



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022

September 23-25, 2022

Executive Hotel Vancouver Airport

### MINUTES

Minutes of the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC)/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia (MPCBC) 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM) held September 23-25, 2022, at the Executive Hotel Vancouver Airport, Richmond, BC.

#### DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Lisa Smith, President

Walter Mineault, Vice President

Patrick Harriott, Region 1 Director

Louis De Jaeger, Region 2 Director

Dean Gladue, Region 3 Director

Debra Fisher, Region 4 Director

Raynie Gervais, Region 5 Director

Susie Hooper, Region 6 Director

Paulette Flamond, Region 7 Director

Dr. Kate Elliott, Provincial Women's Chair

Shaughn Davoren, Provincial Youth Chair

#### ALSO PRESENT:

John Bieker, AGM Clerk

Eli Mina, Registered Parliamentarian

Dave Peltier, AGM Chair

Cal Robinson, AGM Deputy Clerk

Jordan Waunch, Master of Ceremonies (MC)

Brent Weberg, AGM Deputy Clerk

Colette Trudeau, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

#### PREPARATION OF MINUTES

Christel Guenette, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

### DAY ONE | Friday, September 23, 2022

#### OPENING CEREMONIES

A fiddle player and jigger accompanied the Flag Party and Grand Entry of Métis Veterans, Senators, Directors, and dignitaries into the meeting hall. Delegates joined in singing "O Canada" and the "Métis Ballad", played through a video presentation.

Jordan Waunch, MC, welcomed Delegates to the MNBC AGM and invited Alec Guerin, Musqueam Nation, to provide a welcome to the territory. Alec Guerin appreciated the acknowledgement and welcomed Delegates to the unceded territory of Musqueam. President Lissa Smith, MNBC, noted that the MNBC Executive met with Chief Sparrow of Musqueam, who welcomed them with open arms. MNBC looked forward to continuing to build a relationship with the Musqueam Nation.



## **OPENING PRAYERS**

Senators Phillip Gladue and Elizabeth Hoogendorn provided Opening Prayers.

President Smith observed that for the first time in MNBC's history, the Pride Flag was carried in by the Flag Party. As was the Métis traditional way, Elders were offered tobacco and sweetgrass. Their words would be carried throughout the weekend.

## **GREETINGS AND OPENING REMARKS**

### **Métis National Council (MNC) President Cassidy Caron**

MNC President Caron recognized the territory where the meeting was held and extended appreciation to the Elders and Senators who provided the Opening Prayer. The MNBC Board of Directors was thanked for the invitation to attend the AGM. While her roots were in St. Louis, Saskatchewan, President Caron was born and raised in MNBC and the Kootenay South Métis community.

President Caron reflected on how far the MNC had come over the past year. One year ago, the MNC was teetering on the point of collapse. Its funding was frozen, and legitimacy was called into question. Many no longer understood its purpose, which is to advocate for issues of shared importance for all Métis and governments across the Métis Nation. Now, the Métis Nation is stronger than ever because of Métis citizens and Governing Members who believe in the idea that we are stronger when we work together. Métis citizens understand that when we speak alone, our voices are quiet. When we are joined and share one voice, no one can silence them.

MNC was working on Nation-building. We are one Métis Nation comprised of several Métis governments that advocate on behalf of the rights and interests of their citizens. The MNC was simply a federation of those Métis governments. It was a body to advance collective issues, priorities, and interests while respecting the jurisdictions of Métis governments. The work of Nation-building cannot be done alone but can be done through collaboration. Families are spread throughout the Homeland and can best be served by their Métis governments' abilities. Work was underway to rebuild the MNC as an organization to advocate for citizens and raise a Métis-specific voice to the federal government.

During the previous week, the Finance Committee reviewed a new set of organizational policies and procedures that would ensure the MNC operated in a way that was transparent, effective, and accountable to Métis governments and citizens. The MNC was also undergoing work to build and strengthen relationships. Trust needs to be rebuilt between families, communities, Métis governments, and institutions. This is careful work because trust is earned. Elders taught that when we walk up to doors with opportunities, we need to knock lightly on those doors, so they open for us.

Over the past year, MNC successfully built relationships that enable collaboration all Métis would benefit from. In recognition that the MNC was to advance collective issues for all Métis governments, at a recent Board of Governors' meeting, President Caron announced she would no longer cast a breaking vote at MNC Assemblies or Board of Governors (BOG) meetings. If issues were so divided that they would continue to divide Métis people further, it was not of genuine national importance. Before reaching the voting floor, we must work together to see understanding and consensus.

Métis people are inherently people born of relationships. We are all related and have a responsibility to one another. MNC would continue to fight for the rights of Métis people while not forgetting the responsibility associated with those rights. We must remember what our Elders taught us, the



responsibility to one another and to fight for one another. Métis people are good people who fight for a better world for all and future generations.

Métis people have much to be proud of and much more to look forward to. There is still much learning and unlearning to do. We will get there together. As MNBC gathered in assembly, Delegates were reminded that everyone worked together.

President Caron wished the MNBC a successful assembly and extended appreciation for the invitation to attend.

#### **Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) Vice President Dan Cardinal**

MNA Vice President Cardinal appreciated Alec Guerin's land recognition and acknowledged the MNBC Homeland. Greetings were extended on behalf of President Audrey Poitras.

It was an honour to sit in the morning's meeting with Senators and reflect on the past and future. As a former teacher of Native Studies at the University of Alberta, it was vital to teach children the Cree-Michif language. It is the essence of who we are. Indigenous people are different in a good way because they are resilient and strong and make changes with their citizens' efforts.

In a former career as a nurse, Vice President Cardinal witnessed many incidents of discrimination in Lac La Biche and Edmonton, Alberta. But there was also change. The most significant change for citizens is education. It is the foundation to build a better future.

Vice President Cardinal recognized advancements at MNBC since it was established in 1996 and ratified its Constitution in 2005. As a gay man, Vice President Cardinal was proud to witness the Pride Flag on display.

In conclusion, Vice President Cardinal wished the MNBC a productive AGM.

#### **Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) Chair Hank Rowlinson**

Chair Rowlinson extended appreciation to President Smith and the MNBC Board for the invitation to the AGM. On behalf of the MNO, Chair Rowlinson extended greetings to the MNBC as it embarked on its 2022 AGM. Greetings and regrets were provided by President Margaret Froh, MNO, for not being present in person.

It had been an exciting year throughout the Métis Nation. Many citizens connected at Batoche and again during Pope Francis's visit to Edmonton, Alberta. MNO was honoured to have President Caron and President Smith provide greetings to its Assembly in August 2022. President Caron shared that though the Métis Nation was comprised of many communities, each with its unique history, each community faced similar experiences in fighting to exist as Métis people regardless of where they lived. Those were common threads that united the Métis Nation.

Even though the Métis Nation was separated by many miles, it worked together to advance rights, mainly the right to self-government. It was what Louis Riel dreamed of when he fought over 200 years ago. In 2022, Métis governments were closer to having their government status officially recognized. MNBC was congratulated for advocating in the establishment of reconciliation, recognition of Indigenous rights, and



self-determination with Canada. While Governing Members were confined to representing those who were democratically elected to serve them, the Métis Nation stood together in spirit and resilience.

President Smith spoke on behalf of President Froh and their efforts to champion breast cancer awareness.

**Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) Vice President Michelle LeClair**

Vice President LeClair acknowledged the traditional territory on which the meeting was being held and recognized that MNBC was building governance. Ensuring the future of the Métis Nation was critical and took listening to citizens, being transparent and loyal to the Nation while expressing opinions. Parents, grandparents, aunties, uncles, and cousins needed to be present to make positive changes for future generations. Maria Campbell said that when making decisions, put babies in the middle of the room and think about those babies when making changes, policies, or building governance. The babies are the future generations.

Delegates were reminded to be full of grace during the meeting, which could be hard to remember. All Governing Members have been through hard times resulting from change. In the transition, grace meant giving up the hard feelings of the past and having the strength of character not to hold a grudge. It was about forgiveness, kindness, and love. Everything Métis people have endured made them stronger and unstoppable.

Vice President LeClair wished the best for deliberations and work for citizens and communities on behalf of the MN-S.

**The Honourable Marc Dalton, Member of Parliament (MP), Pitt Meadows-Maple Ridge**

MP Dalton extended appreciation for words shared and recognized the traditional territory of the Musqueam First Nation. Further appreciation was extended to MNC President Caron for sharing wisdom and a desire to serve. The attitude of service and listening to others brings the Métis people together.

MP Dalton acknowledged being a MNBC citizen who worked to build up the Métis Nation scattered across the Homeland. While citizens reside across the Homeland, everyone is connected through their roots. Everyone has different politics and beliefs, but the desire to advance and help others move forward is essential. The work of President Smith to recognize Elders and veterans was appreciated, particularly given MP Dalton's upbringing in a military home and as a veteran.

MP Dalton expressed love for Canada and the Métis people and strived to establish and strengthen them across the Homeland. In the Pitt Meadows-Maple Ridge riding, according to the 2011 Census, Métis were the majority Indigenous people population, and MNBC citizens engaged in many areas across the region, including serving on School Boards.

On August 28, 2022, the Golden Ears Métis Society (GEMS) held the Platinum Jubilee Awards ceremony, which was awarded to Lisa Shepherd, Métis Artist, for involvement in arts and music. GEMS was highly active in the community and held many events throughout the year, from self-defence classes for women to weekly Michif lessons. These events helped foster connection, especially given that 97,000 BC residents self-identified as Métis, with 27,000 MNBC citizens.

MP Dalton expressed pride in MNBC citizens and continued efforts to work across politics within Parliament to advance Métis issues and concerns.



## **VIDEO GREETINGS**

### **The Honourable Marc Miller, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations**

Minister Miller commented on a visit to MNBC's head office in Surrey, BC in July 2022, where discussions occurred on MNBC's priorities and the significant work that lay ahead. Canada remained committed to strengthening the relationship and working together to address these priorities. Canada would continue joint efforts on a distinctions-based co-developed approach under the Canada-Métis Nation Accord.

Progress was being made to prove that targeted investments make a difference in daily lives. The first distinctions-based investments for Métis were announced in successive budgets since 2018. These investments included support for early learning and childcare, housing, and infrastructure. Leadership demonstrated by MNBC institutions and organizations led to significant improvements in the well-being of MNBC citizens.

A critical step in the renewed relationships was work involving the recognition of Indigenous rights and self-determination. While these negotiations are ongoing, Minister Miller would continue work with MNBC towards self-governance. Canada worked with other federal leads to implement the United Nations on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). This work was supported mainly by MNBC's research regarding Section 35 rights. Many Nations identified Section 35 rights as a top priority for their community. This research is crucial to guide Canada in work related to these rights. Canada would continue to work with MNBC and provide up to \$3.3 million in multi-year funding to support MNBC's research efforts.

There was still much work to do. Minister Miller looked forward to continuing to strengthen the relationship with MNBC while working to prioritize its concerns.

### **The Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Indigenous Services**

Minister Hajdu acknowledged the traditional and unceded territory of the Algonquin peoples. MNBC led important work in revitalizing Métis culture and heritage to ensure its unique history was shared among the generations. Work was also ongoing to promote and protect the Michif language. Through a shared vision, dedication, and strong leadership, MNBC developed new arts, education, and business programs to support Chartered Communities. Through a partnership with BC, Canada and MNBC would continue to build on this progress and ensure that communities and individuals reach their full potential.

Minister Hajdu expressed interest in joining the MNBC in person to continue to plan the work together. MNBC focused on ensuring a Canada that understands reconciliation is good for everyone.

### **Murray Rankin, Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) and Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR)**

Minister Rankin commented on BC's commitment to building an ongoing, collaborative, and distinct relationship with MNBC citizens, and positive steps were taken to strengthen the relationship. MNBC and the Province recognized the opportunity to phase out the previous Métis Nation Relationship Accord and replace it with a Letter of Intent that proposes a new whole of government approach. A partnership between MNBC and BC advances reconciliation with Métis people. A Métis Relations Working Table was co-developed, which formally began on May 26, 2022, and would be a central place for meaningful dialogue and negotiations about priorities across our governments.



Minister Rankin met with MNBC's Cabinet in August 2022 to discuss topics of concern. The Minister appreciated the emerging engagement level and looked forward to future conversations as a new relationship was forged together.

**The Honourable Sheila Malcolmson, Member of the Legislative Assembly and Minister of Mental Health and Addictions**

Minister Malcolmson joined the meeting from the territory of the Lekwungen-speaking people of the Songhees First Nation and Esquimalt Nation and recognized the Métis Nation of Greater Victoria. The past two and half years were challenging. The toxic drug crisis continued in communities causing devastating impacts and Indigenous loss of life in every community. The crisis is complex, and so is the response.

The stigma and shame about substance use prevents people from asking for help. To combat this, BC will remove criminal penalties for possessing small amounts of illicit drugs. Drug use is a public health matter, not a criminal one. Criminalization led to many people hiding their substance use and using alone. In this toxic drug environment, using drugs alone can mean dying. Decriminalizing drugs will break down those barriers that prevent people from getting the care and support they deserve and expand pathways to service. BC introduced prescribed safe supplies, the first province in Canada to do so. BC continues to work with healthcare providers to confidently prescribe a secure supply to patients.

BC also embraced funding Indigenous-led solutions. The partnership with MNBC was valued and enabled support of Métis-specific harm reduction and community-led initiatives. Indigenous communities were in the best position to make decisions about the health and wellness of their communities. Capacity funding was provided to MNBC to ensure Métis people were partners in the implementation of new initiatives. This work must be done together. Métis partnerships would continue designing mental health and wellness systems incorporating culture and needs.

Minister Malcolmson thanked MNBC for the invitation, attention and friendship.

**The Honourable Mitzi Dean, Member of the Legislative Assembly and Minister of Children and Family Development (MCFD)**

Minister Dean joined the meeting from the traditional territory of the Lekwungen-speaking people, and sent a message acknowledging the first in-person meeting for several years. Congratulations were extended to the Delegates, Elders, leaders, and youth gathered for the AGM. The work done on behalf of the 90,000 Métis citizens in BC through MNBC was necessary, and MCFD was honoured and committed to working in partnership with MNBC.

**The Honourable Lisa Beare, Member of the Legislative Assembly and Minister of Citizens' Services**

Minister Beare was honoured to speak from the territory of the Katzie and Kwantlen First Nations and acknowledged the home of the GEMS and Surrey-Delta Métis Society. Today was an opportunity to recognize the partnerships between MNBC and the Province of BC. Together, the *Antiracism Data Act* was co-developed and designed to dismantle systemic racism in the public sector. The collaborative relationship would continue as work began to implement the legislation.

The first Anti-Racism Data Committee members, including Donald Corrigan, MNBC's Cultural Wellness Manager, were announced. The Committee would advise and offer guidance to the Ministry on how to collect data in a culturally safe way and how to use data to dismantle systemic racism in provincial government programs and services. However, more work and opportunities exist to share data and align





services. This collaboration was an example of BC's strong working relationship with MNBC, which would build a stronger BC for everyone.

MC Waunch recognized Member of Parliament, the Honourable Parm Bains, who was present at the meeting.

#### **OPENING REMARKS – PRESIDENT LISSA SMITH**

President Smith invited the MNBC Board of Directors to sit at the head table. Most of the Board recently celebrated their second anniversary and worked diligently to ensure citizens had faith in the Board. It was about shared leadership.

President Smith welcomed Delegates to the first in-person MNBC AGM since COVID-19 and the first hybrid AGM. The AGM was intended to be inclusive of citizens attending virtually, who could vote on resolutions. The virtual option enabled Elders and shut-ins unable to travel, to participate in the AGM.

On behalf of Cabinet, President Smith thanked the Elders for the opening prayers and Alec Guerin from Musqueam for the welcome to the territory. Gratitude was extended to federal and provincial ministers and Governing Members' representatives for their greetings. Sponsors were acknowledged for their support of the AGM.

The AGM was an opportunity to hear directly from citizens about the issues they face daily to target programs and services in the most efficient and impactful way. MNBC was about shared leadership, which was why the Board of Directors was invited to sit at the head table. It was not about one person but working together as a team. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) sat with the Board and would highlight Ministers' work in a later presentation. Ministers were available to answer questions during the AGM or at the Town Hall scheduled for the evening.

It was an exciting time for the Nation as awareness of Métis culture and heritage grew, particularly in BC, as more youth and adults discovered their roots. Hundreds of Métis people applied to the Central Registry Office monthly. Currently, MNBC serves over 22,000 registered citizens across 29 Chartered Communities. The latest census data, released by Canada that week, stated that MNBC advocated for 90,000 self-identified Métis people in BC.

The pandemic affected MNBC's ability to meet in-person, and the digital government team adapted through the use of technology to ensure the business of Cabinet continued. The use of a hybrid model increased to ensure maximum participation at every opportunity.

Recently, there was a shuffle in Cabinet. A new department, the Department of Intergovernmental Affairs, was tasked with strengthening relationships with federal and provincial governments. Meetings with high-ranking government officials increased on various topics, including affordable housing, childcare, skills training, and cultural protection. Provincially, Cabinet met with Cabinet Ministers and senior officials from Municipal Affairs, Tourism, Arts and Culture, Advanced Education and Skills Training, Transportation, Child and Family Development, Emergency Management, Citizen Services, etc. MNBC also engaged with the Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism initiatives, Gender Equality, the Attorney General, and official opposition critics for key portfolios.



As shared by Minister Rankin, MNBC was working on a new relationship agreement with MIRR. The last Métis Nation Relationship Accord was signed in 2016. These relationship accords were pieces of paper with no work attached to them. The new agreement would have weight. Work on the new agreement began with a letter of understanding to create this agreement. Minister Rankin announced funding of \$500,000 to enable this work to continue and hold equitable discussions with resources to complete the work.

Working tables with the Province for economic development, culture, heritage, and language were struck to begin work on priority topics, including housing, health, and harvesting. A strategy in the final stages of completion was the Justice Strategy, including restorative justice. Once signed, the Strategy would be funded to assist MNBC in implementing it. Minister Rankin, during a visit to the MNBC head office, stated that the Province recognized that Métis people have Section 35 rights in BC. This recognition was a result of work by MNBC and demonstrated the Province's respect for Métis citizens. MNBC is now funded to sit at the table with provincial partners.

President Smith provided additional remarks related to MNBC activities, including:

- The signing of a permanent contract with Colette Trudeau to serve as the new CEO
- The CEO's submission to the Budget 2023 Selection Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services for \$18.2 million
  - It was recommended to the Committee that it provide funding to MNBC for governance and ensure that Métis culture was recognized, respected, and protected in a distinctions-based approach
- Federal progress made at the Recognition of Indigenous Rights and Self-determination Discussion Tables
  - A successful request for a new lead negotiator
  - MNBC was awarded \$3.3 million to continue research in identifying historical Métis communities in BC
- Filing of a judicial review to challenge Canada's denial of MNBC's Indigenous Governing Body status
  - This status was required for MNBC to assume delegation over Métis children
  - Several meetings were held with Minister Miller to discuss the judicial review
- Work of the Métis Veterans of BC Committee on behalf of MNBC's veterans
  - Chairperson Dave Armitt ensured that names of BC Métis veterans would be included in the second inscribing on the Batoche Veterans Monument
  - Chairperson Armitt was scheduled to attend a meeting in Charlottetown, PEI, between MNC and Veterans Affairs Canada
  - MNBC remains the only Governing Member to ratify its *Métis Veterans Act*, which was signed in 2010, to ensure its veterans were never forgotten
  - MNBC was invited on Aboriginal Veterans Day to Vancouver – Victory Square Cenotaph
  - A Veteran's Wellness Gathering was scheduled for March 2023
- Sending of a delegation to Alberta to participate in the papal visit
  - Public awareness of the impact of residential schools and the Sixties Scoop on all Indigenous people, including the Métis Nation, is necessary
- Hosting of a Residential School and Intergenerational Survivors Gathering the following weekend
  - Gathering participants would attend the BC Lions Reconciliation game as part of Orange Shirt Day
- Sending of a delegation to celebrate Batoche's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Saskatchewan; the celebration hosted 50,000 individuals, the largest attendance to date





- MNBC would continue participating at Back to Batoche to boost the collective sense of identity
- The invitation extended by the Honourable John Horgan, Premier of BC, to participate in the memorial for Queen Elizabeth, demonstrating BC's recognition of MNBC
- Successful advocacy of a MNBC delegation at the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Annual General Assembly related to a resolution concerning Métis land claims in Ontario
  - MNBC would continue to build positive relationships with First Nations in BC
- Sponsorship for Songhees Nation's Powwow on September 30, 2022, demonstrating MNBC's respect for the Nation and culture
  - Métis citizens would participate in the Grand Entry.

Looking ahead, the Board's vision was to build a self-governing Nation for all Métis people to access affordable housing and have all their health needs met; and for children to be raised with culture so they will never again be ashamed. MNBC remained steadfast in pursuing Indigenous governing body status with the federal government. MNBC would continue to fight for the unique rights of the Nation, ensuring that no citizen would fall through the cracks.

President Smith thanked all community volunteers and leaders. As the Board Spokesperson, the President noted that each Regional Director served as a community President at one time, thus understanding and appreciating leaders' grassroots work and volunteer hours. Going forward, MNBC would work together as one team.

#### **Health Break**

The meeting recessed at 2:28 p.m. and reconvened at 3:06 p.m. Delegates were informed that the evening's Town Hall was cancelled due to time constraints.

#### **Discussion on the Presentation**

During an ensuing discussion, the following questions/comments (Q/C) and *responses (R)* were provided:

Q/C: Will MNBC representatives attending MNC meetings advocate for an equitable funding formula?

R: *MNBC's priority is to first garner support for an equitable funding formula from other Governing Members, particularly with the prairie provinces, before raising the issue on the floor. The goal is to receive an equal share in votes and funding across the federal government on behalf of all Métis citizens in BC.*

R: *Discussions on the funding formula were introduced to the Board of Governors (BOG). Provinces agree that a change is necessary but strive for it to be needs-based. With the release of Métis population statistics this week, identifying 98,000 individuals who self-identify as Métis, efforts for an equitable funding formula should be more successful.*

Q/C: Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) is hosting information sessions with its Beyond Borders initiative. These sessions encourage Métis citizens to leave provincial groups, indicating that these groups will never achieve self-governance. Will MNBC see federal self-government recognition?

R: *MNBC will receive self-government status and participates in the federal Recognition of Indigenous Rights and Self-Determination Discussion Table. A new lead negotiator was assigned. MNC, MNA, MNO, and MN-S also have draft self-government agreements.*

R: *As Vice President, I participate on the team negotiating with the federal government. As stated by Minister Miller, Canada recognizes MNBC's self-government agreement and recognizes that*



*negotiations are underway. MNBC meets monthly with Canada to resolve outstanding issues. A self-government agreement is anticipated to be signed before the Board's term ends.*

Q/C: Can resolutions be provided in an auditory form for those that cannot hear?

R: *Thank you for the reminder about accessibility and for helping organizers understand how to make the AGM accessible for all MNBC citizens.*

Q/C: What was the outcome of the previous President? Further transparency around the event would be appreciated.

R: *Wally Oppal's report is available to the public. Clara Morin Dal Cal was invited to be interviewed, but declined.*

R: *Court documents are available online. The Board followed the process identified in the Board Manual to address concerns of breach of duty. The previous President did not avail herself of these processes, particularly to appeal to the Senate, which the Supreme Court of Canada supported.*

Q/C: Who is working to ensure that youth are represented in the future?

R: *Work is underway to identify youth willing to participate in governance. Two youth representatives were appointed since the recent Regional Governance Council (RGC) meeting. Events are planned in regions without a youth representative.*

Q/C: Our mandate should be to advocate for all Métis people and ensure that there is respectful dialogue and language. Persistent disparaging of the Métis Registry puts everyone's identity in question.

R: *The President and Board respect and admire MNBC's registry and believe it is the best in the country. MNBC abides by the regulations and rules for Métis citizenship. The Board understands the damage to the Métis Nation's reputation and works to repair this damage daily.*

R: *Thank you for the courage to call out lateral violence.*

Q/C: What is the Board's view on the MNO's Registry and the verified Métis family lines, which do not connect to the broader historical Métis Nation, especially as Métis community recognition is being explored?

R: *The MNC General Assembly passed a resolution to strike a committee of experts to research those communities and present to this year's assembly. This committee has yet to be struck. MNBC confirmed its representative, which will be put forward for acceptance at the next BOG meeting. This resolution must be honoured.*

Q/C: Regarding the \$3.3 million received for research of the historical Métis community in BC, who was identified to conduct this research? What are the rough timelines, and will they be made public? Many amateur historians or community members can fill gaps and are untapped resources to assist in this research.

R: *MNBC is reviewing what has been done to date and has names of experts it used in other spaces. A timeline was yet to be received for when funding would flow to MNBC and could be allocated over several years. MNBC could cash manage to the end of the year to ensure that the right people are engaged and start immediately before receiving funding.*

R: *MNBC has created a team to work on this. The CEO contacted numerous firms researching Aboriginal rights and heritage in BC. MNBC does not want to lose momentum. Any information would be welcomed, as would names of individuals who could assist in this process.*



Q/C: Chartered Communities struggle with the capacity to accommodate the rapid growth in BC. Additionally, new MNBC staff must be trained in Métis culture and the respectful treatment of Elders to create safety across communities. A plan is needed to look after Elders and teach new staff who are not Métis about the culture and treatment of Elders.

R: *That work is on us. It is up to MNBC to do the cultural training necessary for staff and give them experiential opportunities in culture to understand. MNBC worked to identify Métis 101 and other training opportunities to offer to staff working with Elders. To that end, MNBC implemented an Elder-in-Residence at the Surrey office to ensure staff are supported to understand protocols in the community and to work with Elders.*

Q/C: I would like to propose that an Elders' Gathering be held to provide youth with the opportunity and experience to work with Elders.

R: *I am deeply sorry for any mistreatment experienced by Elders during recent gatherings. It is essential to host Elder and youth gatherings. We all need to learn from our Elders.*

*There has not been an Elders Gathering for many years, so organizing one is crucial. There also has not been a Veterans' Gathering for many years. The Health Department will host a Veteran's Wellness Gathering before MNBC's Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA). Events will be held in conjunction with other events to be more cost-effective. The Ministry of Youth and Elders would lead this Gathering.*

*MNBC staff are eager to learn and grow together. They take every opportunity to learn who Métis people are and accept our teachings.*

#### **QUORUM ANNOUNCED**

AGM Clerk John Bieker confirmed that a quorum of registered voting delegates was in attendance. Delegates were issued an electronic voting device.

#### **NOMINATIONS CALLED FOR THE 2022 AGM CHAIR**

Nominations for the position of 2022 AGM Chair were welcomed. Dave Peltier was duly nominated and consented to the nomination. There being no further nominations, AGM Clerk Bieker confirmed the acclamation of Dave Peltier as AGM Chair.

#### **AGENDA VARIED**

The order of the agenda was varied at the meeting. Items are presented in these minutes in the order considered and are numbered as indicated on the approved agenda.

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

AGM Chair Dave Peltier called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m. The AGM was an opportunity for citizens to participate in governance, which was crucial in exercising self-government and practicing Métis values and traditions.

A hybrid (virtual and in person) model would be used for the 2022 AGM, allowing greater participation. As this was the first hybrid AGM held, AGM Chair Peltier recognized there would be growing pains and encouraged Delegates to exercise patience. A hybrid meeting would only be effective if all Delegates participated. The AGM Chair's role was to ensure that online participants were not forgotten, discussions were fruitful and respectful, and all voices were heard.



AGM Chair Peltier invited Eli Mina, Registered Parliamentarian, to review standing rules and other processes in conducting the hybrid meeting.

## 2. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2022 AGM AGENDA

*Related information: "Draft Agenda of the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2022 Annual General Meeting scheduled September 23-25, 2022"*

AGM Chair Peltier suggested amendments to the distributed agenda, including moving all remaining Day One agenda items to Day Two and removing "President's Update" and "Signing Ceremony: MNBC/Provincial Health Services Authority Letter of Commitment". An updated agenda would be posted on the AGM website.

### **Main Motion**

**It was MOVED (Anya McVean) and SECONDED (David Allard)**

That the Agenda for the Métis Nation British Columbia 2022 Annual General Meeting scheduled September 23-25, 2022, be accepted as modified.

### **Friendly Amendment to the Main Motion**

The mover and seconder agreed to amend the agenda to consider Resolution 5 before Resolution 3.

**ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (AGM2022-01)**

## **MEETING ADJOURNED**

The Métis Nation British Columbia 2022 Annual General Meeting scheduled September 23-25, 2022, adjourned on Day One – September 23, 2022, at 4:48 p.m. after setting the time to reconvene on Day Two – September 24, 2022, at 8:30 a.m.

## **DAY TWO | Saturday, September 24, 2022**

## **MEETING RECONVENED - CALL TO ORDER**

The Métis Nation British Columbia 2022 Annual General Meeting scheduled September 23-25, 2022, reconvened on Day Two – September 24, 2022, at 8:45 a.m.

## **QUORUM CONFIRMATION**

AGM Chair Dave Peltier confirmed that a quorum of registered voting delegates was in attendance.

## 3. **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OVERVIEW**

*Related information: "Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia Financial Statements for the Year Ended March 31, 2022"*

Jeffrey Hunt, Partner, Manning Elliott Chartered Accountants, reviewed the financial statements and confirmed they were fairly presented in accordance with generally accepted Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.



## Discussion on the Presentation

During an ensuing discussion with the presenter, the following questions/comments (Q/C) and responses (R) were provided:

Q/C: Regarding the Endowment Fund, why was the investment income so low (\$10,000)? The endowment from Canada is to be invested and allocated to students.

R: *Interest earned last year was exceptionally low due to dropping interest rates. Assets received from Canada are invested into Guaranteed Investment Certificates (GICs). MNBC is exploring a more diverse portfolio strategy for future investments.*

Q/C: On page 73, there are several programs with no entries for 2022. Can you explain?

R: *Many of these programs operated for one year, which did not run in 2022 or changed to a new program.*

Q/C: Money was received from Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak (LFMO). What was this for?

R: *LFMO provided funding to support providing comfort kits to women across the province.*

Q/C: Why did Directors receive a significant raise from 2021 to 2022? What was the process for instituting this raise?

R: *The Board of Directors realized, following their election, that serving as a Director was a full-time position. The Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and other staff analyzed comparative rates with salaries against other Governing Members, First Nations, school trustees, and municipalities to determine a fair remuneration for the Board of Directors.*

*Figures for 2021 are a bit skewed due to the transition of the Acting President to the President's position. The Acting President received the Vice President's remuneration in the interim.*

Q/C: How will a change in governance to a government that is less responsive to Métis rights and funding impact MNBC's finances?

R: *MNBC's financial position is strong, and it does not spend funding in advance of agreements.*

R: *MNBC is working with the provincial government on its commitment to a whole of government fiscal relationship respecting MNBC's self-determination. Two submissions were made to the Budget 2023 Committee hearing in BC, which recommended that BC fund \$4 million to Chartered Communities.*

*MNBC strives to have its own economic engine. The Presidential Economic Development Task Force Committee was created to seek joint venture partnerships and not depend on the Government of Canada.*

Q/C: Are multi-year funding commitments captured anywhere in the financial statements?

R: *That is a great suggestion and possible move forward with reporting online to demonstrate which funding agreements are multi-year commitments and adding further note disclosures in the Annual Financial Statements.*

Q/C: Bill C-19 was passed in the BC Legislature related to disclosures of societies for contracts over \$75,000. Can MNBC provide a breakdown in descending order of employee remuneration?



R: *Further discussion can be had to expand disclosures. MNBC is not limited to disclosures made.*

Q/C: Are there contractors who earn greater than \$75,000 at MNBC, which must be disclosed?

R: *I cannot comment on bills that were passed without looking them up. Further discussion can be had.*

Q/C: A side balance sheet giving value to the hours and responsibilities of community Executive Directors would reflect where the Nation needed to go to cover those expenses.

### **Main Motion**

#### **It was MOVED (Patrick Harriott) and SECONDED (Walter Mineault)**

That the Métis Nation British Columbia 2022 Annual General Meeting accepts, as presented, the “Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia Financial Statements for the Year Ended March 31, 2022”.

### **Question on the Main Motion**

Question was called on the Main Motion. A hybrid vote was conducted using an online voting system and electronic voting devices. AGM Chair Peltier declared that the resolution was:

**CARRIED (AGM2022-02)**

(In Favour 101, Opposed 1, Abstained 9)

### **Main Motion**

#### **It was MOVED (Susie Hooper) and SECONDED (Louis De Jaeger)**

That the Métis Nation British Columbia 2022 Annual General Meeting appoints Manning Elliott Chartered Accountants as the Auditor for the 2022-23 fiscal year.

### **Question on the Main Motion**

Question was called on the Main Motion. A hybrid vote was conducted using an online voting system and electronic voting devices. AGM Chair Peltier declared that the resolution was:

**CARRIED (AGM2022-03)**

(In Favour 106, Opposed 1, Abstained 5)

## **4. PRESENTATION: MÉTIS FINANCIAL CORPORATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

Paul Ricard, Chair, Métis Financial Corporation of BC (MFCBC), provided an update on the MFCBC and offered the following comments:

- The Board of Directors was appointed in June 2017 and consisted of two directors from the MNBC Board and three Directors at Large
- MFCBC consulted with the MNO's Métis Voyageur Development Fund in its creation, including redrafting its policies and procedures, rules, and bylaws to BC standards
- A policy was adopted to fund all MFCBC applicants' business plans
- In 2017, Evan Slater was hired as CEO from a pool of 36 candidates
- MFCBC opened its doors on August 1, 2018, to ensure funding was available to Métis entrepreneurs
- Creation of the Sophie Morigeau Award to honour BC Métis women entrepreneurs.





Evan Salter, CEO, MFCBC, reviewed a presentation titled “MFCBC 2022 Update” and highlighted the following:

- Mandate, mission, and vision of the MFCBC
- Building the MFCBC brand, which grew as a result of delivering numerous programs, become the fastest-growing Aboriginal Financial Institution (AFI) in Canada
- MFCBC support by region
- Current MFCBC programming included business plan support, traditional loan and grant funding, and a Métis Women’s Entrepreneurship Program
- Métis Women’s Entrepreneurship Program, which offered loans to Métis women majority-owned businesses subject to the completion of a business plan
  - All operating and capital costs, including inventory, were eligible, and no payments or interest were due for the first year.

#### **Discussion on the Presentation**

During an ensuing discussion with the presenter, the following questions/comments (Q/C) and responses (R) were provided:

Q/C: Congratulations to MFCBC for its remarkable growth.

Q/C: I have seen families come out of poverty due to support from the MFCBC.

Q/C: Canada provides equal funding to MFCBC as other provinces.

President Smith informed that a goal of the MNBC Board was to build affordable housing across the province and purchase land to achieve this goal. The high cost of housing impacted citizens and created challenges for home ownership. Equity in a home is the most important way to save money for the long term and pass it down to future generations.

In partnership with MFCBC, MNBC was launching a First Time Homeowners’ Program to meet the unique needs of its citizens. This program would run for five years and provide \$5 million in funding for Métis citizens. Further details will be forthcoming on how to apply. The new program will be launched in 2023.

#### **Health Break**

The meeting recessed at 10:26 a.m. and reconvened at 10:46 a.m.

#### **QUORUM CONFIRMATION**

AGM Chair Peltier confirmed that a quorum of registered voting delegates was in attendance.

### **3. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2021 AGM DRAFT MINUTES**

*Related information: “Draft Minutes of the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2021 Annual General Meeting held September 24-25, 2021”*

#### **Main Motion**

**It was MOVED (Patrick Harriott) and SECONDED (Walter Mineault)**

That the Minutes of the Métis Nation British Columbia/Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2021 Annual General Meeting held September 24-25, 2021, be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM2022-04)**



#### 4. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/DEPUTY MINISTER REPORT

Colette Trudeau, CEO, extended appreciation to the Board of Directors for its support. The CEO update would provide an opportunity for each Director to speak to their specific ministries. Delegates received a presentation titled “CEO AGM Update.” The CEO and related Ministers provided the following highlights:

- New expanded programs and services to support a renewed Strategic Plan created in collaboration with the Board of Directors
- Children and Families (Minister Debra Fisher)
  - Increased BC government funding was received to focus on co-developing a policy related to the child and family services system and related legislation
  - Engagement continued with the National Métis Child and Family Policy table
- Citizenship (Minister Susie Hooper)
  - 1,700 citizens were welcomed home
  - Two new Chartered Communities were created: Métis Community Society of Kelly Lake, and Surrey-Delta Métis Association
- Ministry of Community Services (Minister Susie Hooper)
  - The Community Services team was expanded and restructured to engage with community leaders and citizens in an intentional manner
    - Discussions began related to fair and equitable distribution of funding
  - Support of various community events
- Communications
  - MNBC’s in-house communications capacity was expanded with new media projects
  - Citizen surveys identified an increased need for programs and services in housing, health, mental health and addictions, and children and families; data will guide the 2023 MNBC Budget and further consultation with communities and citizens
- Culture, Heritage, and Language (Minister Patrick Harriott)
  - Events included BC Day at Back to Batoche, Octopus Bag Workshop Series, etc.
  - Métis artist technology grants, and the Métis Heritage Arts Mentorship Grants
  - Launch of the Amelia Douglas Institute and the Métis Language in BC Vitality Survey Report
- Economic Development (Minister Louis De Jaeger)
  - Exploration of economic opportunities to create long-term sustainable revenue for MNBC
  - Métis Business Directory to connect Métis businesses to different training opportunities
  - Creating opportunities for Métis-owned businesses to deliver citizens training in collaboration with Skills, Training, Employment, and Post-Secondary (STEPS)
- Education (Minister Debra Fisher)
  - Métis Family Connections, which was expanded to the middle years
  - Funding of Métis early childhood educators
  - Launch of Métis in BC Virtual Exhibit, and the Métis Childcare Benefit
  - Opening of the Island Métis Childcare centre in Saanich, BC
  - Métis Education Agreement, a tripartite education agreement for grades K-12 with the Greater Victoria School District
- Elders (Minister Raynie Gervais), and Veterans (President Smith)
  - Gatherings scheduled, including an Elders’ Validation Session and Residential School Survivors Forum
  - Launch of the Métis Elders and Seniors Assistance Program



- Environmental Protection (Minister Susie Hooper)
  - Launch of the Home Garden Manual, WildSafe BC/Wilderness Awareness courses, Heat Alert Project, and recording of the Guardians video
  - Co-development of modernizing Emergency Management Legislation with Emergency Management BC (EMBC)
- Finance (Minister Patrick Harriott)
  - Development of new accounting and reporting software
- Intergovernmental Relations (President Smith)
  - Engagement with multiple federal and provincial ministries and politicians
  - Budget submission to the Province of BC
  - Funding from the federal government for a historical research project on Métis in BC
  - Provincial Working group table on priority subjects with \$500,000 secured to support work with the province
- Health (Minister Louis De Jaeger)
  - Signing Letters of Understanding with the majority of provincial Health Authorities
  - The Métis Public health Surveillance Program – baseline report
  - Continued advocacy for Métis distinctions-based programs and services at provincial and federal tables
- Mental Health and Harm reduction (Minister Kate Elliott)
  - Reopening of Métis Counselling Connection
  - Programs to support mental health, including Resilient Roots #3, Substance use programs, and Living Life to the Full
- Housing and homelessness (Vice President Mineault)
  - Land purchased in Saanich, Campbell River, Surrey, Kamloops, Fort St. John, and Terrace
  - Hiring of M’akola Development Services to support new projects
  - Support programs, including permanent rent supplement, Ma Niki Home Renovations, “Reaching Home”
  - Engagement with 20 Chartered Communities on potential housing programs and developments
- Operations and Administration (Minister Patrick Harriott – Minister of Digital Government)
  - Final stages to re-imagine MNBC’s head office and regional offices
  - Addition of resources to expedite information management and information technology to operationalize the citizenship registry database
  - Identification of resources and development of a MNBC Data Governance Framework
  - Final stages of implementing a new Human Resources Information System and payroll platform
- Skills Training, Employment and Post-Secondary Education (Minister Paulette Flamond)
  - Funding of over 1,800 clients, and simplification of the application process
  - Partnering with the University of the Fraser Valley to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to recognize MNBC’s registry
- Women and Gender Equity (Minister Kate Elliot)
  - Donation of \$10,000 from LFMO for the development and distribution of comfort kits for individuals fleeing violence
  - Annual Métis Women’s Governance and Leadership Gathering, held March 2022
  - CareerFit, a three-week career development program



- First 2SLGBTQIA+ Data Conference, focussing on the mental health and well-being of Two-Spirit people in BC
- Youth (Minister Shaughn Davoren)
  - Initiatives included Youth Employment and Training Initiative, Youth Employment Survey, Métis Youth Parliament Forum, and Métis Youth Eco Action
- Sports (Minister Dean Gladue)
  - Increased involvement in the North American Indigenous Games
  - Hosting of the whale event and distribution of sports equipment to communities
  - Work to ensure MNBC will be a key partner for the 2030 Olympic bid
- Justice (President Smith and Associate Minister Dean Gladue)
  - Ongoing work on the Justice Strategy, including efforts under MMIWG2S+ and restorative justice
  - Onboarding of new staff to support the Ministry
- Métis Rights (Vice President Walter Mineault)
  - Frequent meetings with the federal government related to self-government and rights
  - Work of the Captains of the Hunt to support negotiations with Canada
  - Recognition of Métis in the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (DRIPA) and Action Plan
- Natural Resources (Minister Dean Gladue)
  - Ensuring MNBC had a voice that was not tied with Métis rights
  - Part ownership of a resource management company
  - Signing on with the Western Indigenous Pipeline Group.

### Health Break

The meeting recessed at 12:21 p.m. and reconvened at 1:11 p.m.

### 5. SIGNING CEREMONY: MNBC/NIWĪKŌWIN MÉTIS FAMILY SERVICES SOCIETY JOINT COMMITMENT

Colleen Hodgson, Senior Director, Ministry of Children and Family, and Interim Director, Ministry of Citizenship, informed that a commitment to work together was being signed between MNBC and Niwĭkŏwin Métis Family Services (NMFS).

Evangeline Studney, President, NMFS, introduced Richard Nault, Executive Director, NMFS, and noted that Niwĭkŏwin means “my home”, and was a home for Métis families in Prince George. This commitment would improve services to northern Métis communities and help to reduce the number of Métis children in care. NMFS partnered with MNBC and the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) to achieve delegation, which will make a difference in providing resources to care for Métis children.

Minister Debra Fisher reflected on the importance of the Ministry and personal experience fostering many children. MNBC’s vision was to create a safe place for children and a stable family foundation in communities and the Métis Nation. This work was challenging, and Minister Fisher honoured those working with the children.

The Ministry’s vision was to connect Métis children and families to their communities and culture, including children and youth at risk and in the care of families, by providing them with programs and services. This connection and support for families to thrive was achieved through the Métis



value system and cultural beliefs to guide that practice. The Ministry partnered with Chartered Communities and Métis children and family service providers to advance the rights and jurisdiction of the child welfare system. Over the past several months, the Ministry was transforming how it met the needs of Métis families in relationship with Métis children and family service providers across the provinces.

NMFS worked daily to meet the needs of Métis families in the North Central Region. MNBC supported its efforts to achieve delegation, reduce the number of children and youth in care, and support family preservation. Building a Métis family service system was daunting and needed to be done in collaboration. This commitment agreement clearly outlined actions to take and the shared responsibilities.

Elders have mentored others on what it means to be culturally cared for and what it means to have family and someone to provide a stable and safe place. Every child needs to be the centre of decisions. Decision-makers need to focus on what the child will need.

Colleen Hodgson introduced the Ministry staff and Métis child and family service providers. This agreement detailed the workplan in working together and was co-developed between MNBC and NMFS following consultation with communities. Métis families could no longer wait for Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to determine outcomes for Métis children. Métis systems need to be built so that when jurisdiction is achieved, this system can connect with Chartered Communities and service providers.

Minister Fisher and the NMFS President signed the commitment agreement.

Adam Calvert, Executive Director, Métis Family Services, reflected on the beginning of the relationship with MNBC, which continued to improve and strengthen. Service providers were supported by MNBC and worked with children throughout the province for permanency planning and placements. Service providers continued to expand services as MNBC expanded its government and its responsibility for its children. As MNBC pursued Indigenous governing body status, service providers supported its efforts to ensure Métis governed Métis children.

Colleen Hodgson presented the Ministry's new logo, which was a painting by Leah Doiron of a turtle. Each circle of the turtle represented the Indigenous belief system, with the child at the centre with the Elders. Around them are youth, women, or aunties who care for these individuals, ending with the men, who are the protectors. This family structure would be operationalized with programs and services attached to each group. Staff would engage with communities on what was needed to serve these groups.

#### **4. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT**

##### **Discussion on the Presentation**

During an ensuing discussion with the presenter, the following questions/comments (Q/C) and responses (R) were provided:

Q/C: MMIWG2S+ families require support navigating through the justice system. When signing agreements with RCMP, more liaison officers are needed to provide this support.



- R: The implementation stage of the Justice Strategy includes work with women's councils specific to MMIWG2S+. Susan Boyes is a Métis RCMP liaison officer and Métis citizen.*
- Q/C: Students experience delays in receiving funding for post-secondary education. Is there a way to speed up the process?
- R: Funding for post-secondary education was depleted quickly. The application process opened in February; however, many students applied for funding on August 25, 2022. Applications should be submitted promptly. A Director's meeting would be held shortly to review issues applicants were experiencing.*
- R: The Ministry and staff are constantly improving to find new ways of doing things. Six to seven months into the year, 1,800 students were funded, demonstrating that citizen applications were processed at a reasonable rate. MNBC will continue to advocate for increased student support.*
- Q/C: The MNBC Board suspended my community's funding in September 2021 and reduced COVID-19 support for 25 families and children. MNBC is responsible to provides services to all community members. The community was presented with a new charter agreement to sign without a mechanism for negotiation. Please revisit the charter agreements signed in 2006. Ensure that you did not give up your rights as Canadians and responsibilities to communities. These agreements must meet the needs of communities.
- R: MNBC consulted with communities to draft a consistent Chartered Community agreement with all communities.*
- R: The agreement signed in 2006 was under a different community name. The old agreement will be signed, provided it is under the new charter community and without any retractions or changes made to the new agreement. MNBC is negotiating with the community to resolve the issue and reunite the partnership with the community.*
- Q/C: There are serious concerns about implementing DRIPA related to education. Our three alternate schools were closed following the implementation of the legislation, leaving no programs for Métis children in the school system. Use short-term funding to train the provincial government on the meaning of DRIPA.
- Q/C: There are no entries on the financial statements for economic development. It was stated that economic development was a priority for this Board. Where is that reflected in the operations and funding? What efforts are directed at negotiating for resources?
- R: A Presidential Economic Development Task Force Committee was formed from the Board to focus on economic development and move towards independence from Canada. MNBC strives to allocate dollars to address gaps. The MIRR Table on Economic Development met with MNBC once and the MFCBC four times. A Business Advisory Committee was struck as well. MNBC engaged with communities and entrepreneurs. MNBC advocates for funding to flow to entrepreneurs and businesses employing Métis people. We will commit to doubling efforts to advocate for that funding within the next year or two.*
- R: Economic dollars flow to MFCBC to assist entrepreneurs.*
- Q/C: I am concerned about our children as MNBC pursues pipeline investments. What is MNBC doing to rectify the environmental concerns of investing in pipelines? What is MNBC doing to mitigate the dangers to women and Two-Spirit people, which leads to MMIWG2S+?





- R: We sit at the table of the Western Indigenous Pipeline Group along with 129 First Nations and MNA. This Group is 100% Indigenous owned with Pembina. MNBC and MNA have a voice and vote at this table. Your concerns are part of the conversation as discussions move forward with the federal government. Work is not anticipated to begin in the next couple of years. The pipeline can be used for many different uses.*
- R: In Dawson Creek, the North East Métis Association established a rapport with old companies and allowed Métis organizations to supply environmentalists to projects to ensure the environment is cared for and protected. It intends to have a similar practice throughout the province with oil companies.*
- Q/C: Can a fluid organization flow chart be posted on the website?
- R: It is critical to have that information available to communities. MNBC is developing a living organizational chart to inform citizens who to contact within each Ministry.*
- Q/C: Chartered Communities are unaware of MOUs and Letters of Intent (LOIs) that impact their region. Can a requirement be added that Chartered Communities be added to MOUs, so they are aware of them? And to ensure that citizens receive the services they are entitled to under those agreements?
- R: With the creation of the Ministry of Digital Government, a means to house data at MNBC is being explored. Pilots began with STEPS and will branch out to other ministries. The goal is to ensure that information is readily available on the website.*
- Q/C: What is the status of LMO Métis Children and Family Services in Kamloops, BC, having delegation in Merritt, BC?
- R: Expansion to Merritt, BC, is the intention; however, LMO struggled with obtaining delegation there. MNBC is pursuing funding from Canada and MCFD to expand its child and family service providers and to establish new ones.*
- Q/C: A Métis company from Saskatchewan and Alberta sought to help Merritt, BC, residents following the flood that occurred in the fall. However, MNBC stated it was not interested in signing a MOU with them as it was limited in the number of MOUs it could sign in the community. The City of Merritt is excited to sign a MOU with a Métis company. Why is MNBC unable to?
- R: MNBC cannot tell the provincial government to hire Métis companies without a direct award as it does not have a procurement agreement with the Province. MNBC is advocating for this agreement to include Métis, as stated in DRIPA.*

Delegates were encouraged to contact Ministers directly with further questions.

## **QUORUM CONFIRMATION**

AGM Chair Peltier confirmed that a quorum of registered voting delegates was in attendance.

## **5. LOCATION OF THE 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

### **Main Motion**

**It was MOVED (Dean Gladue) and SECONDED (Susie Hooper)**

### **BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

- That the MNBC 2023 AGM be held September 22-24, 2023;



- Subject to public health orders, the MNBC 2023 AGM be held in person in Kamloops, BC;
- If public health orders do not allow for an in-person AGM on this date, or there are significant restrictions on in-person gatherings, the AGM will be held virtually; and
- A decision to hold the MNBC 2023 AGM virtually must be made by the MNBC Board of Directors 90 days before the AGM (June 24, 2023).

#### **Discussion on the Motion**

During discussion, comments were offered regarding:

- Inability to host the AGM in Kelowna as there were no hotel vacancies
- Rescheduling the AGM to September 15-17, 2022, to accommodate Directors' ability to be included in Parliamentary sessions.

#### **Vote to Determine Date for the MNBC 2023 AGM**

AGM Clerk Peltier conducted a poll vote to indicate delegates' preference for September 15-17, 2023, or September 22-24, 2022, as the date for the MNBC 2023 AGM:

- September 15-17, 2023 – 60 delegates
- September 22-24, 2023 – 53 delegates.

#### **Motion to Reconsider**

##### **It was MOVED (Jaeden Rogers) and SECONDED (Anya McVean)**

That the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Annual General Meeting (AGM) reconsider dates for the 2023 MNBC AGM.

#### **Discussion on the Motion to Reconsider**

During discussion, comments were offered regarding

- Consideration of students' schedules during the first two weeks of the school year
- The reality of competing interests of MNBC citizens
- Respecting and honouring hunters.

#### **Point of Order**

In response to a Point of Order that Jaeden Roger was making a motion to reconsider and thus calling the question was premature, the AGM Chair advised that discussion would continue on the motion to reconsider.

During continued discussion, comments were offered regarding:

- Ability for Elders to hunt during the earlier weeks of September
- Ability for the MNGA to remove the requirement that the AGM be held in September should another month better serve the needs of citizens
- Supporting youth and harvesters, which were more important than politics.

#### **Question on the Motion to Reconsider**

Question was called on the Motion to Reconsider. A hybrid vote was conducted using an online voting system and electronic voting devices. AGM Chair Peltier declared that the resolution was:

**CARRIED (AGM2022-05)**

(In Favour 89; Opposed 27; Abstain 10)



### Question on the Main Motion

Question was called on the Main Motion as originally stated. A hybrid vote was conducted using an online voting system and electronic voting devices. AGM Chair Peltier declared that the resolution was:

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM2022-06)**

### Health Break

The meeting recessed at 2:58 p.m. and reconvened at 3:15 p.m.

### QUORUM CONFIRMATION

AGM Clerk Peltier confirmed that a quorum of registered voting delegates was in attendance.

## 6. POLICY RESOLUTIONS

### 6.1. Resolution #1: *Citizenship Act Amendments*

*Related information: "Resolution #1 – Revocation of MNBC Citizenship due to Ineligibility"*

#### Main Resolution

**It was MOVED (Patrick Harriott) and SECONDED (Jesse Gervais)**

#### WHEREAS:

- A. It is essential to the integrity of the MNBC Registry that all Citizens meet the criteria for registration.
- B. It is good practice to review citizenship files to ensure no factual errors, omissions, or a change in eligibility after acceptance by seeking Status under the *Indian Act*.
- C. The Registrar must have all the tools necessary to maintain the MNBC Registry in good order.

#### BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The MNBC *Citizenship Act* be amended as follows:

Strike the current Article 2.6 and replace with:

**"Appeal"** or **"Appeals"** means a written document submitted by: an Applicant who has been rejected entry in the Métis Nation British Columbia Central Registry, a Métis Nation British Columbia Citizen who is objecting to the registration of any Applicant to the Métis Nation British Columbia Central Registry, or a person whose citizenship has been revoked under Article Six of this Act;

Insert the following after Article 2.31:

**"Under Review"** means a previously registered Citizen whose citizenship is currently being reviewed by the Registrar following an audit or review of the Central Registry;

Insert the following at the end of Article Five:

#### **Article Six – Removal from Registry due to Ineligibility**

- 6.1 If, due to information found during an audit or review, a person on the Central Registry is found to be ineligible for Métis citizenship:
  - a) The Registrar will notify the person, in writing, that their Métis citizenship is under review, and provide the reason(s) for ineligibility, and, if relevant, the Supporting Documentation required to restore citizenship status.
  - b) Supporting Documentation requested to restore citizenship status must be provided



within sixty (60) days of the review notice being sent by the Registrar. This time frame can be extended, by request of the Citizen, by a further ninety (90) days.

(i) Extension requests are granted solely at the discretion of the Registrar.

- 6.2 If the Registrar has received Supporting Documentation to their satisfaction that the person is eligible for Métis Citizenship, the review status of their citizenship will be immediately removed.
- 6.3 If the Registrar has not received any further Supporting Documentation, or, the Supporting Documentation is insufficient to objectively verify and meet the criteria for Métis citizenship, the citizenship of the person will be revoked, and the person will be notified of this revocation in writing.
- 6.4 A person whose citizenship has been revoked under Article Six may appeal the Registrar's decision to the Senate, within sixty (60) days of the date removal notice is sent by the Registrar. The Senate's decision on this Appeal will be final and binding.
- 6.5 A person whose citizenship has been revoked under Article Six may re-apply for Registration upon following the procedure for Registration as a Métis Citizen as set out in this Act.
- 6.6 A person who is placed under review by the Registrar is not eligible to apply for any further supports, programs, or funding through MNBC until their citizenship has been reaffirmed. A person currently receiving supports will continue to receive them for at least sixty (60) days following the notice sent by the Registrar. This time frame can be extended, by request of the person under review, by a further sixty (60) days.
- (i) Extension requests are granted at the discretion of the responsible program director. A negative decision can be appealed within thirty (30) days to the MNBC Board, who can overturn the decision by a majority vote.

Re-number subsequent Articles in the *Citizenship Act* as needed.

#### **Discussion on the Resolution**

During discussion, comments were offered regarding the need to reword the Resolution to prevent unsubstantiated claims from allowing citizens to receive services under MNBC.

#### **Amendment to the Main Resolution**

##### **It was MOVED (Anya McVean) and SECONDED (Paulette Flamond)**

That the Main Resolution be amended as follows: insert "However;" at the end of Article 6.4.

#### **Discussion on the Amendment to the Main Resolution**

During discussion, comments were offered regarding the conflict between Articles 6.4 and 6.5 without adding "however".

#### **Question on the Amendment to the Main Resolution**

Question was called on the Amendment to the Main Resolution. A hybrid vote was conducted using an online voting system and electronic voting devices. AGM Chair Peltier declared that the resolution was:

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM2022-07)**



### **Discussion on the Main Resolution as Amended**

During discussion, comments were offered regarding:

- Requiring citizens to bear costs associated with appealing to the Senate
- Past practice of citizens bearing costs of an appeal when a citizen is challenging the citizenship of another citizen, and it is found to be baseless or malicious.

### **Point of Order**

In response to a point of order regarding side conversations, AGM Chair Peltier advised that all discussions should be directed to the AGM Chair.

### **Amendment to the Main Resolution as Amended**

#### **It was MOVED (Gary Biggar) and SECONDED (Monica Lavoie)**

That Article 6.4 of the Main Resolution be amended as follows: insert *“The Senate may determine that the person whose citizenship has been revoked to pay the cost and other charges associated with a failed appeal”* before *“However;”*.

### **Discussion on the Amendment to the Main Resolution**

During discussion, comments were offered regarding:

- The ability of the Senate to require citizens to pay for appeals to defend their citizenship was counterintuitive to the proposed intent of the amendment
- Ability for citizens, whose citizenship is under review, to continue to be eligible for program funding.

### **Question on the Amendment to the Main Resolution**

Question was called on the Amendment to the Main Resolution. A hybrid vote was conducted using an online voting system and electronic voting devices. AGM Chair Peltier declared that the Amendment to the Main Resolution was:

**DEFEATED**

(In Favour 18; Opposed 90; Abstain 9)

### **Discussion on the Main Resolution as Previously Amended**

During discussion, comments were offered regarding:

- Unanimous vote at the MNGA for the Resolution to proceed to the AGM
- Concern that the MNBC Board would have too much control over Métis identity
- Intention that citizens continue to receive services if their citizenship is under review
- Change in evidence required, which may create hardship in obtaining records that were destroyed
- Further education regarding why citizenship would be audited
- Provisions available for citizens whose documentation was destroyed
- Recouping funds from individuals who obtained citizenship fraudulently and received services
- Including definitions of “audit” and “under review”.



### Question on the Main Resolution

Question was called on the Main Resolution as Previously Amended. A hybrid vote was conducted using an online voting system and electronic voting devices. AGM Chair Peltier declared that the resolution was:

**CARRIED (AGM2022-08)**

(In Favour 99, Opposed 13, Abstained 6)

### MEETING ADJOURNED

The Métis Nation British Columbia 2022 Annual General Meeting scheduled September 23-25, 2022, adjourned on Day Two – September 24, 2022, at 4:20 p.m. after setting the time to reconvene on Day Three – September 25, 2022, at 8:00 a.m.

## DAY THREE | Sunday, September 25, 2022

### MEETING RECONVENED - CALL TO ORDER

The Métis Nation British Columbia 2022 Annual General Meeting scheduled September 23-25, 2022, reconvened on Day Three – September 25, 2022, at 8:05 a.m.

### QUORUM ANNOUNCED

AGM Chair Peltier confirmed that a quorum of registered voting delegates was in attendance and reviewed the meeting standing rules.

Minister Fisher announced that the Ministry of Education received \$13.5 million to create new childcare spaces across the province.

### 6.2. Resolution #2: By-Elections – Current Board Members

*Related Information: Resolution #2 – By-Elections – Current Board Members”*

#### Main Resolution

**It was MOVED (Monica Fisher) and SECONDED (Paulette Flamond)**

#### **BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The language in the *Electoral Act* be amended to codify the rules and procedures around Board Members being active candidates in by-elections for the MNBC Board of Directors, as follows:

In the *Electoral Act*:

Insert in Article 3 a definition of “Board Member”:

- A. **“Board Member”** means a person that currently holds a position on the MNBC Board of Directors;
- B. Re-arrange the definitions listed under Article 3 to be in alphabetical order.

Amend Article 8.6 as follows:

Insert as sub-article (a):

- A. “If a current Board Member wishes to stand as a candidate in a by-election, they must resign their current position on the Board of Directors at the date the election is announced.”





### Discussion on the Resolution

During discussion, comments were offered regarding:

- Clarification that Board Directors were not considered employees
- Ability for a Board Director to resign their position in advance of the writ of election.

### Question on the Main Resolution

Question was called on the Main Resolution. A hybrid vote was conducted using an online voting system and electronic voting devices. AGM Chair Peltier declared that the resolution was:

**CARRIED (AGM2022-09)**

(In Favour 81, Opposed 3, Abstained 1)

## 7. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Delegates were informed that the following resolutions involved changes to the Constitution and required 75% votes cast in favour to pass.

### 7.1. Resolution #5 – MNGA Meeting Frequency

*Related information: "Resolution #5 – MNGA Meeting Frequency"*

#### Main Resolution

**It was MOVED (Jesse Gervais) and SECONDED (Caitlin Bird)**

#### WHEREAS:

- A. The Métis Nation is active and engaged in advancing Métis rights in British Columbia;
- B. A single annual meeting of the MNGA limits the capacity of members to discuss and amend proposed legislative and constitutional amendments amongst themselves and with the communities they represent;
- C. People are accustomed to virtual meetings as a means of conducting business;
- D. As per Article 29 of the *Constitution* and Article 3.1 and 3.2 of the *MNGA Act*, Communities can be represented by their President, or Vice-President; and
- E. More frequent meetings will allow the MNGA and MNBC to be more responsive to the needs of their communities and Métis people.

#### BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Article 32 of the MNBC *Constitution* be amended from:

- A. "The Métis Nation Governing Assembly shall meet at least once per year in British Columbia at a meeting called with no less than sixty (60) days' notice to the MNGA Members by the MNBC. The meeting shall be held at least five (5) months prior to the MNBC Annual General Meeting. The notice requirement does not apply to Article 32.1."

To read:

- A. "The Métis Nation Governing Assembly shall meet at least *three (3) times* per year in British Columbia at a meeting *on a date decided* upon by the Métis Nation Governing Assembly at the *previous meeting*. The meetings shall be held at least *three (3) months* prior to the MNBC Annual General Meeting, *except as required in Article 32.1*. Meetings may take place over one (1) or two (2) days, as determined by the Métis Nation Governing Assembly. Two meetings will be *virtually and one in-person*, or as determined by the Métis Nation Governing Assembly. The notice requirement does not apply to Article 32.1."



### Discussion on the Resolution

During discussion, comments were offered regarding the ability of the MNGA to move resolutions through effectively with increased community engagement before reaching a decision.

### Question on the Main Resolution

Question was called on the Main Resolution. A hybrid vote was conducted using an online voting system and electronic voting devices. AGM Chair Peltier declared that the resolution was:

**CARRIED (AGM2022-10)**

(In Favour 93; Opposed 1; Abstain 0)

## 7.2. Resolution #3: Elections – MNBC Staff Members

*Related information: “Resolution #3 – Elections – MNBC Staff Members”*

### Main Resolution

**It was MOVED (Debra Fisher) and SECONDED (Karen Nagow)**

### **BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The language in the *Constitution* and *Electoral Act* be amended to allow MNBC staff members to be candidates in an election without resigning their position, as follows:

Amend Article 47 of the Constitution as follows:

- A. 47. When nominations close, all candidates holding a salaried position with the MNBC or MNGA *must submit, in writing, notice of a leave of absence.*

Insert the following definition in Article 3 of the *Electoral Act*:

- A. **“Leave of Absence”** means an unpaid leave of absence for a MNBC employee, however, where applicable, an employee may use any accrued annual vacation;
- B. Re-arrange the definitions listed under Article 3 to be in alphabetical order.

Strike the current Article 8.3 (g) of the *Electoral Act* and replace with:

- A. 8.3 (g) If, they are a salaried employee of MNBC:
  - i. Have provided a written notice of intention to stand as a candidate to the CEO of MNBC no later than fifteen (15) days before the close of nominations;
  - ii. At the close of nominations, has provided written notice of a leave of absence to the CEO of MNBC:
    - i. *MNBC will grant the leave of absence for the salaried position;*
    - ii. *The Citizen, if they receive employment benefits as part of their employment with MNBC, is entitled to all their employee benefits while they are a candidate, save for pay.*
  - iii. *If the Citizen is elected, they must resign their position with MNBC within thirty (30) days of the date of the election, and before being sworn into office.*

Insert the following after Article 8.3 (g) of the *Electoral Act*:

- A. 8.3 (h) If, they are currently serving as an independent contractor with MNBC, they have submitted notice of termination of all current contracts at the close of nominations.

Re-number sub-articles of Article 8.3 as needed.



### **Amendment to the Main Resolution**

#### **It was MOVED (Walter Mineault) and SECONDED (Anya McVean)**

That Article 47 of the Main Resolution be amended to replace “*When nominations close...*” with “*When the date of the election is announced*”; and Article 8.3(g)(i) be amended to replace “*...before the close of nominations;*” with “*...after the election is announced;*”

#### **Discussion on the Amendment to the Main Resolution**

During discussion, comments were offered regarding:

- Concern that staff would be penalized when running in an election
- Providing equal opportunities to all citizens, regardless of where they work
- Requirement of Directors to not begin campaigning until the close of nominations
- Potential perception that staff using their salary to their campaign.

#### **Amendment to the Main Resolution Withdrawn**

Following discussion on the resolution, it was

**WITHDRAWN**

#### **Question on the Main Resolution**

Question was called on the Main Resolution. A hybrid vote was conducted using an online voting system and electronic voting devices. AGM Chair Peltier declared that the resolution was:

**CARRIED (AGM2022-11)**

(In Favour 92, Opposed 9, Abstained 3)

### **7.3. Resolution #4 – Regional Governance Councils**

*Related information: “Resolution #4 – Regional Governance Councils”*

#### **Main Resolution**

#### **It was MOVED (Patrick Harriott) and SECONDED (Greg Stanwood)**

#### **WHEREAS:**

- A. Healthy, supported, and growing Chartered Communities are the basis of a healthy and vibrant Métis Nation;
- B. Timely exchange of knowledge will help strengthen and improve the cohesion of efforts both provincially and locally;
- C. Local communities contribute many hours of their time in volunteer contributions to build local relationships and opportunities for Métis People, it is to the benefit of all MNBC Citizens for MNBC to work with Communities, exchange knowledge of successes and challenges, and prioritize finding resources to support their efforts; and
- D. MNBC needs effective, permanent, and regular communication between Chartered Communities and Ministries to capitalize on opportunities, inform the development of and maximize Citizen enrollment in programs.



**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The MNBC Constitution be amended to read:

A. Add the following:

- “60.2. Each Regional Governance Council will meet at minimum four times per year. The meeting may be in person, by phone, or by video link. Time and space will be provided for Regional Governance Council Meetings at MNBC Governing Assemblies and Annual General Meetings at the request of the Regional Governance Council.*
- 60.3. Regional Governance Councils are responsible for: informing MNBC of Chartered Community efforts and opportunities for the purpose of obtaining support from MNBC Ministries, MNBC political relationships, assisting in prioritizing the aspirations of MNBC annual and ongoing budgeting efforts, and inform the search for new funding opportunities. Regional Governance Councils are also responsible for informing Community leadership of progress and developments in all MNBC portfolios to ensure a well-informed Métis Governance, and provide opportunities for feedback and concerted efforts.*
- 60.4. Quorum for Regional Governance Councils is a simple majority of Council Members.*
- 60.5. Regional Governance Councils may be called by the Regional Director or a simple majority of Council Members.*
- 60.6. Written notice of the date, time, and location of a Regional Governance Council meeting must be provided to each member listed in Article 60 at least five (5) days before the meeting. This notice requirement may be waived by unanimous consent of the Regional Governance Council members.”*

B. Re-number existing articles 60.2 to 60.7;

C. Amend Article 60.3 to read:

- “60.8. If the President or Vice-President of a Community is unable to attend a Regional Governance Council meeting, each Chartered Community Board may designate an Elected Board Member to participate with voting privileges, provided they are a Métis Citizen.”*

**Amendment to the Main Resolution**

**It was MOVED (Debra Fisher) and SECONDED (Patrick Harriott)**

That Article 60.8 of the Main Resolution be amended to insert *“...of that Chartered Community...”* between *“...Elected Board Member...”* and *“...to participate...”*.

**Question on the Amendment to the Main Resolution**

Question was called on the Amendment to the Main Resolution. A hybrid vote was conducted using an online voting system and electronic voting devices. AGM Chair Peltier declared that the resolution was:

**CARRIED (AGM2022-12)**

(In Favour 96; Opposed 1; Abstain 2)



### **Amendment to the Main Resolution as Amended**

#### **It was MOVED (David Allard) and SECONDED (Don Courson)**

That Article 60.3 of the Main Resolution be removed.

#### **Discussion on the Amendment to the Main Resolution**

During discussion, comments were offered regarding:

- Suitability of Article 60.3 to be located in a policy or definition manual
- Potential of Article 60.3 to be subject to interpretation
- Including the purpose of RGCs within the Constitution
- Need for the purpose of RGCs to be determined by citizens, not staff.

#### **Question on the Amendment to the Main Resolution**

Question was called on the Amendment to the Main Resolution. A hybrid vote was conducted using an online voting system and electronic voting devices. AGM Chair Peltier declared that the resolution was:

**DEFEATED**

(In Favour 41; Opposed 55; Abstain 12)

### **Amendment to the Main Resolution as Amended**

#### **It was MOVED (Alex Ibbotson) and SECONDED (David Allard)**

That Article 60.3 of the Main Resolution be amended to insert “*MNBC leadership is responsible for consulting and engaging with Regional Governance Councils regarding all relevant agreements impacting Citizens in the respective region.*” at the end of Article 60.3.

#### **Discussion on the Amendment to the Main Resolution as Amended**

During discussion, comments were offered regarding:

- Importance of engaging citizens and communities on activities that impact them
- Need for further discussion with Chartered Community Presidents to flesh out details.

#### **Motion to Refer the Main Resolution as Amended**

#### **It was MOVED (Don Courson) and SECONDED (Gary Biggar)**

That Resolution #4 – Regional Governance Councils, as amended, be referred to the 2023 MNGA.

#### **Discussion on the Motion to Refer the Resolution**

During discussion, comments were offered regarding:

- Impacts to harvesters from around BC as a result of agreements signed in regions
- Discussions held at the 2022 MNGA in support of the resolution
- Ability for further discussion at future MNGAs, given the increase in meeting frequency
- Consideration of a mandatory reporting requirement in legislation
- Mandating the Governance Committee to explore a RGC policy
- Importance of defining the role of RGCs
- Ability to amend the Constitution at a later date as necessary
- Inclusion of provisions enabling elected Board Members of Chartered Communities to attend RGCs
- Benefit of discussing the resolution further in person rather than virtually.



### **Question on the Motion to Refer the Main Resolution as Amended**

Question was called on the Motion to Refer the Main Resolution as Amended. A hybrid vote was conducted using an online voting system and electronic voting devices. AGM Chair Peltier declared that the resolution was:

**DEFEATED**

(In Favour 22, Opposed 78, Abstain 3)

### **Health Break**

The meeting recessed at 9:57 a.m. and reconvened at 10:19 a.m.

### **QUORUM CONFIRMATION**

AGM Chair Peltier confirmed that a quorum of registered voting delegates was in attendance.

### **Discussion on the Amendment to the Main Resolution**

During discussion, comments were offered regarding inclusion of provincial projects that may impact harvesters in different regions.

### **Friendly Amendment to the Amendment to the Main Resolution**

The mover and seconder of the Amendment to the Resolution agreed to strike "*in their respective regions*" from the motion.

### **Question on the Friendly Amendment to the Amendment to the Main Resolution**

Question was called on the Friendly Amendment to the Amendment to the Main Resolution. A hybrid vote was conducted using an online voting system and electronic voting devices. AGM Chair Peltier declared that the resolution was:

**CARRIED (AGM2022-13)**

(In Favour 82; Opposed 8; Abstain 4)

### **Discussion on the Main Resolution as Amended**

During discussion, comments were offered regarding the ability and benefits of delegating responsibility to elected Board Members of Chartered Communities.

### **Question On the Main Resolution as Amended**

Question was called on the Main Resolution as Amended. A hybrid vote was conducted using an online voting system and electronic voting devices. AGM Chair Peltier declared that the resolution was:

**CARRIED (AGM2022-14)**

(In Favour 96; Opposed 5; Abstain 3)

## **8. CLOSING REMARKS**

President Smith reflected on the AGM, which brought the Nation together to interact as a family. On behalf of the MNGA Board of Directors, the President thanked every Métis citizen online and in person for participating in the first hybrid AGM. MNBC citizens were the heartbeat of the Nation, and it was through the grassroots that MNBC was mandated to deliver programs and services to citizens.

Late greetings were received from the Honourable Jennifer Whiteside, MLA and Minister of Education and Child Care. MNBC was an essential partner in addressing racism and inequity faced





by Indigenous students. Minister Whiteside was grateful for MNBC's contribution to developing the Provincial K-12 Anti-Racism Action Plan and participating in community roundtables. MNBC also sat on the Advisory Group for the Indigenous Learning Strategy and contributed to developing teacher resources. Appreciation was expressed for continued engagement on shared education priorities and efforts to improve equity for Indigenous students across BC.

Greetings were also received from the Teresa Wat, MLA for Richmond North Centre, who appreciated MNBC for making the community and the Province of BC a great place to live, work, play, and raise families.

Minister Debra Fisher recognized work in the early years and childcare programs. As announced that morning, funding was received for childcare spaces.

President Smith thanked staff for their efforts in planning and organizing the AGM. Many staff were new and had not assisted with an in-person AGM. Many lessons were learned, and citizens provided feedback throughout the weekend that would be implemented for the 2023 AGM in Kamloops, BC. Representatives from Governing Members were thanked for attending the AGM. Many opportunities for discussion were had regarding advocating for MNBC to have an equal seat at the BOG. MNBC was being recognized and respected at many levels of government.

In closing, President Smith thanked Delegates for the respectful dialogue and efforts to work together.

**9. CLOSING PRAYER**

Barbara Hulme offered a Closing Prayer.

**CONCLUSION**

**It was MOVED (Patrick Harriott) and SECONDED (Steve Morrison)**

That the Métis Nation British Columbia 2022 Annual General Meeting scheduled September 23-25, 2022, now conclude.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM2022-15)**  
(Time: September 25, 2022, at 10:52 p.m.)

\* \* \*

This is a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Métis Nation British Columbia 2022 Annual General Meeting scheduled September 23-25, 2022, and incorporates any and all corrections made at the time of adoption.

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Dave Peltier, Chair

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John Bieker, AGM Clerk

