



RESOLUTION 1

SUBMITTED TO THE DECEMBER 2023 MÉTIS NATION GOVERNING ASSEMBLY

Subject: 2SLGBTQQIA+ Act

Legislation Affected: *Constitution, MNGA Act, Electoral Act*

Submitted by: Region 1 Director

Submitted to: MNGA Clerk

Date Submitted: June 12, 2023

Vote Required for Approval: 75%

WHEREAS:

- A. The 2SLGBTQQIA+ have a desire to organize themselves;
- B. The “2Spirit 2Worlds report” has identified statistics on the overrepresentation of egregious harms being endured by our 2SLGBTQQIA+ Citizens;
- C. Advocacy and resources are necessary to address the inequity faced by the 2SLGBTQQIA+ community; and
- D. A 2SLGBTQQIA+ voice at the Metis Nation Governing Assembly would be beneficial to the entire Metis Nation.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. A 2SLGBTQQIA+ Act be created with the intention of instating an elected 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council, composed of an elected provincial 2SLGBTQQIA+ representative and an elected regional 2SLGBTQQIA+ representative from each Métis Nation of British Columbia region.
- B. The attached 2SLGBTQQIA+ Act (attached as “Appendix A”) as presented be adopted and enacted as the governing legislation for the purpose stated in “A”, above, for the Métis Nation of British Columbia.
- C. Métis Nation British Columbia will endeavour to secure funding for a staff position to support the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.
- D. The ***Métis Nation British Columbia Constitution*** (the “*Constitution*”) be amended as follows:
 - a. In Article 29, strike the word “and” following the words “Métis Women of British Columbia”, and add “, and the elected Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” at the end of the article, so that it will read:

“The Métis Nation Governing Assembly shall be comprised of the elected

Presidents or Vice Presidents of Communities, the elected Regional Directors of the MNBC, the elected President and Vice-President of the MNBC, the elected Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia, the elected Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, and the elected Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.”

- b. Insert a new Article 34.7 as follows:

“34.7 They are no longer the Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.”

- c. In Article 60, strike the word “and” following the words “Regional Director of the MNBC” and insert “, and the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council Regional Representative.” at the end of the sentence, so that it will read:

“There shall be formed in each Region a Regional Governance Council comprised of the Presidents of the Communities in each respective Region, the Métis Youth of British Columbia Regional Representative, Regional Director of the MNBC, the Métis Women of British Columbia Regional Representative, and the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council Regional Representative. The Regional Director of the MNBC shall be the nonvoting Chairperson of the Regional Governance Council.”

- d. In Article 66, strike all instances of “he or she” and insert “they” in its place, so that it will read:

“Any person seeking federal government or provincial government elected office shall take an unpaid leave of absence from any elected position that they may hold with the MNBC, MNGA, and Senate, Community or subsidiary Board, Commission or Committee at the close of nominations. Any person elected to federal government or provincial government elected office shall resign from any elected position that they may hold with the MNBC, MNGA, Senate, Community or subsidiary Board, Commission or Committee.”

- e. Renumber all Sections and sub-Sections of the Constitution accordingly.

- E. The ***Métis Nation British Columbia Electoral Act*** (the “*Electoral Act*”) be amended as follows:

- a. In Article 3.5, strike the words “and/or” prior to the words “the Métis Youth” and insert a comma; and add “, and/or the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” following the words “Métis Youth of British Columbia”, so that it will read:

“By-Election” means an Election to replace or fill a vacancy in the MNBC Board of Directors, the Métis Women of British Columbia, the Métis Youth of British Columbia, and/or the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council when such vacancy exists as the result of a lack of nominations for candidacy at an Election or is created by the removal, resignation or disqualification of the person previously holding the office as set out in Article 23 of the Constitution;

- b. In Article 3.7, strike the word “and” following the words “Métis Youth of British Columbia” and add “, and Regional Representative of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council;” at the end of the article, so that it will read:

“Candidate” means a person who is nominated and qualified to compete for an office in the Métis Nation British Columbia Election for President, Vice-President, Regional Director, Chairperson and Regional Youth Representative of Métis Youth of British Columbia, Chairperson and Regional Representatives of the Métis Women of British Columbia, and the Chairperson and Regional Representatives of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council;”

- c. In Article 3.11, strike the word “and” following the words “Métis Youth of British Columbia” and insert a comma in its place; and add “, and the Chairperson and Regional Representatives of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council;” following the words “Métis Women of British Columbia”, so that it will read:

“Election(s)” means an Election or By-Election called by the Métis Nation British Columbia for the Election of a President, Vice President, Regional Directors, Chairperson and Regional Youth Representative of Métis Youth of British Columbia, Chairperson and Regional Representatives of the Métis Women of British Columbia, and the Chairperson and Regional Representatives of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council as set out in the Métis Nation British Columbia Constitution.”

- d. In Article 3.15, the sentence “Any self-identifying 2SLGBTQQIA+ Métis citizen who is eighteen (18) years of age or older may vote or seek elected office within the Métis 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council of British Columbia.” to the end of the article, so that it will read:

“Elector” means a Métis citizen who, pursuant to the Métis Nation British Columbia’s Constitution, is no less than 18 years of age as of the date of the Election, has been registered as a Métis citizen pursuant to the Métis Nation British Columbia Citizenship Act, and has resided in British Columbia for a minimum of twelve (12) months for a provincial office or six (6) months for voting in regional offices. Any female Métis citizen who is eighteen (18) years of age or older may vote or seek elected office within the Métis Women of British Columbia. Any Métis citizen who is between fifteen (15) years of age and thirty (30) years of age may vote or seek elected office within the Métis Youth of British Columbia. Any self-identifying 2SLGBTQQIA+ Métis citizen who is eighteen (18) years of age or older may vote or seek elected office within the Métis 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council of British Columbia.”

- e. In Article 3.16, strike the word “or” following the words “MWBC Regional Representative” and insert a comma in its place, and, add “, or 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governing Council Representative” following the words “MYBC Regional Representative”, so that it will read:

“Interim Appointee” means a person who is appointed to fill a vacancy on the Board of Directors, or a MWBC Regional Representative, MYBC Regional Representative, or 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governing Council Representative on an interim basis pursuant to the provisions of Article 46 of the Constitution.”

- f. Add the following to Article 6.2 as indicated:

“h. Regional 2SLGBTQQIA+ Representative for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council for the region in which the Elector is entitled to

vote being self-identified 2SLGBTQQIA+ and 18 years of age and older.

- (i) For greater certainty, identification of Métis 2SLGBTQQIA+ persons for the purposes of voting and seeking elected office will not be kept by Métis Nation British Columbia, and ballots will be open to all eligible voters respond to voluntarily if they self-identify as 2SLGBTQQIA+.”

g. Add the following as Article 6.3e:

“e. Any Métis citizen who self-identifies as 2SLGBTQQIA+ and is eighteen (18) years of age or older may vote for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.”

h. Add the following as Article 6.4e:

“e. Individuals who are not 2SLGBTQQIA+ 18 years of age and older on Election Day for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.”

i. In Article 7.3, strike the second sentence in its entirety, and insert the following in its place:

“Also, the applicable Regional List of Electors will be provided to each of the nominated and official Candidates for a vacancy in the office of Regional Director, Regional Women’s Representative, Regional Youth Representative, and the Regional 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.”

so that Article 7.3 will read:

“On or before the 39th day before the Election Day the Chief Electoral Officer shall submit to each nominated and official Candidate for a vacancy in the Office of President, Vice President, Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, and Métis Women of British Columbia Chairperson, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council Chairperson a copy of the provincial List of Electors. Also, the applicable Regional List of Electors will be provided to each of the nominated and official Candidates for a vacancy in the office of Regional Director, Regional Women’s Representative, Regional Youth Representative, and the Regional 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council. In addition, a copy of the applicable community List of Electors will be provided to each Métis community.”

j. Strike Article 7.6a and insert the following in its place:

“The Chief Electoral officer shall submit a copy of the provincial List of Electors to each nominated and official Candidate for President, Vice-President, Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia. Also, the applicable Regional List of Electors will be provided to each of the nominated and official Candidates for a vacancy in the

office of Regional Director, Regional Women’s Representative, Regional Youth Representative, and the Regional 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.”

- k. In Article 8.2, strike the word “and” following the words “Métis Youth of British Columbia” and add “, and Regional Representative of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” following the words “Women’s Representative of the Métis Women of British Columbia”, so that it will read:

“Nominations of all Candidates for the Offices of President, Vice-President, Regional Directors, Chairperson or Regional Youth Representative of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, Chairperson and Regional Women’s Representative of the Métis Women of British Columbia, and Chairperson and Regional Representative of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council shall be received in writing or electronically no less than 40 days prior to the date of the Election by the Chief Electoral Officer at a location to be specified in the notice by the Chief Electoral Officer.”

- l. Add the following after Article 8.3d:

“e. Any self-identified 2SLGBTQQIA+ Métis citizen who is eighteen (18) years of age or older may seek elected office on the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.”

- m. In Article 8.3f., strike the word “or” following the words “Métis Youth of British Columbia” and insert “, or Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council,” following the words “Métis Women of British Columbia” so that it will read:

“If they are seeking to be nominated as a Candidate for a Regional Director, Regional Youth Representative of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, Regional Women’s Representative of the Métis Women of British Columbia, or Regional 2SLGBTQQIA+ Representative on the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council, and have been a resident of the Métis Community of the Region they are seeking nomination for not less than 6 months”

- n. In Article 8.5, strike the word “and” following the word “Métis Youth of British Columbia” and the words “the following” at the end of the Article, and add “, and Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” following the words “Métis Women of British Columbia”, so that it will read:

“All nominations for Regional Directors, Regional Youth Representative of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, Regional Women’s Representative of the Métis Women of British Columbia, and Regional Representative of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council shall include:”

- o. Add the following as 8.5d:

“A minimum of three (3) signatures of electors who reside in the region for which the Candidate seeks to be nominated, who are not signatories of another Candidates nomination papers for the same position and who are eligible to vote in the Election in which the Candidate for the Regional Representative for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council seeks to be nominated.”

- p. In Article 8.7, strike the word “or” following the word “Métis Youth of British

Columbia” and the words “the following” at the end of the Article, and add “, or 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” following the words “Métis Women of British Columbia”, so that it will read:

“No Métis citizen may accept or place a nomination for a position on the Métis Nation British Columbia Board of Directors, the Métis Youth of British Columbia, the Métis Women of British Columbia, or the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council if that person is or was, at any time during the one year period prior to the date of the Election, a director or officer of another provincial Métis body or association, other than a Métis community, whereby being a director or officer, the Candidate would constitute circumstances in which a real, potential or apprehended conflict of interest would arise. The Chief Electoral Officer shall determine whether circumstances exist under which a real, potential or apprehended conflict of interest would arise.”

- q. In Article 13.2, strike the word “or” following the word “Métis Youth of British Columbia” and the words “the following” at the end of the Article, and add “, or Regional Representative of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” following the words “Métis Women of British Columbia”, so that it will read:

“If a Candidate for Regional Director, Regional Youth Representative of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, Regional Women’s Representative of the Métis Women of British Columbia, or Regional Representative of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council dies after close of nominations and prior to closing of the Polling Stations on Election Day, the Election shall be held.”

- r. In Article 19.2:

- Strike the word “or” following the words “Métis Youth of British Columbia” and the words “the following” at the end of the Article, and
- Add “, or Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” following the first instance of the words “Secretariat-British Columbia”, and “, or Regional Representative of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council shall be” following the second instance

so that Article 19.2 will read:

“Each ballot shall be printed in the English language and shall contain the name of the Candidates which shall be arranged with the Candidates for the Offices of President, Vice-President, Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, Chairperson of the Métis Women’s Secretariat-British Columbia, or Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council located first and arranged alphabetically in order of their surnames. The Candidates for Regional Director, Regional Youth Representative of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, Regional Women’s Representative of the Métis Women’s Secretariat-British Columbia, or Regional Representative of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council shall be located second and arranged alphabetically in the order of their surnames.”

- s. In Article 38.2 b, strike the word “or” following the words “Métis Women of British Columbia”, and add “or Regional Representative of the 2SLGBTQQIA+

Provincial Governance Council” at the end of the article”, so that it will read:

“The Candidate has been nominated to contest the position of Regional Director, Regional Representative for the Métis Women of British Columbia (MWBC), Regional Youth Representative for the Métis Youth of British Columbia, or Regional Representative for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council;

t. Renumber all Articles and sub-Articles of the *Electoral Act* accordingly.

F. That the **MNGA Act** be amended as follows:

a. In Article 2.16, strike the acronym “BCMUYC” and insert “MYBC” in its place so that Article 2.16 will read:

“Métis Nation British Columbia” (MNBC) means the organization which is comprised of the Regional Representatives (“Directors”), the Executive (President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer), Chairperson from the Métis Women of British Columbia, and Chairperson of the MYBC and which, represents the Métis Citizens and for the purpose of this Act will be referred to as the MNBC.”

b. Add the following as Article 9.1.9:

“9.1.9 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governing Council Report”

c. In Article 12.2, strike the word “or” following the words “MWBC Regional Representative”, and add “or the Regional Representative for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” at the end of the article, so that it will read:

“The MNGA shall, at the request of the MNBC in accordance with Article 46 of the *MNBC Constitution*, receive nominations for the appointment of an MNBC Director (except for the office of President) to fill vacancies on the MNBC Board of Directors, MWBC Regional Representative, MYBC Regional Representative, or the Regional Representative for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.”

APPENDIX A

METIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA

METIS NATION 2SLGBTQQIA+ ACT

5.9 The 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council shall, on behalf of Métis 2SLGBTQQIA+ people living in British Columbia take such action or hold such functions as may be deemed appropriate to encourage and support equity for, and the spiritual, physical, mental, and emotional well-being of Métis 2SLGBTQQIA+ people, including seeking funding for 2SLGBTQQIA+ initiatives.

ARTICLE SIX - ELECTORAL PROCESS

- 6.0 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council electoral process shall be as follows:
- 6.1 Métis 2SLGBTQQIA+ individuals seeking elected office must meet all eligibility requirements as set out in the *MNBC Constitution*, the *MNBC Electoral Act* and the MNBC guidelines.
- 6.2 The 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council shall be elected for a four (4) year term in conjunction with the *MNBC Electoral Act*.
- 6.3 In the event a vacancy in the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council shall arise due to the resignation, removal, suspension or otherwise of a 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council member, the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council shall hold a by-election in accordance with the *MNBC Electoral Act*.