abstentions)

13. **NEXT MEETING**
AGM Clerk Drown reported that expressions of interest were received from Kamloops, Dawson Creek and Vernon to host the 2017 AGM. AGM Clerk Drown suggested that an extension be provided to December 2016 to allow other communities to submit an expression of interest. A decision on the location could be made at the 2017 Annual General Assembly.
It was MOVED (Susie Hooper) and SECONDED (Lissa Smith)
That the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2016 Annual General Meeting, defer the decision on the location of the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2017 Annual General Meeting to the 2017 Métis Nation General Assembly.

Discussion on the Motion
The following comments were offered on the motion:

- Whether the Constitution allows the decision on the location of the next AGM to be deferred
- There were three communities that submitted expressions of interest by the deadline and making a decision at this time will allow members to vote on the location of 2017 AGM
- The successful community will require the full year to organize the AGM
- Need for information on the financial implications of the decision
- The AGM is the appropriate body to make a decision on the location as the General Assembly does not directly represent the citizens
- Additional funding may be obtained from the City of Dawson Creek to allow the AGM to be extended to four days.

Given that the constitutionality of the motion was called into question, the motion was withdrawn by the Mover and the Seconder.

It was MOVED (Walter Mineault)
That the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2017 Annual General Meeting, be held in Dawson Creek, British Columbia.

Point of Order
A point of order was raised on the need to vote on the expressions of interest submitted by all three communities.

In response to the Point of Order, the Mover withdrew the motion.

It was MOVED (Walter Mineault) and SECONDED (Marlin Ratch)
That the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2016 Annual General Meeting be permitted to vote on the three expressions of interest to host the 2017 Annual General Meeting received from the communities.

Each community that submitted an expression of interest was provided with an opportunity to provide remarks.

Question on the Motion
Question was called on the motion and it was \textbf{CARRIED (AGM1601-08)} (One vote in opposition)

A show of hands was taken to gauge the level of support for each expression of interest submitted to host the 2017 AGM. For the purpose of taking the show of hands, the names of the potential host communities were listed in alphabetical order.
It was MOVED (Walter Mineault) and SECONDED (Darlene Campbell)
That the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2017 Annual General Meeting, be held September 22 – 24, 2017 in Dawson Creek, British Columbia.

Discussion on the Motion
A Board Member commented that the decision was being made without sufficient information and the fiduciary duty to the organization may have been breached.

Question on the Motion
Question was called on the motion and it was

CARRIED (AGM1601-09)
(One vote in opposition; three abstentions)

14. CLOSING REMARKS
President Morin Dal Col announced the Ministerial portfolios as follows:

- Clara Morin Dal Col – President; Minister of Education; and Minister of Housing
- Lissa Smith – Vice President; Minister for Métis Rights; Minister of Justice; and Minister of Veterans
- Cassidy Caron – Provincial Métis Youth Chairperson; and Minister for Métis Youth
- Victoria Pruden – Provincial Métis Women’s Chairperson; and Minister for Métis Women
- Michael Dumont – Regional Director, Vancouver Island and Powell River; Minister of Economic Development; and Minister of Sport
- Gary Biggar – Regional Director, Lower Mainland; and Minister of Natural Resources
- Daniel Pitman – Regional Director, Thompson Okanagan; Minister of Employment and Training; and Senate Liaison
- Marilynn Taylor – Regional Director, Kootenay’s; and Minister of Citizenship Registry
- Raynie Gervais – Regional Director, North Central; and Minister of Culture, Heritage and Language
- Susie Hooper – Regional Director, North West; Minister of Children and Families; and Minister of Health
- Walter Mineault – Regional Director, North East; and Associate Minister, Natural Resources.

President Morin Dal Col thanked MNC President Chartier for taking the time to attend the MNBC AGM and to Tracy Thornhill and MNBC staff for their efforts in organizing the AGM.

15. CLOSING PRAYER
Director Daniel Pitman and Elder Stella Johnson offered a Closing Prayer in English and Cree, respectively.

16. CONCLUSION
It was MOVED (Julie Jackson) and SECONDED (Collette Trudeau)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM1601-10)
(Time 1:27 p.m.)