



## RESOLUTION

SUBMITTED TO THE MARCH 2023 MÉTIS NATION GOVERNING ASSEMBLY

Subject: Changes to the *Veterans Act*

Legislation Affected: *Veterans Act*

Submitted by: MNBC Minister of Veterans

Submitted to: MNGA Clerk

Date Submitted: January 17, 2023

### WHEREAS

1. The MVBC Committee has undergone some changes, and the *MVBC Act* needs to be updated to reflect these changes;
2. The relationship of the MVBC to the MNBC, and the qualifications for membership and associate membership in MVBC should be stated clearly and succinctly;
3. The role of the Minister of Veterans to the MVBC needs to be clearly defined and understandable.

### BE IT RESOLVED THAT

The *Veterans Act* be amended as follows:

- A. Remove the second instance of “of” in Section 2.1 so that it will read: The purpose of this Act is to define the role and position of the Métis Veterans British Columbia (the “MVBC”) within the MNBC.
- B. Strike Section 3.2 and insert the following in its place:

The spouses and children of MVBC Members who wish to join MVBC may apply for associate membership of MVBC and may be accepted as an associate member (the “Associate Member” or “Associate Members” as the case may be) of MVBC. The MVBC Committee will assess and accept or deny applications for Associate Membership.

- C. Strike Section 3.3 and insert the following in its place:

The MVBC Committee may, at their sole discretion, revoke a person’s associate membership.

- D. Insert new Section 3.5 as follows:

A Member or Associate Member may resign their membership in MVBC, through a written request submitted to the MVBC Committee.

- E. Insert the acronym “BC” following the word “Veterans” in the title of Article Four, so that the new title will be:

**ARTICLE FOUR – METIS VETERANS BC COMMITTEE**

- F. Strike existing sections 4.1 to 4.6 and insert the following new Sections 4.1 to 4.12 in their place:

- 4.1 Métis Veterans BC Committee (the “MVBC Committee”) shall be constituted of a Métis Veteran Chairperson, seven Métis Veteran Representatives (the “Regional Representatives”), a Woman Veteran Representative, and a Service Officer, all being MVBC members.
- 4.2 The MVBC Membership shall elect from among themselves the Chairperson, Women’s Representative, and Service Officer. The MVBC Regional Representatives shall be appointed in consultation with the appropriate MNBC Regional Governance Council.
- 4.3 The term of office for all MVBC Committee members shall be no more than four (4) years. Elections and appointments shall be held at a MVBC General Meeting, in the year on which the term for those MVBC Committee members shall expire.
- 4.4 The MNBC Minister of Veterans will notify the relevant Regional Director no less than ninety (90) days before their MVBC Regional Representative term will expire, and an appointment must be made by the Regional Governance Council, if a suitable candidate can be found.
- 4.5 No Member may serve for more than two (2) consecutive terms as Chairperson, Women’s Representative, or Service Officer, without the approval of the MNBC Minister of Veterans.
- 4.6 At least one member of the MVBC Committee shall be a serving or retired member of the RCMP, if a suitable candidate can be found.
- 4.7 A Secretary, Treasurer, and Membership Clerk will be appointed by the MVBC Committee from the MVBC Regional Representatives, who, together with the Chairperson, Women’s Representative, and Service Officer, shall collectively act and be known as the “Executive Committee”.
- 4.8 The MVBC Committee shall be responsible for the following duties and functions on behalf of the Métis Veterans British Columbia:
- a.) Maintenance of policy and procedures relating to the conduct and mandate of the Métis Veterans and Associate Members;
  - b.) Maintenance of a list of all Métis Veterans and Associate Members in British Columbia as defined by article three (3);
  - c.) Prepare an annual report for presentation at the MNBC Annual General Meeting, and other reports as requested by the MNBC Minister of Veterans;

- d.) Serve as *Gabriel Dumont Scouts* as may be requested by MNBC from time to time;
- e.) Co-ordinate and organize flag processions and flag placement as requested or appropriate from time to time; and other duties as required;
- f.) Advocate to enhance the status of Métis Veterans;
- g.) Provide service and support to Métis Veterans in British Columbia;
- h.) Represent themselves as Métis veterans at municipal, provincial, federal, commemorative, or other events.

4.9 Subject to available funding, the MVBC Committee shall meet at least twice per year at a location chosen by the MVBC Committee and may be held in conjunction with the MNBC Annual General Meeting or a MNBC Métis Nation Governing Assembly. The MVBC General Meeting will generally be held in conjunction with the MNBC Annual General Meeting.

4.10 Meetings of the MVBC Committee shall be called by the Chairperson. In the event that the Chairperson is unwilling or unable to call a meeting, three MVBC Committee members may call a meeting.

4.11 No less than seven (7) days' notice of a MVBC Committee meeting will be provided to all MVBC Committee members.

4.12 An MVBC Member, while conducting their duties of the MVBC, shall not be subject to any civil action, lawsuit, or prosecution, as a result of anything done or not done in relation to their duties.

G. Strike the current title of Article Five of the *Veterans Act* and insert the following in its place:

**ARTICLE FIVE – MNBC MINISTER OF VETERANS**

H. Strike existing sections 5.1 and 5.2 of the *Veterans Act* and insert new sections 5.1 to 5.3 in their place:

5.1 The MNBC Minister of Veterans shall be an MNBC Board Member.

5.2 The MNBC Minister of Veterans shall provide Provincial and Federal representation on behalf of the MVBC and will be accountable to the MVBC Committee. In the event the Minister of Veterans is unable to attend, the Minister may request that the Chairperson of the MVBC attend in their place.

5.3 For the purpose of official business, the voice of the MVBC shall be brought to the MNBC, Métis National Council, Federal and Provincial Governments, organizations, and associations through the Minister in consultation with the MVBC Committee.