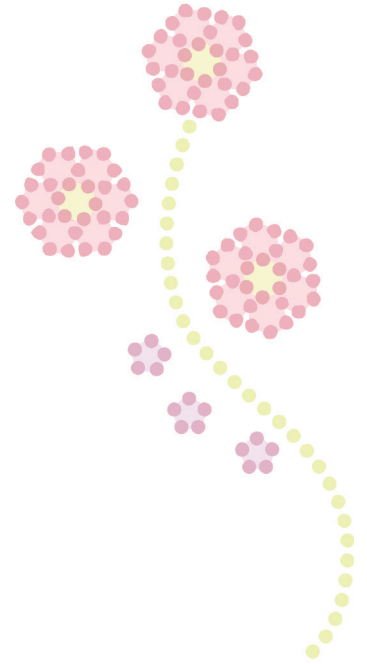


2024 MNGA Resolutions



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MNGA Draft Agenda

MNGA 2024

MARCH 1 TO 3, 2024

River Rock Casino and Resort

DRAFT AGENDA- FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2024

Time	Order of Business
1:00 PM	Opening Ceremonies <i>Flag Party and Grand Entry</i> Anthems (O Canada – Métis Ballad) Musqueam First Nation – Welcome Opening Prayer – Senators Betty Hoogendorn and Philip Gladue
1:30 PM	Greetings and Opening Remarks President Cassidy Caron, Métis National Council President Andrea Sandmaier, Otipemisiwak Métis Government (Métis Nation of Alberta) President Lissa Smith, Métis Nation BC
2:00 PM	MNGA Clerk confirms quorum Meeting called to Order
2:15 PM	ADOPTION OF AGENDA: 1. Adopt Agenda for 2024 March MNGA 2. Review and Adopt Standing Rules for 2024 March MNGA
2:30 PM	REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES: 1. December 1 to 2, 2023, MNGA
2:45 PM	Acceptance of written reports <ul style="list-style-type: none">• President• Secretary• Treasurer• Regional Directors• Ministries• Chief Executive Officer• Senate• Chartered Communities
3:00 PM	Health Break
3:15 PM	MNGA Reconvenes MNGA Clerk confirms quorum
3:20 PM	MNGA Governance Committee Update
3:30 PM	CEO/Senior Leadership Team Update Q and A to Follow
4:30 PM	MNGA Adjourns for Day 1

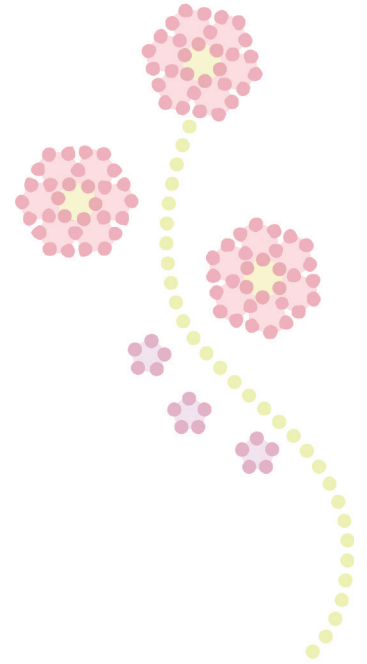
DRAFT AGENDA- SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2024

Time	Order of Business
9:00 AM	MNGA Reconvenes MNGA Clerk confirms quorum
9:05 AM	Motion 1: Upcoming MNGA Meetings
9:30AM	Motion 2: Establishment of 2024 Election Date
10:00 AM	Motion 3: Appointment of Chief Electoral Officer
10:45 AM	Health Break
11:00 AM	MNGA Reconvenes MNGA Clerk confirms quorum
11:05 AM	Resolution 1: Provision to Change Voting Procedures at the June 2024 MNGA
12:00 PM	Lunch Break
1:00 PM	MNGA Reconvenes MNGA Clerk confirms quorum
1:05 PM	Resolution 2: MNGA Authority to Confirm its Position on MNBC Legislation
2:05 PM	Health Break
2:20 PM	MNGA Reconvenes MNGA Clerk confirms quorum
2:25 PM	Resolution 3: MNGA Members' Oath
3:00 PM	Adjourn Day 2

DRAFT AGENDA- SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 2024

Time	Order of Business
9:00 AM	MNGA Reconvenes MNGA Clerk confirms quorum
9:05 AM	Resolution 4: Clarifying Citizenship Eligibility/Acceptance
10:00 AM	Resolution 5: Ensuring Representation for Women and Youth at the MNGA and Regional Governance Councils
10:30 AM	Information Session: Information Sharing Agreements
11:15 AM	Closing Remarks: President Smith Closing Prayer: Senator Pope
11:30 AM	MNGA Adjourns

DRAFT

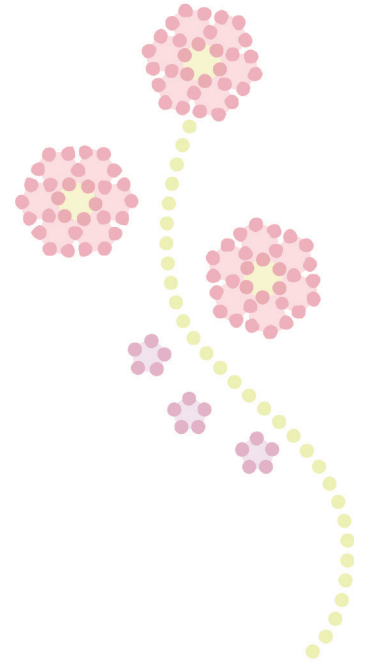


MNGA Standing Rules

DRAFT MNGA STANDING RULES

The rules of order below are intended to facilitate progress, include MNGA delegates in debate and decision making, and ensure fairness, equality, and common sense:

1. The meeting will be run in accordance with the relevant provisions of the MNBC Constitution and MNGA Act.
2. A delegate who wishes to speak at the MNGA will request to do so, wait to be recognized by the Speaker, and open by stating their name and Community.
3. On each issue or motion, a delegate is entitled to speak up to two (2) times, for no longer than three minutes each time. Speaking a third time or longer than three minutes will require permission from the assembly.
4. If an individual has questions, they may ask one follow-up question within the same three minute time slot.
5. To speak a second time on the same motion or agenda item, a delegate must wait until those who wish to speak on it for the first time have done so.
6. Debate must be related to the pending motion or agenda item. The Speaker may alternate between proponents and opponents to a pending motion, if needed.
7. Previous Question is not in order prior to 30 minutes of discussion on a motion or agenda item, unless approved by unanimous consent.
8. A motion to Amend a motion or agenda item is not in order prior to five delegates speaking to the main motion, unless approved by unanimous consent.
9. Delegates must observe decorum, must avoid personal attacks and disorderly or discourteous behaviors, and are expected to help maintain a safe and respectful meeting environment.



MNGA Draft Minutes

DRAFT MINUTES

Minutes of the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) 2023 Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA), held December 2 to 3, 2023 by videoconference.

OFFICIAL DELEGATES IN ATTENDANCE:

Board of Directors

Lissa Smith, President

Walter Mineault, Vice-President

Shaughn Davoren, Chair, Métis Youth BC

Patrick Harriott, Regional Director, Region 1 (Vancouver Island and Powell River) and Treasurer

Louis De Jaeger, Regional Director, Region 2 (Lower Mainland) and Secretary

Dean Gladue, Regional Director, Region 3 (Thompson Okanagan)

Debra Fisher, Regional Director, Region 4 (Kootenays)

Raynie Gervais, Regional Director, Region 5 (North Central)

Susie Hooper, Regional Director, Region 6 (Northwest)

Paulette Flamond, Regional Director, Region 7 (Northeast)

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES:

Region 1 – Vancouver Island

Tom Adams, MIKI'SIW Métis Association

Caitlin Bird, Métis Nation of Greater Victoria Association

Joy Bremner, Mid Island Métis Nation

June Graham, Alberni Clayoquot Métis Association

Charlotte Lever, North Island Métis Association (*December 3, 2023 only*)

Richard Lewis, Cowichan Valley Métis Association

Tyler Masee, North Island Métis Association (*December 2, 2023 only*)

Region 2 – Lower Mainland

Rob Anderson, Vancouver Sea to Sky Métis Association (*arrived December 2, 2023 at 11:50 AM.*)

Miranda Berard, Golden Ears Métis Society

Anthony Krilow, Surrey Delta Métis Association

Deni Paquette, North Fraser Métis Association (*December 2, 2023 only*)

Kelly Sears, Waceya Métis Society

Greg Stanwood, North Fraser Métis Association (*December 3, 2023 only*)

Pixie Wells, Fraser Valley Métis Society

Region 3 – Thompson Okanagan

David Allard, Salmon Arm Métis Association

Melanie Allard, Two Rivers Métis Society (*part of December 2 and December 3, 2023*)

Cheryl Dodman, Kelowna Métis Association

Marc Dubord, Two Rivers Métis Society (*part of December 2, 2023 only*)

Jamie-Lee Keith, South Okanagan Similkameen Métis Association

Betty Ann McDonnell, Nicola Valley and District Métis Society
Daina Shaw, Boundary Métis Community Association
Natasha Smith, Vermillion Forks Métis Society

Region 4 – Kootenays

Tophier Burke, Columbia Valley Métis Association (*December 3, 2023 only*)
Nicole Courson, West Kootenay Métis Society
Jeff Crozier, Rocky Mountain Métis Association (*December 2, 2023 only*)
Pheeb Goulet, Columbia Valley Metis Association (*December 2, 2023 only*)
Travis Jobin, Métis Nation Columbia River Society
Wendy Schneider, Rocky Mountain Metis Association (*December 3, 2023 only*)
Myrtle Servatius, Kootenay South Métis Society

Region 5 – North Central

Sylvia Desrocher, Prince George Métis Community Association
Tony Goulet, North Cariboo Métis Association
Marlene Swears, Cariboo Chilcotin Metis Association

Region 6 – Northwest

Bernadette Chaboyer, Northwest BC Métis Association
Alicia Fernando, Tri-River Métis Association
Joy Sundin, Prince Rupert and District Métis Society

Region 7 – Northeast

Alana Copeland, Fort St. John Metis Society
Valerie Paice, River of the Peace Métis Society
George (Dan) Pope, Kelly Lake Métis Community
Vince van Wieringen, North East Métis Association (*left December 2, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.*)

ALSO PRESENT:

John Bieker, MNGA Clerk
Carmen Carriere, MNGA Co-Chair
Nicole Ludwig, MNGA Deputy Clerk
Dave Peltier, MNGA Co-Chair

MINUTES PREPARED BY:

Carrie Peacock, Recording Secretary

DAY ONE – December 2, 2023

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND OPENING PRAYER

Senator Elizabeth (Betty) Hoogendorn acknowledged the traditional territories attendees were joining from and provided an Opening Prayer.

ROLL CALL - QUORUM CONFIRMED

John Bieker, MNGA Clerk, conducted a roll call and confirmed that a quorum was present.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS OF THE 2023 MNGA

CALL TO ORDER

Dave Peltier, MNGA Co-Chair, called the December 2-3, 2023 MNGA to order at 9:00 a.m.

1. OPENING REMARKS

MNBC President Lissa Smith welcomed attendees and provided updates on activities and achievements that had occurred since the previous MNGA. The President reported that MNBC representatives recently met with the Premier, Members of the Legislative Assembly, and the Minister of Health. Meetings were also held in Ottawa, with key federal government representatives.

The MNBC continued to support *Bill C-53 - An Act respecting the recognition of certain Métis governments in Alberta, Ontario and Saskatchewan, to give effect to treaties with those governments and to make consequential amendments to other Acts*. MNBC representatives also engaged with the BC Attorney General, who committed to presenting MNBC's Justice Strategy to Cabinet for approval. The President further confirmed that the Amelia Douglas Institute for Métis Culture, Heritage, and Language would open soon, and that the MNBC had now achieved over 25,000 registered citizens.

2. ELECTION OF MNGA SPEAKER

Dave Peltier, Deputy Speaker, called for nominations for a Speaker for the 2023 MNGA. Carmen Carriere was nominated as Speaker and consented to the nomination. The MNGA Deputy Speaker called for further nominations and after the third call, with there being no further nominations, declared the nominations closed. As there were no other candidates nominated, Carmen Carriere was acclaimed to the position as MNGA Co-Chair.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND STANDING RULES

3.1 Adopt Agenda for 2023 December MNGA

Related information (distributed in the Agenda package): Draft Agenda for the December 2-3, 2023 Métis Nation Governing Assembly

Main Resolution

It was MOVED (Cheryl Dodman) and SECONDED (Vince van Wieringen)

That the Agenda for the Métis Nation British Columbia 2023 Métis Nation Governing Assembly scheduled December 2-3, 2023, be adopted as presented.

Amendment to the Main Resolution

It was MOVED (Tony Goulet) and SECONDED (Caitlin Bird)

That the Agenda be amended by adding an update on a prior resolution regarding funding for communities (after Resolution 9).

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (MNGA2303-01)

Point of Order

In response to a Point of Order raised, the Deputy Speaker interrupted consideration of the Agenda, to address a potential contravention of *MNGA Act* Article 2.6 – “Conflict of Interest”. Discussion ensued regarding a member who was currently registered as a Director of another Métis organization, whose interests conflicted with the interests of the MNBC’s.

It was MOVED (Alana Copeland) and SECONDED (Louis De Jaeger)

That, due to his role on another Métis Board not affiliated with MNBC, the Vice-President of North East Métis association, is determined by the MNGA to be in a conflict of interest, and temporarily suspends him from the MNGA, until his resignation from the other board is registered with BC Registry.

CARRIED (MNGA2303-02)

(22 delegates voted in favour, 10 opposed and 9 abstained)

10:30 a.m.

Vince van Wierengen, North East Métis Association, left the MNGA.

3.1 Adopt Agenda for 2023 December MNGA (*Continued*)

Discussion resumed on the Resolution to adopt the Agenda.

Question on the Main Resolution as Amended

The question was called on the Main Resolution as amended, and it was

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (MNGA2303-03)

3.2. Review and Adopt Standing Rules for 2023 December MNGA

Related information (distributed in the Agenda package): “Draft MNGA Standing Rules”

It was MOVED (Jeff Crozier) and SECONDED (Patrick Harriott)

That the Métis Nation British Columbia Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA) adopt the “MNGA Standing Rules” as presented for the December 2-3, 2023 MNGA.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (MNGA2303-04)

Health Break

The Assembly recessed at 10:50 a.m. and reconvened at 11:05 a.m.

4. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of the 2023 June MNGA

Related information (distributed in the Agenda package): Draft Minutes of the Métis Nation British Columbia 2023 Métis Nation Governing Assembly held June 3-4, 2023

It was MOVED (Walter Mineault) and SECONDED (Jeff Crozier)

That the Minutes of the Métis Nation British Columbia 2023 Métis Nation Governing Assembly held June 3 to 4, 2023, be accepted, with an amendment to reflect Jeff Crozier, President, Rocky Mountain Métis Society, attending only on June 3, 2023, and Wendy Schneider, Vice-President, Rocky Mountain Métis Society, attending only on June 4, 2023.

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (MNGA2303-05)

5. **RESOLUTION A: Acceptance by MNGA of Vancouver Sea to Sky Métis Association**

Related information (displayed and distributed in the Agenda package): "Vancouver Sea to Sky Métis Association" submitted by the Region 2 Director and dated June 12, 2023

The MNGA Clerk read aloud the displayed resolution and confirmed that at least 75% of the eligible voting delegates were required to vote in favour, for the resolution to be duly ratified.

It was MOVED (Louis De Jaeger) and SECONDED (Greg Stanwood)

WHEREAS:

- A. On July 8, 2023, the Region 2 Regional Governance Council endorsed the application of the Vancouver Sea to Sky Métis Association to become a Chartered Community, as set out in "Appendix A"¹;
- B. Article 55.3 of the *Métis Nation British Columbia Constitution* (the "Constitution") empowers the Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA) to approve new Chartered Community Agreements with a 75% majority vote; and
- C. The Vancouver Sea to Sky Métis Association has completed its registration under the *BC Societies Act*;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. The MNGA hereby ratifies the application of the Vancouver Sea to Sky Métis Association for full Chartered Community status; and
- B. The MNGA agrees and recognizes the geographical boundaries of the Vancouver Sea to Sky Métis Association as the following municipalities:

Bowen Island	Halfmoon Bay	Roberts Creek
Brackendale	Lions Bay	Sechelt
D'Arcy	Madeira Park	Squamish
Garden Bay	North Vancouver	Vancouver
Garibaldi Heights/ Highland	Pemberton	West Vancouver
Gibsons	Richmond	Whistler

CARRIED (MNGA2303-06)

(35 delegates voted in favour, 0 opposed and 5 abstained)

11:50 AM

Rob Anderson, President, Vancouver Sea to Sky Métis Association, joined the meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6. **RESOLUTION UB1 – MNBC Citizenship for Métis with Connections to BC Living-Out-of-Province**

Related information (displayed and distributed in the Agenda package): "Resolution UB1 – MNBC Citizenship for Métis with Connections to BC Living Out-of-Province" submitted by the Cowichan Valley Métis Association and dated April 24, 2023

¹ The July 8, 2023 resolution of the Region 2 Regional Governance Council is attached as "Appendix A"

The MNGA Clerk read aloud the displayed resolution, which was originally submitted to the June 2023 MNGA, and then postponed to the December 2023 MNGA. In the interim, the Resolution had been modified. It was noted that at least 75% of the eligible voting delegates were required to vote in favour, for the resolution to be duly ratified.

It was MOVED (Richard Lewis) and SECONDED (Jeff Crozier)

WHEREAS:

1. All Métis are entitled to be connected to their Métis heritage and have their Métis identity validated;
2. All BC Métis are entitled to stay apprised of events and information available through the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC);
3. It is in the interests of the MNBC to have as many citizens with ties to British Columbia as possible represented by the MNBC;
4. All Métis persons should have the right to be connected to their Métis Community and/or their Métis Immediate or Extended Family Members; and
5. Not all Provinces have representative Métis bodies recognized by the Métis National Council, in which MNBC is a member;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The *Métis Nation Citizenship Act* be amended as follows:

- A. Strike Articles 3.1.1 and 3.1.2 and insert the following in their place:
 - “3.1.1 The Applicant normally resides within the Chartered Community area and the jurisdiction of the MNBC, or;
 - 3.1.2 The Applicant submits an application for Citizenship as described in Article 3.1 and meets the Citizenship criteria set out in Section 61 of the *Constitution*, and:
 - resides outside of the Historic Métis Homeland,
 - is endorsed by a MNBC Métis Chartered Community, and
 - can demonstrate an immediate family tie to a Métis Citizen in British Columbiais eligible to apply for MNBC Citizenship, if:
 - 3.1.3 The Applicant expressly holds themselves out to be Métis in the Chartered Community and/or within the jurisdiction of the MNBC”; and
- B. In Article 3.2, strike the words “Articles 3.1., 3.1.1 and 3.1.2” and insert “Articles 3.1.1, or 3.1.2, and 3.1.3” in their place so that the Article will read as follows:
 - “3.2 Once the Citizenship Authority is satisfied that the Applicant has met the conditions in Articles 3.1, 3.1.1 or 3.1.2, and 3.1.3, the Citizenship Authority may issue the Applicant notification of Chartered Community acceptance not exceeding 90 days, and then issue a Métis Nation British Columbia Citizenship Card.”

CARRIED (MNGA2303-07)

(35 delegates voted in favour, 0 opposed and 4 abstained)

Health Break

The MNGA recessed at 12:35 p.m. and reconvened at 1:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL - QUORUM CONFIRMED

The MNGA Clerk confirmed that quorum was achieved.

NEW BUSINESS

7.0 RESOLUTION 1 - 2SLGBTQQIA+ Act

Related information (displayed and distributed in the Agenda package): "Resolution 1 – 2SLGBTQQIA+ Act" submitted by the Region 1 Director and dated June 12, 2023

The MNGA Clerk read aloud the displayed resolution and confirmed that at least 75% of the eligible voting delegates were required to vote in favour, for the resolution to be duly ratified.

It was MOVED (Patrick Harriott) and SECONDED (Pheb Goulet)

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 (MNGA) 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 British Columbia (MNBC) region;
- B. The attached 2SLGBTQQIA+ Act (attached as "Appendix B²") be adopted as presented, and enacted as the governing legislation for the purpose stated in "B", above, for the MNBC;
- C. MNBC 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.";

² The draft "2SLGBTQQIA+ Act" is attached as "Appendix B"

- 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 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 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 it 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 2SLGBTQQA+ 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 2SLGBTQQA+ 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 2SLGBTQQA+ 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 2SLGBTQQA+ Provincial Governance Council";

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

F. That the *Métis Nation Governing Assembly Act* (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 2SLGBTQQA+ 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 2SLGBTQQA+ 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 2SLGBTQQA+ Provincial Governance Council."

Amendment to the Main Resolution

It was MOVED (Shaughn Davoren) and SECONDED (Patrick Harriott)

That the Main Resolution be amended, as follows:

- Amend Article 3.1a) of the *Métis Nation Governing Assembly Act*, to strike the word "and" following the words "Métis Women of British Columbia Chairperson", and insert a comma in

its place, and add “, and the Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” following the words “MYBC Chairperson”, so that it will read:

“The MNBC Executive as represented by the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary; plus the Regional Directors, Métis Women of British Columbia Chairperson, MYBC Chairperson, and the Chairperson for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governing Council”; and

- Include a 2SLGBTQQIA+ Representative on the MNBC Board of Directors and in all other MNBC legislation, accordingly.

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (MNGA2303-08)

Amendment to the Main Resolution

It was MOVED (Caitlin Bird) and SECONDED (Pixie Wells)

That the Main Resolution be further amended, as follows:

- Amend the *Métis Nation British Columbia Constitution* (the “*Constitution*”):
 - Amend Article 12 of the *Constitution*, by inserting the words “the elected Representative for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” before the words “the President and the Vice-President”; change all instances of “elected representative” to “elected Chairperson”; and strike the words “eleven (11)” and insert the words “twelve (12)” in its place, so that Article 12 will read:

“Subject to the provisions of Article 46, the MNBC shall be comprised of the seven (7) Elected Regional Directors, the elected Chairperson for the Métis Women of British Columbia, the elected Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, the elected Chairperson for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council, the President and Vice-President for a total of twelve (12) Members”;
 - Insert a new Article 23.6 in the *Constitution*, as follows: “23.6 They are no longer the Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.”;
 - Insert a new Article 39 in the *Constitution*, as follows: “39. Any Métis citizen who self-identifies as 2SLGBTQQIA+ and is of eighteen (18) years of age or older may vote or seek elected office for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.”;
 - Amend Article 41 of the *Constitution*, by striking the word “and” following the words “Métis Women of British Columbia”, and inserting the words “and the Chairperson for that 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” at the end of the article, so that it will read:

“The President and the Vice-President of the MNBC, the Chairperson for the Métis Women of British Columbia, the Chairperson for the Métis Youth of British Columbia, and the Chairperson for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council, of the Métis Nation British Columbia shall be elected by a province-wide ballot.”;
 - Insert a new Article 46.3 in the *Constitution*, as follows: “46.3 In the case of a vacancy in the position of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council Chairperson, an interim chairperson will be recommended to the MNGA by the Board of Directors on the advice of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council”;
- Amend the *Métis Nation Electoral Act* (the “*Electoral Act*”):
 - Amend Article 3.4 of the *Electoral Act*, by striking the word “and” following the words

“Métis Women of British Columbia”, and inserting “, and the Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council;” at the end of the article, so that it will read:

“Board of Directors” means the governing body of the MNBC made up of the President, Vice-President, the Regional Directors, the Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia, the Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, and the Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council”;

- Amend Article 8.4 of the *Electoral Act*, by striking the word “and” following the word “Métis Youth of British Columbia” and the words “the follow” at the end of the Article, and inserting “, and Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” following the words “Métis Women of British Columbia”, so that it will read:

“All nominations for the positions of President, Vice-President, Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia, and Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council shall include:”;

- Insert a new Article 8.4e in the *Electoral Act*, as follows: “A minimum of ten (10) original signatures of 2SLGBTQQIA+ electors who reside in the Province of British Columbia, who are not signatories of another Candidate’s nomination papers for the same position and who are eligible to vote in the Election at which the Candidate seeks to be nominated for the chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.”;
- Amend Article 8.6 of the *Electoral Act*, by striking the word “or” following the words “Métis Youth of British Columbia” and the words “the following” at the end of the Article, and adding “, or Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” to the end of the article, so that it will read:

“A Candidate may not accept a nomination for more than one position on the MNBC Board of Directors, the Métis Youth of British Columbia, the Métis Women of British Columbia, or the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.”;

- Amend Article 13.1 of the *Electoral Act*, by striking the word “or” following the words “Métis Youth of British Columbia” and the words “the following” at the end of the Article, and adding “, or Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” following the words “Métis Women of British Columbia” so that it will read:

“If a Candidate for the position of President, Vice-President, Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia, or Chairperson 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”;

- Amend Article 38.2a of the *Electoral Act*, by striking the word “or” following the words “Métis Women of British Columbia”, and adding “or the Chairperson 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 President, Vice President, Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia, Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, or the Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council”;

- Amend Article 38.2b of the *Electoral Act*, by striking the word “or” following the words

“Métis Women of British Columbia”, and adding “or Regional Representative of the 2SLGBTQIA+ 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 2SLGBTQIA+ Provincial Governance Council”;

- Renumber all Articles and sub-Articles of the *Electoral Act* accordingly;
- Amend the *Bylaws of Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia* (the “MPCBC Bylaws”):
 - Amend Article 1 of the *MPCBC Bylaws*, by adding “the 2SLGBTQIA+ Provincial Governance Council Representative/ Chairperson” following the words “Métis Youth Provincial Representative” to the definition “Board or Board of Directors”, so that it will read:

“Board” or “Board of Directors” means the Directors of the Métis Nation British Columbia (the “MNBC”) which are the MNBC President; Vice-President; Métis Women’s Provincial Representative; the Métis Youth Provincial Representative; the 2SLGBTQIA+ Provincial Governance Council Representative/Chairperson; and the Regional Directors”;
 - Amend Article 4.8c) of the *MPCBC Bylaws*, by inserting “or is no longer the Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” at the end of the Article, so that it will read:

“ceases to be the President of the MNBC, or is no longer the Vice-President of the MNBC, or is no longer a Regional Director of the MNBC, or is no longer the Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia or is no longer the Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia or is no longer the Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.”;
- Amend the *Métis Nation Governing Assembly Act* (the “MNGA Act”)
 - Amend Article 2.16 of the *MNGA Act*, by striking the word “and” following the words “Métis Women of British Columbia”, striking the acronym “BCMUYC” and inserting “MYBC” in its place; and adding “, and the Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” following the current acronym “BCMUYC” (revised to “MYBC”) so that Article 2.16 will read “or is no longer the Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” at the end of the Article, so that it 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 , Chairperson of the MYBC, and Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQIA+ Provincial Governance Council, and which, represents the Métis Citizens and for the purpose of this Act will be referred to as the MNBC.”

CARRIED (MNGA2303-09)

(28 delegates voted in favour, 10 opposed and 1 abstained)

Question on the Main Resolution as Amended

The question was called on the Main Resolution as amended, and it was

CARRIED (MNGA2303-10)

(36 delegates voted in favour, 0 opposed and 2 abstained)

Resolution 1 as amended, now reads:

“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 British Columbia region;
- B.** The attached 2SLGBTQQIA+ Act (attached as “Appendix B”) be adopted as presented, and enacted as the governing legislation for the purpose stated in “A”, above, for the Métis Nation 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 12, insert the words “the elected Representative for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” before the words “the President and the Vice-President”; change all instances of “elected representative” to “elected Chairperson”; and strike the words “eleven (11)” and insert the words “twelve (12)” in its place, so that it will read:

“12. Subject to the provisions of Article 46, the MNBC shall be comprised of the seven (7) Elected Regional Directors, the elected Chairperson for the Métis Women of British Columbia, the elected Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, the elected Chairperson for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council, the President and Vice-President for a total of twelve (12) Members.”
 - b.** Insert a new Article 23.6 as follows: “23.6 They are no longer the Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.”
 - c.** 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.”;

- d. Insert a new Article 34.7 as follows: “34.7 They are no longer the Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.”;
 - e. Add new Article 39 as follows: “39. Any Métis citizen who self-identifies as 2SLGBTQQIA+ and is of eighteen (18) years of age or older may vote or seek elected office for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.”
 - f. In Article 41, strike the word “and” following the words “Métis Women of British Columbia”, and insert the words “and the Chairperson for that 2sLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” at the end of the article, so that it will read:

“The President and the Vice-President of the MNBC, the Chairperson for the Métis Women of British Columbia, the Chairperson for the Métis Youth of British Columbia, and the Chairperson for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council of the Métis Nation British Columbia shall be elected by a province-wide ballot.”;
 - g. Add the following as Article 46.3: “46.3 In the case of a vacancy in the position of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council Chairperson, an interim chairperson will be recommended to the MNGA by the Board of Directors on the advice of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council”;
 - h. 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.”;
 - i. 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.”;
 - j. 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 3.4, strike the word “and” following the words “Métis Women of British Columbia”, and insert “, and the Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council;” at the end of the article, so that it will read:

“**Board of Directors**” means the governing body of the MNBC made up of the President, Vice-President, the Regional Directors, the Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia, the Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, and the Chairperson

of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council;

- b. 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*”;

- c. 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”;

- d. 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*.”;

- e. 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 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.”

Provincial Governance Council of British Columbia.”;

- f. 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*.”;
- g. 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+.”;
- h. 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.”;
- i. 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.”;
- j. 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.”;
- k. 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.”;

- l.** 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.”;

- m.** 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.”

- n.** 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”;

- o.** 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:”;

- p.** In Article 8.4, strike the word “and” following the word “Métis Youth of British Columbia” and the words “the follow” at the end of the Article, and insert “, and Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” following the words “Métis Women of British Columbia”, so that it will read:

“All nominations for the positions of President, Vice-President, Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia, and Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council shall include:”;

- q.** Add the following as Article 8.4e:

“e. A minimum of ten (10) original signatures of 2SLGBTQQIA+ electors who reside in the Province of British Columbia, who are not signatories of another Candidate’s nomination

papers for the same position and who are eligible to vote in the Election at which the Candidate seeks to be nominated for the chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.”;

- r. 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.”;

- s. In Article 8.6, 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 Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” to the end of the article, so that it will read:

“A Candidate may not accept a nomination for more than one position on the MNBC Board of Directors, the Métis Youth of British Columbia, the Métis Women of British Columbia, or the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.”;

- t. 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.”

- u. In Article 13.1, 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 Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” following the words “Métis Women of British Columbia” so that it will read:

“If a Candidate for the position of President, Vice-President, Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia, or Chairperson 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.”;

- v. 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.”;

- w. 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.”;

- x. In Article 38.2a, strike the word “or” following the words “Métis Women of British Columbia”, and add “or the Chairperson 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 President, Vice President, Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia, Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, or the Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council”;

- y. In Article 38.2b, 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”;

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

F. That the *Métis Nation Governing Assembly Act* be amended as follows:

- a. In Article 2.16, strike the acronym “BCMUYC” and insert “MYBC” in its place; and, insert “, and the Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” following the above-noted acronym, 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, Chairperson of the MYBC, and Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council 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.”;
- G.** That the *Bylaws of the Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia* be amended as follows:
- a. In Article 1, Add “the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council Representative/Chairperson” following the words “Métis Youth Provincial Representative” to the definition “Board or Board of Directors”, so that it will read:

“**Board**” or “**Board of Directors**” means the Directors of the Métis Nation British Columbia (the “MNBC”) which are the MNBC President; Vice-President; Métis Women’s Provincial Representative; the Métis Youth Provincial Representative; the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council Representative/Chairperson; and the Regional Directors.”;
 - b. In Article 4.8c), Insert “or is no longer the Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” at the end of the Article, so that it will read:

“c) ceases to be the President of the MNBC, or is no longer the Vice-President of the MNBC, or is no longer a Regional Director of the MNBC, or is no longer the Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia, or is no longer the Chairperson of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council;”.

Health Break

The MNGA recessed at 3:20 p.m. and reconvened at 3:25 p.m.

ROLL CALL - QUORUM CONFIRMED

The MNGA Clerk confirmed that quorum was achieved.

6. RESOLUTION 2 – Ensuring Representation for Women and Youth at the MNGA and Regional Governance Councils

Related information (displayed and distributed in the Agenda package): “Resolution 2 – Ensuring Representation for Women and Youth at the MNGA and Regional Governance Councils” submitted by the South Okanagan Similkameen Métis Association and dated October 23, 2023

The MNGA Clerk read aloud the displayed resolution and confirmed that at least 75% of the eligible voting delegates were required to vote in favour, for the resolution to be duly ratified.

It was MOVED (Jamie-Lee Keith) and SECONDED (Tyler Massee)

WHEREAS:

- A.** Chartered Community Presidents constitute a majority of the membership of Regional Governance Councils (RGCs) and the Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA);
- B.** In the event a Community President cannot attend an RGC or MNGA Meeting, the Vice-

President may attend in their place;

- C. Chartered Community Presidents and Vice-Presidents are leaders in their community, and as such may also hold elected Regional positions; and
- D. If a President or Vice-President is also an elected Regional representative, reduction of representation at an RGC or MNGA for groups such as women and youth may be negatively impacted;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. The following be added as Article 12.1 to the *Métis Nation British Columbia Constitution*:
“12.1 While serving in one of the positions noted in Article 12, a member of the MNBC may not hold a position on a Chartered Community Board.”
- B. The following be added as Article 8.10 to the *Métis Nation Electoral Act*:
“8.10 Upon election as a Regional Women’s or Youth Representative, a Citizen who holds any elected position on a Chartered Community Board must immediately resign from the position(s) on the Chartered Community Board.”
- C. The following be added as a sub-Article to Article 5.4 of the *Métis Nation Women’s Act*:
“Upon election as a Regional Women’s Representative, a Citizen who holds any elected position on a Chartered Community Board must immediately resign from the position(s) on the Chartered Community Board.”
- D. The following be added as a sub-Article to Article 5.5 of the *Métis Nation Youth Act*:
“Upon election as a Regional Youth Representative, a Citizen who holds any elected position on a Chartered Community Board must immediately resign from the position(s) on the Chartered Community Board.”

Resolution to Postpone

It was MOVED (Pixie Wells) and SECONDED (Nicole Courson)

That the Métis Nation British Columbia Métis Nation Governing Assembly postpone consideration of Resolution 2, to December 3, 2023.

DEFEATED

(4 delegates voted in favour, 33 opposed and 1 abstained)

Question on the Main Resolution

The question was called on the Main Resolution and it was

DEFEATED

(8 delegates voted in favour, 27 opposed and 4 abstained)

7. RESOLUTION 3 – Provincial Youth Chair — Clarification of Candidate Qualifications

Related information (displayed and distributed in the Agenda package): “Resolution 3 – Provincial Youth Chair – Clarification of Candidate Qualifications” submitted by the Salmon Arm Métis Association and dated October 20, 2023

The MNGA Clerk read aloud the displayed resolution and confirmed that at least 75% of the eligible voting delegates were required to vote in favour, for the resolution to be duly ratified.

It was MOVED (David Allard) and SECONDED (Shaughn Davoren)

WHEREAS:

- A. Legislative provisions require vigilant review to ensure they are correctly stated and written in unambiguous language;
- B. Article 23.6 of the *Métis Nation British Columbia Constitution* (the “*Constitution*”) stipulates a minimum age of 18 years to hold a position on the MNBC Board of Directors, and this age restriction is not mentioned in the *Métis Nation Electoral Act* (the “*Electoral Act*”) or the *Constitution* under candidate qualifications for positions within Métis Youth of British Columbia (MYBC), which includes the office of Chairperson of the MYBC; and
- C. Prospective candidates for this office should be clearly aware of the candidate qualifications for this office;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. The following text be added to Article 8.3 c) of the *Electoral Act*:
 - “c. Any Métis citizen who is between fifteen (15) years of age and thirty (30) years of age may seek elected office within the Métis Youth of British Columbia (MYBC), except for the office of Chairperson of the MYBC;
 - d. Any Métis Citizen who is between eighteen (18) years of age and thirty (30) years of age may seek the elected office of Chairperson of the MYBC.”;
- B. The following be added to Article 38 of the *Constitution*:
 - “38. 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 (MYBC), except for the office of Chairperson of the MYBC;
 - 38.1 Any Métis Citizen who is between eighteen (18) years of age and thirty (30) years of age may seek the elected office of Chairperson of the MYBC.”

CARRIED (MNGA2303-11)

(36 delegates voted in favour, 0 opposed and 2 abstained)

ASSEMBLY ADJOURNED

The MNBC MNGA scheduled December 2 to 3, 2023, adjourned on December 2, 2023 at 4:25 p.m.

DAY TWO – December 3, 2023

ASSEMBLY RECONVENED – CALL TO ORDER

The MNBC MNGA scheduled December 2-3, 2023, reconvened on December 3, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL - QUORUM CONFIRMED

The MNGA Clerk confirmed that quorum was achieved.

Point of Order

A Point of Order was raised regarding a potential contravention of *MNGA Act* Article 2.6 – “Conflict of Interest”. Discussion ensued regarding a member who was previously registered as a Director of another Métis organization, whose interests conflicted with the interests of the MNBC’s. After discussing the

proposed resolution, a suggestion to “withdraw” was raised, but unanimous consent to proceed, was not achieved.

It was MOVED (Louis De Jaeger) and SECONDED (Raynie Gervais)

That the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA) directs that, due to her role on another Métis board not affiliated with the MNBC, Melanie Allard, Vice-President, Two Rivers Métis Society, is determined by the MNGA to be in a conflict of interest (in accordance with MNBC Bylaw Article 2.6 – “Conflict of Interest”) and is temporarily suspended from the MNGA until the March 2024, MNGA.

DEFEATED

(0 delegates voted in favour, 37 opposed and 4 abstained)

Health Break

The Assembly recessed at 10:20 a.m. and reconvened at 10:30 a.m. (approximately)

ROLL CALL - QUORUM CONFIRMED

The MNGA Clerk confirmed that quorum was achieved.

It was MOVED (Tony Goulet) and SECONDED (Louis De Jaeger)

That the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA) refers Articles 2.6 and 3.4 of the *MNGA Act*, Article 8.7 of the *Métis Nation Electoral Act* and any other applicable MNBC legislation to the MNGA Governance Committee, to clarify “What constitutes a conflict of interest for MNGA members and candidates in MNBC Elections” and to develop a fulsome process regarding suspending a member under Article 3.4 of the *MNGA Act*.

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (MNGA2303-12)

Agenda Resumed

Consideration of the Agenda resumed.

8. RESOLUTION 4 – Constitutional Clarifications

Related information (displayed and distributed in the Agenda package): “Resolution 4 – Constitutional Clarifications” submitted by the South Okanagan Similkameen Métis Association and dated October 23, 2023

The MNGA Clerk read aloud the displayed resolution and confirmed that at least 75% of the eligible voting delegates were required to vote in favour, for the resolution to be duly ratified.

It was MOVED (Jamie-Lee Keith) and SECONDED (Wendy Schneider)

WHEREAS:

- A.** Legislative provisions require vigilant review to ensure that they are correctly stated and written in unambiguous language; and
- B.** In the event an error or inconsistency is discovered the error must be rectified as a housekeeping matter;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The *Métis Nation British Columbia Constitution* be amended as follows:

- A. Insert the words “AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS” in the title “MÉTIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA (MNBC)” so that it will read “MÉTIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA (MNBC) AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS”;
- B. Strike the word “MNBC” from Articles 12, 14 to 16, 18 to 27, 36, 41 to 45, 47, 51, 54, 67, 71, and insert “Board of Directors” in its place;
- C. In Article 17, strike the first instance of “MNBC and insert “Board of Directors” in its place;
- D. In Article 46: strike first instance of “MNBC” and insert “Board of Directors” in its place; and delete the second instance of “MNBC”;
- E. In Article 59, strike the second, fourth, and fifth instances of “MNBC” and insert “Board of Directors” in its place; and
- F. In Article 60: Strike all instances of “of the MNBC”.

CARRIED (MNGA2303-13)

(38 delegates voted in favour, 0 opposed and 2 abstained)

9. RESOLUTION 5 — MYBC Representation at Regional Governance Councils

Related information (displayed and distributed in the Agenda package): “Resolution 5 – MYBC Representation at Regional Governance Councils” submitted by the MYBC Provincial Chair and dated October 23, 2023

The MNGA Clerk read aloud the displayed resolution and confirmed that at least 75% of the eligible voting delegates were required to vote in favour, for the resolution to be duly ratified.

It was MOVED (Shaughn Davoren) and SECONDED (Susie Hooper)

WHEREAS:

- A. It is critical that Youth voices are always at the table during discussions;
- B. In the event a Community President is unable to attend a Regional Governance Council (RGC), another member of their Board may assume their duties, so long as they are a Métis Citizen; and
- C. A Regional Youth Representative may not be available to attend all RGCs;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. The following be added at the end of Article 60.8 of the *Constitution of the Métis Nation British Columbia*:

“If a Regional Youth Representative is unable to attend an RGC meeting, that Representative may designate a Community Youth Representative to participate with voting privileges, provided they are a Métis Citizen”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (MNGA2303-14)

10. RESOLUTION 6 – MWBC Representation at the MNGA

Related information (displayed and distributed in the Agenda package): “Resolution 6 – MWBC Representation at the MNGA” submitted by the Kelowna Métis Association and dated October 23, 2023

The MNGA Clerk read aloud the displayed resolution and confirmed that at least 75% of the eligible voting delegates were required to vote in favour, for the resolution to be duly ratified.

During discussion, it was confirmed that delegates deemed eligible to attend the MNGA, were eligible to vote at the MNGA.

It was MOVED (Cheryl Dodman) and SECONDED (Pixie Wells)

WHEREAS:

- A. The Métis Women of British Columbia (MWBC) Provincial Chair, along with Chartered Community Presidents and others, are equal members of the Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA);
- B. In the event a Community President is unable to attend the MNGA, the Vice-President may attend as an alternate Community Representative; and
- C. The MWBC Provincial Chair currently has no alternate to attend the MNGA;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. The following be added as an additional sub-Article to Article 29 of the *Constitution of the Métis Nation British Columbia*:
“If the Provincial Chair of the Métis Women of British Columbia is unable to attend a Governing Assembly, the MWBC Vice-Chair may attend in their place.”;
- B. The following be added to the *Métis Nation Governing Assembly Act* before Article 3.4:
“If the Provincial Chair of the Métis Women of British Columbia is unable to attend a Governing Assembly, the MWBC Vice-Chair may attend in their place.”; and
- C. All subsequent Articles be renumbered accordingly.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (MNGA2303-15)

11. RESOLUTION 7 - MYBC Representation at the MNGA

Related information (displayed and distributed in the Agenda package): “Resolution 7 – MYBC Representation at the MNGA” submitted by the Provincial Chair and dated October 23, 2023

The MNGA Clerk read aloud the displayed resolution and confirmed that at least 75% of the eligible voting delegates were required to vote in favour, for the resolution to be duly ratified.

It was MOVED (Shaughn Davoren) and SECONDED (Topher Burke)

WHEREAS:

- A. It is critical that Youth voices are always at the table during discussions.
- B. In the event a Community President is unable to attend the Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA), the Vice-President may attend as an alternate Community Representative; and

- C. Métis Youth of British Columbia (MYBC) elects a Vice-Chair from among the elected Regional Representatives, who can assume the duties of as the Chair, if the Chair is unavailable;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. The following be added as a sub-article of Article 29 to the *Métis Nation British Columbia Constitution*:

“If the Provincial Chair of the Métis Youth of British Columbia is unable to attend a Governing Assembly, the MYBC Vice-Chair may attend in their place, or the Provincial Chair may appoint another Youth Regional Representative to attend in their place.”

- B. The following be added to the *MNGA Act* before Article 3.4:

“If the Provincial Chair of the Métis Youth of British Columbia is unable to attend a Governing Assembly, the MYBC Vice-Chair may attend in their place, or the Provincial Chair may appoint another Youth Regional Representative to attend in their place.”

- C. All subsequent Articles be renumbered accordingly.

Amendment to the Main Resolution

It was MOVED (Lissa Smith) and SECONDED (Walter Mineault)

That the Main Resolution be amended by striking the words references “or the Provincial Chair may appoint another Youth Regional Representative to attend in their place” in Sections A and B.

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (MNGA2303-16)

Amendment to the Amendment

It was MOVED (Shaughn Davoren) and SECONDED (Wendy Schneider)

That the Amendment be replaced with the words “so long as they are 18 years of age”.

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (MNGA2303-17)

Question on the Main Resolution as Amended

The question was called on the Main Resolution as amended, and it was

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (MNGA2303-18)

Resolution 7 as amended, now reads:

“WHEREAS:

- A. It is critical that Youth voices are always at the table during discussions.
- B. In the event a Community President is unable to attend the Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA), the Vice-President may attend as an alternate Community Representative; and
- C. Métis Youth of British Columbia (MYBC) elects a Vice-Chair from among the elected Regional Representatives, who can assume the duties of as the Chair, if the Chair is unavailable;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. The following be added as a sub-article of Article 29 to the *Métis Nation British Columbia Constitution*:

“If the Provincial Chair of the Métis Youth of British Columbia is unable to attend a Governing Assembly, the MYBC Vice-Chair may attend in their place, so long as they are at least 18 years of age”.

- B. The following be added to the *MNGA Act* before Article 3.4:
“If the Provincial Chair of the Métis Youth of British Columbia is unable to attend a Governing Assembly, the MYBC Vice-Chair may attend in their place, so long as they are at least 18 years of age”.
- C. All subsequent Articles be renumbered accordingly.”

12. RESOLUTION 8 - MWBC Secretary-Treasurer

Related information (displayed and distributed in the Agenda package): “Resolution 8 MWBC Secretary-Treasurer” submitted by the Kelowna Métis Association and dated October 23, 2023

The MNGA Clerk read aloud the displayed resolution and confirmed that at least 75% of the eligible voting delegates were required to vote in favour, for the resolution to be duly ratified.

It was MOVED (Cheryl Dodman) and SECONDED (Shaughn Davoren)

WHEREAS:

- A. The current *Métis Nation Women’s Act* (the “*Women’s Act*”) does not permit the appointment of a Treasurer for the MWBC; and
- B. On October 11, 2023 the Métis Women of British Columbia (MWBC) Provincial Governance Council approved the following resolution: “BE IT RESOLVED THAT the MWBC will replace the Secretary Position with the position of Secretary-Treasurer”;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. The word “Secretary” be struck from Article 5.7 of the *Women’s Act* and the word “Secretary-Treasurer” inserted in its place, so that the article will read as follows:
“5.7 The MWBC Provincial Governance Council shall elect, from among its members, a Vice-Chair, and a Secretary-Treasurer”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (MNGA2303-19)

13. RESOLUTION 9 - Updating the Youth Act

Related information (displayed and distributed in the Agenda package): “Resolution 9 – Updating the Youth Act” submitted by the MYBC Provincial Chair and dated October 23, 2023

The MNGA Clerk read aloud the displayed resolution and confirmed that at least 75% of the eligible voting delegates were required to vote in favour, for the resolution to be duly ratified.

It was MOVED (Shaughn Davoren) and SECONDED (Tyler Massee)

WHEREAS:

- A. Métis Youth of British Columbia (MYBC) has gone through many changes since the previous election; and
- B. The *Métis Nation Youth Act* (the “*Youth Act*”) is outdated and no longer reflective of how MYBC operates;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The following changes to the *Youth Act* be made:

- A. Strike all instances of “the Director of Youth” and replace with “Ministry of Youth Lead”;
- B. In Article 5.2 strike “MNGA Assembly” and “MNBC Assembly” and replace with “MNGA” and “AGM” respectively;
- C. In Article 5.5 insert “and on the MYBC Committee” so it will read, “The seven Regional Youth Representatives each shall hold voting seats on their respective Regional Governance Council and on the MYBC Committee”;
- D. Strike Article 5.7 and insert the following in its place: “The MYBC Committee shall elect, from among its members, a Vice-Chair, and may elect a secretary, and treasurer who shall be referred to as the “Executive”;
- E. In Article 5.8 insert the word “video” so it reads “Including telephone, video, or in person meetings; and
- F. Strike Article 5.10 and replace it with “The MYBC Minutes shall be retained by the Minister of Youth until the end of their term, at which point they will be transferred to the Ministry of Youth Lead”.

Amendment to the Main Resolution

It was MOVED (Patrick Harriott) and SECONDED (Louis De Jaeger)

That the Main Resolution be amended by changing the revision proposed in Section F to read: “The MYBC Minutes shall be archived in the head office of the Métis Nation British Columbia.”

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (MNGA2303-20)

Question on the Main Resolution as Amended

The question was called on the Main Resolution as amended, and it was

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (MNGA2303-21)

Resolution 9 as amended, now reads:

“WHEREAS:

- A. MYBC has gone through many changes since the previous election; and
- B. The *Métis Nation Youth Act* (the “*Youth Act*”) is outdated and no longer reflective of how MYBC operates.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The following changes to the *Youth Act* be made:

- A. Strike all instances of “the Director of Youth” and replace with “Ministry of Youth Lead”;
- B. In Article 5.2 strike “MNGA Assembly” and “MNBC Assembly” and replace with “MNGA” and “AGM” respectively;
- C. In Article 5.5 insert “and on the MYBC Committee” so it will read, “The seven Regional Youth Representatives each shall hold voting seats on their respective Regional Governance Council and on the MYBC Committee”;

- D. Strike Article 5.7 and insert the following in its place: “The MYBC Committee shall elect, from among its members, a Vice-Chair, and may elect a secretary, and treasurer who shall be referred to as the “Executive”;
- E. In Article 5.8 insert the word “video” so it reads “Including telephone, video, or in person meetings; and
- F. Strike Article 5.10 and replace it with “The MYBC Minutes shall be archived in the head office of the MNBC.”

14. UPDATE: March 2023 Resolution on “Stipend for Volunteer Community Elected Members”

An update was welcomed on the MNGA’s May 2023 Resolution MNGA2301-11, which directed the MNBC to resource administrative and operational capacity funding for all Chartered Communities; and to include the MNGA Governance Committee in the process.

During discussion, comments were offered on the MNGA Governance Committee’s consideration of Resolution MNGA2301-11, and anticipated report back to the MNGA in March 2024.

CLOSING COMMENTS

President Smith extended thanks to the Co-Chairs, Clerk, Deputy Clerk, and staff for their efforts in organizing the MNGA.

CONCLUSION

The December 2 to 3, 2023 MNBC 2023 MNGA concluded on December 3, 2023 at approximately 1:05 p.m. Senator Betty Hoogendorn offered a Closing Prayer.

* * * * *

This is a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the MNBC 2023 MNGA held December 2 to 3, 2023 and incorporates any and all corrections made at the time of adoption.

Carmen Carriere, MNGA Speaker

Dave Peltier, MNGA Deputy Speaker

John Bieker, MNGA Clerk

LIST OF APPENDICES

The following items are attached to these minutes, or may be requested through the MNGA Clerk:

Appendix A: Referenced in “Resolution A - Acceptance by MNGA of Vancouver Sea to Sky Métis Association”

Appendix B: Referenced in “Resolution 1 - 2SLGBTQIA+ Act”

APPENDIX A

MÉTIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA MÉTIS NATION GOVERNING ASSEMBLY

held December 2-3, 2023

July 2023 Resolution - Region 2 Regional Governance Council

Referenced in Resolution A - Acceptance by MNGA of Vancouver Sea to Sky Métis Association

WHEREAS:

1. The Vancouver Sea to Sky Métis Association has applied with the BC Registrar of Societies for their name and will be legally incorporating with the BC Registrar of Societies; and
2. Pursuant to Article 56 of the Constitution, the Vancouver Sea to Sky Métis Association has more than 25 Métis Citizens eighteen years of age and older who have committed to joining the community;
3. Pursuant to Article 57 of the *Constitution*, the Vancouver Sea to Sky Métis Association has committed to enter into a Community Governance Charter with MNBC; and
4. Pursuant to Article 55.1 of the *Constitution*, communities seeking chartered designation shall require written approval by motion of seventy-five percent (75%) of the Applicable Regional Governance Council (RGC) members, and such motion be submitted to the Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA) for final ratification.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. The MNBC Region 2 Regional Governance Council endorses the application of the Vancouver Sea to Sky Métis Association seeking full Chartered Community status;
- B. The Region 2 Regional Governance Council agrees and recognizes the geographical boundaries for the Vancouver Sea to Sky Métis Association as the following municipalities:

Bowen Island	Halfmoon Bay	Roberts Creek
Brackendale	Lions Bay	Sechelt
D'Arcy	Madeira Park	Squamish
Garden Bay	North Vancouver	Vancouver
Garibaldi Heights/ Highland	Pemberton	West Vancouver
Gibsons	Richmond	Whistler

- C. The Region 2 Regional Governance Council will submit a resolution to the December 2023 MNGA recommending the Vancouver Sea to Sky Métis Association to become a MNBC Chartered Community.

APPENDIX B

MÉTIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA MÉTIS NATION GOVERNING ASSEMBLY

held December 2-3, 2023

"2SLGBTQQIA+ Act"

Referenced in Resolution 1 - 2SLGBTQQIA+ Act

MÉTIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA

MÉTIS NATION 2SLGBTQQIA+ ACT

DRAFT

PREAMBLE

0.0 Mission statement of the Métis 2SLGBTQQIA+ of British Columbia:

“We, the Métis 2SLGBTQQIA+ of B.C. vow to walk with integrity as the proud Otipemisiwak (people who govern themselves) our ancestors prayed for; to elevate and center the voices of our people in the decisions that impact our nation; to foster a culture of Wahkohtowin (kinship/interconnectedness) within our Nation; and to build a future where 2SLGBTQQIA+ can thrive alongside niwahkōmāk, anak (our relatives).”

ARTICLE ONE - TITLE

1.0 This Act may be cited as the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Act (“the “Act”)

ARTICLE TWO - PURPOSE OF THE ACT

- 2.0 The purpose of this act is to entrench Métis 2SLGBTQQIA+ people living in British Columbia (the “2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council”) in the MNBC governance structure to ensure that Métis 2SLGBTQQIA+ people are represented and engaged in governance.
- 2.1 The 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council acknowledges and accepts the *MNBC Constitution* as the law governing the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council and agrees to comply with the provisions of the *MNBC Constitution* and MNBC Legislation.
- 2.2 The objective of 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council is to advance and enhance Métis 2SLGBTQQIA+ perspectives, and to acknowledge the contributions of Métis 2SLGBTQQIA+ people for the benefit of Métis people and the Métis Nation.
- 2.3 The voice of Métis 2SLGBTQQIA+ people in British Columbia shall be brought to the MNBC, Métis National Council, Women of the Métis Nation Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak, Federal and Provincial Governments, organizations, and associations through the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.

ARTICLE THREE - DEFINITIONS

- 3.0 In this Act:
- 3.1 “2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council” means the seven elected 2SLGBTQQIA+ representatives, one from each Region, and the chairperson elected from its members.
- 3.2 “Legislation” means legislative documents, laws and/or acts including amendments to existing legislative documents, laws and/or acts.
- 3.3 “Métis 2SLGBTQQIA+ person/individual” means those Métis individuals who identify as 2SLGBTQQIA+.
- 3.4 “M2SBC” Means the Métis 2SLGBTQQIA+ of British Columbia
- 3.5 “Métis Nation Governing Assembly” (MNGA) means the governing legislative body of the MNBC, as set out in the *MNBC Constitution*.

3.6 “MNBC Assembly” means MNBC Annual General Meeting (AGM).

ARTICLE FOUR - 2SLGBTQQIA+ PROVINCIAL GOVERNANCE COUNCIL

- 4.1 The 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council will be the representative body of Métis 2SLGBTQQIA+ people in British Columbia, comprised of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ the seven (7) 2SLGBTQQIA+ Regional Representatives, including the Chairperson elected from their membership.
- 4.2 The 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council will be chaired by a person elected through a majority vote of the elected Regional Representatives who will be titled the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Chairperson.
- 4.3 The Regional 2SLGBTQQIA+ Representatives will be elected by Métis 2SLGBTQQIA+ people living in their respective region in accordance with the provision of the *MNBC Electoral Act*.
- 4.4 The Director of 2SLGBTQQIA+ Equity will be an employee of Métis Nation BC who is hired or appointed as the Director of 2SLGBTQQIA+ to support and further Métis 2SLGBTQQIA+ people living in British Columbia.

ARTICLE FIVE - 2SLGBTQQIA+ PROVINCIAL GOVERNANCE COUNCIL STRUCTURE

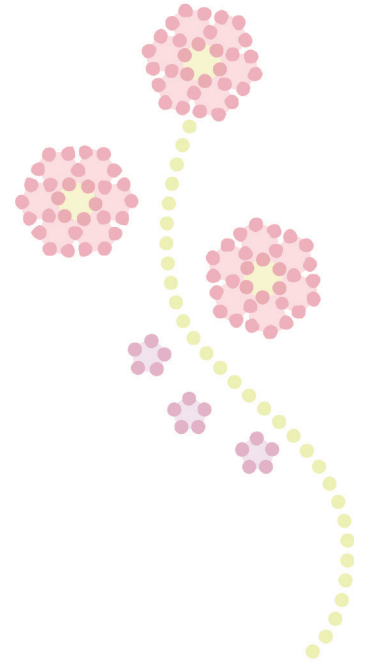
- 5.0 The 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council shall:
- 5.1 The 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council Chairperson or, in the event the Chairperson is unable to attend, an appointed representative on behalf of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council shall attend every MNGA Assembly and MNBC Assembly.
- 5.2 The Provincial 2SLGBTQQIA+ Chairperson shall provide Provincial and Federal representation and be accountable to the Provincial Governance Council and the MNBC Board of Directors.
- 5.3 The seven Regional 2SLGBTQQIA+ Representatives each shall hold voting seats on their respective Regional Governance Councils.
- 5.4 The regional 2SLGBTQQIA+ representatives will be accountable to the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council, their Regional Governance Councils and Métis citizens of BC.
- 5.5 The 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council shall hold no less than four meetings, including virtual or in person meetings, each year called by the Chairperson for 2SLGBTQQIA+ Métis People or, in the event the Chairperson for 2SLGBTQQIA+ Métis People is unwilling or unable to call a meeting shall be called by a majority vote of the members of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.
- 5.6 Quorum of the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Governance Council is a majority of currently sitting members.
- 5.7 The 2SLGBTQQIA+ Governance Council shall prepare and maintain written minutes of all in person or virtual meetings (the “2SLGBTQQIA+ Governance Council Meeting Minutes”).
- 5.8 The 2SLGBTQQIA+ Governance Council Meeting Minutes shall be retained in the office of the Director of 2SLGBTQQIA+ Equity/head office of the Métis Nation British Columbia.

- 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 processes are:
- 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*.

DRAFT



Resolutions

MOTION 1

Submitted to the March 2024 Métis Nation Governing Assembly

Subject:	Upcoming MNGA Meetings
Offices Affected:	MNGA Members
Legislative Requirement:	Constitution
Submitted to:	MNGA Clerk
Date Submitted:	January 31, 2023
Vote required for Approval:	Majority

WHEREAS:

1. The Constitution requires that the MNGA meet at least three times per year, once in person and twice virtually; and,
2. The Constitution further requires that the MNGA determine the dates for the next MNGA at a previous MNGA.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. The MNGA meet on the following days, as indicated in the table below:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Meeting type</u>
June 1-2, 2024	Virtual
November 30-December 1, 2024	Virtual
February 28 - March 2, 2025	In Person

MOTION 2

Submitted to the March 2024 Métis Nation Governing Assembly

Subject:	Establishment of 2024 Election Date
Offices Affected:	MNBC Board of Directors, Métis Women of British Columbia Provincial Governance Council, Métis Youth BC Committee, and Regional Governance Councils
Legislative Requirement:	Constitution, Electoral Act, MNGA Act
Submitted to:	MNGA Clerk
Date Submitted:	January 31, 2023
Vote Required for Approval:	Majority

WHEREAS:

1. The last general election for MNBC was held on September 23, 2020A
2. Article 42 of the Constitution requires that elections for the MNBC shall be held once every four (4) years on any date within six (6) months prior to the four-year anniversary, meaning that a general election for MNBC is required to be held anytime between March 21, 2024 and September 21, 2024; and
3. Article 12.1 of the MNGA Act empowers the MNGA to set the date of the next MNBC election, and Article 4 of the Electoral Act allows for Election dates to be set by the MNGA in conjunction with the terms outlined in the Constitution;
4. Article 8.1 of the Electoral Act requires the Chief Electoral Officer to give 60 days' notice of the elections, meaning that once the Chief Electoral Officer is appointed, the earliest time that a general election could be held is 60 days after the notice is given.
5. The next BC Provincial Election is scheduled for October 19, 2024, and the writ is scheduled to drop on September 21, 2024.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. To meet the terms of MNBC legislation related to Elections, and to reduce the impact of the scheduled Provincial Election, the MNBC General Election be held on **MONTH DAY**, 2024.

MOTION 3

**Submitted to the March 2024
Métis Nation Governing Assembly**

Subject:	Appointment of Chief Electoral Officer
Offices Affected:	MNBC Board of Directors, Métis Women of British Columbia Provincial Governance Council, Métis Youth BC Committee, and Regional Governance Councils
Legislative Requirement:	Constitution, Electoral Act, MNGA Act
Submitted to:	MNGA Clerk
Date Submitted:	January 31, 2023
Vote Required for Approval:	Majority

WHEREAS:

1. The last general election for MNBC was held on September 23, 2020;
2. Article 42 of the *Constitution* requires that elections for the MNBC shall be held once every four (4) years on any date within six (6) months prior to the four-year anniversary, meaning that a general election for MNBC is required to be held anytime between March 21, 2024 and September 21, 2024; and
3. Article 3.7 of the *Electoral Act* provides for the appointment of the Chief Electoral Officer by the MNGA following a request for proposals and a short listing of potential contractors by MNBC;
4. MNBC issued a public request for proposals (RFP), and received three proposals in return, one of which did not meet the requirements set out in the RFP.
5. Pursuant to the *Electoral Act*, the MNBC Board of Directors will review the proposals at its February 28, 2024, meeting and shortlist the contractor candidates.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. The MNGA members select one of the contractors shortlisted by the MNBC Board of Directors to be appointed the Chief Electoral Officer for the 2024-2028 period, with the appointment effective March 8, 2024.



Elections Services Proposal

RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER –
MÉTIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA PROVINCIAL ELECTION 2024

December 18, 2024

OneFeather

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

METIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA

#380 – 13401 108 Ave
Surrey, B.C. V3T 5T3

Submitted via Email to Nicole Ludwig <nludwig@mnbc.ca>

RFP RESPONSE: CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER – MNBC PROVINCIAL ELECTION 2024.

My name is Lawrence Lewis ("Kla'Leese"), a proud member of the We Wai Kai Nation from Vancouver Island. With over three decades of experience in Indigenous community development, governance, and business, I have founded and now lead OneFeather.

OneFeather is a company that stands at the intersection of tradition and innovation, deeply rooted in empowering the Indigenous communities of Canada in the digital age. Our mission goes beyond providing technological solutions; we envision a future where Indigenous sovereignty is recognized and embraced in the digital realm. We are not only the largest voting event service provider and leading electronic/digital voting solution for Indigenous communities (270+) across Canada, OneFeather is also the trusted center for digital Indigenous sovereign identity - ensuring that our Indigenous peoples' voices are heard and acknowledged.

Please accept this package as our proposal for contract position of Chief Electoral Officer for the 2024 Métis Nation British Columbia Provincial Election (the "VOTE") pursuant to and in accordance with the Metis Nation Electoral Act (the "RULES").

My direct line is [REDACTED] (please feel free to text or call anytime) or via email at [REDACTED]

Gila'kasla,



Lawrence Lewis, Chief Electoral Officer
OneFeather Founder & CEO

SCHEDULE ‘A’ – ONEFEATHERS PROPOSAL

<u>SUBMITTED BY:</u>	Lawrence Lewis, CERTIFIED ELECTORAL OFFICER DBA: OneFeather (OneFeather Mobile Technologies Ltd). 209 – 852 Fort Street, Victoria BC V8W 1H8 250-384-8200 (office) 250-384-5416 (fax) lawrence@onefeather.ca www.onefeather.ca
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ELECTION SERVICES TEAM

- Lawrence Lewis, Chief Electoral Officer
- Heather McGuire, Head of Election Services
- Randi Russel, Client Project Manager
- Sarah McIlmoyl, Elections Operations Manager
- Delaney Barlow, Voter Support Manager
- Jordan Loose, Electoral Officer
- Jerret Taylor, Chief Technical Officer
- Blair Brooks, Development Team Lead

STATEMENT OF EXPERIENCE

OneFeather is very familiar with the MNBC leadership vote processes, procedures, and requirements. We have successfully completed the following voting events for MNBC pursuant to and in accordance with the governing RULES as the sole contractor responsible:

- MNBC General Election September 2020
- MNBC General By Election December 2021
- MNBC General By Election April 2022
- MNBC General By Election September 2022

OneFeather has conducted hundreds of voting events of all types including Leadership Elections, Land Code Votes, major Settlement Votes with Canada, Land Designations, modern Treaty Votes, and Referendums of all sorts, and is the largest full service First Nation Electoral Office & Vote Management service in Canada.

OneFeather’s certified election staff have a combined 50+ years experience with Indigenous elections. In addition, OneFeather has a 24/7 dedicated online support portal, toll free telephone number and client specific web access support ensuring your members, candidates, and administration are provided the best possible service and care during your voting event. Finally, our electronic voting solutions is most widely used across Canada, with built in reporting, verification and audit capabilities. In 2022, over 50,000 electronic ballots were cast across 300 different voting events.

During the [MNBC General By Election \(September 2022\)](#) nearly 60% of all voters cast their ballot electronically using OneFeather.

Presently OneFeather works with over 270 First Nations across the country.

For more information and to see the active voting events presently under our care and attention – please visit:
<https://onefeather.ca/elections>

STATEMENT OF RESOURCES REQUIRED

OneFeather will provide all the physical and human resources required, and as specifically stated in this proposal to complete successfully in all manner and aspect of Electoral Officer Services for the 2024 Métis Nation British Columbia Provincial Election (the “VOTE”) pursuant to and in accordance with the Metis Nation Electoral Act (the “RULES”). Any software or intellectual material required and used will be done so in accordance with the rightful owner’s permission, license, or other requirement to the satisfaction of the rightful owner.

KEY DELIVERABLES

Based on our review of the RULES and 2024RFP-01 documentation, we understand the key deliverables to be:

1. **Election Administration and Supervision:** Oversee and manage the election operations in accordance with the MNBC Electoral Act and other relevant rules.
2. **Candidate Nomination Process:** Administer and supervise the nomination process, including certification of final candidates lists and ensuring their posting at MNBC community offices.
3. **Voter List Management:** Prepare, print, and distribute the list of electors. This includes obtaining the official voters list from MNBC and ensuring its accuracy.
4. **Voting System Management:** Set up and manage a hybrid voting system, including online balloting and mail-in ballots. This may also involve conducting in-person balloting at the discretion of the Chief Electoral Officer.
5. **Election Materials Preparation and Distribution:** Handle purchasing, posting, printing, assembly, and delivery of election materials.
6. **Polling Place Management:** Rent appropriate rooms for polling places on Election Day and ensure they are properly resourced.
7. **Communication and Support Services:** Provide a 1-800 telephone number and email account for citizen inquiries, along with facilitating virtual town hall meetings.
8. **Ballot Counting and Results Announcement:** Count ballots, reconcile votes, certify results, and announce the election outcomes.
9. **Recounts and By-Elections Management:** Handle any recounts or by-elections that may be required following the main election.
10. **Election Reporting:** Prepare a final report detailing the election process and results, including any certified documents.
11. **Additional Engagement Services:** Create a web portal for electors, provide SMS text messaging service, and offer live chat support for effective communication.
12. **Compliance and Transparency:** Conduct all election-related activities with high professional and ethical standards, ensuring transparency and fairness.

SPECIFIC PROJECT VARIABLES – NOT CLEARLY DEFINED IN THE RFP DOCUMENT

The items below are not clearly defined in the RFP document and therefore are difficult to estimate time, equipment, people and resources within a definitive statement of work (SOW). Once these items are determined we will be able to provide a more precise budget and work plan (SOW).

Item 1

Election Date: TBD (2024 MNGA - March)

Item 2

Summary of Polling Station Requirements

1. **Number of Polling Stations:** The exact total number of polling stations required is not explicitly stated in the provided documents. The number of stations is likely determined based on the estimated number of eligible voters, geographic distribution, and the logistics of ensuring accessible and efficient voting for all electors.

2. **Location Requirements:**

- Polling stations must be in locations convenient for the electors, as determined by the Chief Electoral Officer.
- They should not be located in premises where alcohol or spirits are served or in places where a candidate has an interest.
- Every effort should be made to ensure that polling stations are accessible to persons with disabilities.

3. **Applicable Dates:**

- **Election Day Polling:** Polling stations will operate on the Election Day itself, which is to be determined by the Métis Nation Governing Assembly in March 2024 and will likely be in autumn 2024, no later than September 21, 2024.
- Polling hours are from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM, as per the local time zone.
- **Advance Polling:** At least one advance poll must be established. The exact date(s) and hours for advance polls are determined by the Chief Electoral Officer but will be for at least four consecutive hours between 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM on the day(s) they are scheduled.

4. **Optional Polling Stations:**

- **Mobile Polling Stations:** These may be established for communities and operate as advance polls.
- **Chartered Communities Request:** Communities can request a secured ballot box for mail-in ballots. The Chief Electoral Officer decides the closure date of the ballot box and when the ballots must be sent.

5. **Online and Mail-In Voting:**

- In addition to physical polling stations, the election will also utilize online voting and mail-in ballots, reducing the sole dependency on physical locations.

Item 3

Managing secure mail-in ballot boxes in Chartered Communities – we would propose the following general approach.

1. Request Phase

Communication of Availability and Process

- **Notify Chartered Communities:** Inform them about the option to request a secure mail-in ballot box and provide detailed instructions on how to make the request.
 - **Establish Deadline for Requests:** Set a clear deadline for communities to submit their requests for a ballot box.
- Receipt and Approval of Requests*
- **Review Requests:** Assess each request from Chartered Communities for a secure mail-in ballot box.
 - **Approval Notification:** Communicate approval of the requests and any necessary instructions or conditions.

2. Distribution and Setup Phase

Preparation of Ballot Boxes

- **Procurement and Preparation:** Ensure each approved community receives a secure, non-transparent, and durable ballot box along with appropriate seals.
 - **Instructional Materials:** Provide guidelines on the setup, security, and handling of the ballot box.
- Delivery to Chartered Communities*
- **Coordinate Delivery:** Arrange for secure delivery of ballot boxes to the respective communities.
 - **Confirmation of Receipt:** Obtain confirmation from each community upon the receipt of their ballot box.

3. Voting Period

Monitoring and Support

- **Ongoing Communication:** Maintain regular contact with the communities to address any issues or questions regarding the ballot box.
- **Security Compliance:** Ensure each community understands and adheres to security measures for handling the ballot box.

Guidance on Ballot Collection

- **Instructions for Mail-In Ballots:** Provide clear instructions on collecting and securing mail-in ballots within the ballot box.
- **Record Keeping:** Instruct communities to maintain a log for received ballots for tracking purposes.

4. Post-Voting Collection and Return Phase

Coordination of Ballot Box Return

- **Establish Return Process:** Define procedures for the secure return of ballot boxes, including deadlines.
- **Courier Services:** If necessary, arrange for secure courier services to collect ballot boxes from communities.

Receiving and Security Checks

- **Receive Ballot Boxes:** Collect all ballot boxes from the communities at a central location.
- **Verification:** Verify the seals and overall integrity of each ballot box upon receipt.

5. Counting and Reconciliation Phase

Ballot Counting

- **Secure Counting Environment:** Ensure ballots are counted in a secure and monitored environment.
- **Transparency and Fairness:** Invite scrutineers or observers, as per the Electoral Act, to the counting process for transparency.

Record Reconciliation

- **Compare Logs:** Reconcile the received ballots with the logs maintained by the communities.
- **Report Discrepancies:** Document and address any discrepancies in ballot numbers or handling.

6. Reporting and Documentation

Document Handling Process

- **Record Keeping:** Document the entire process of managing the mail-in ballots from Chartered Communities, from request to final counting.

- **Feedback and Evaluation:** Collect feedback from communities on the process for future improvements.

Final Report Inclusion

- **Election Report:** Include a section in the final election report detailing the management of mail-in ballots from Chartered Communities, emphasizing compliance, security, and transparency.

GENERAL TIMELINE

For demonstration purposes the following section anticipates an Official Vote date: September 10, 2024 (we understand that this date is yet to be officially set at this time).

Based on the provided information (RFP and Election Act) and setting September 10, 2024, as the Election Day, the following timeline outlines key milestones and events for the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) voting event:

Pre-Election Phase (Up to July 2024)

- **Chief Electoral Officer Appointment** (Completed by March 8, 2024)
 - **Action:** MNBC finalizes the appointment of the Chief Electoral Officer.
- **Development of Election Strategy and Infrastructure Assessment** (To be completed by April 30, 2024)
 - **Action:** Chief Electoral Officer develops an election strategy, assesses infrastructure for online and mail-in voting, and begins stakeholder engagement.

Nomination and Voter Preparation Phase (May - July 2024)

- **Voter Registration Verification** (To be completed by June 30, 2024)
 - **Action:** Chief Electoral Officer verifies the voter list in collaboration with MNBC.
- **Opening of Candidate Nominations** (To start on July 27, 2024)
 - **Action:** Chief Electoral Officer announces and manages the nomination process.
 - **Requirement for Candidates:** Submit nomination papers.

Campaign Phase (July - September 2024)

- **Close of Candidate Nominations** (To be completed by August 11, 2024, 30 days before the Election)
 - **Action:** Chief Electoral Officer finalizes candidate list.
- **Preparation for Voting** (To be completed by August 27, 2024)
 - **Action:** Chief Electoral Officer finalizes the setup of polling stations and voting systems.
- **Communication Campaign** (Ongoing until Election Day)
 - **Action:** Chief Electoral Officer engages in regular updates and information dissemination to voters and communities.

Election Phase (September 2024)

- **Election Day** (September 10, 2024)
 - **Action:** Chief Electoral Officer oversees the operation of all polling stations, online and mail-in voting.
 - **Requirement for MNBC/Communities:** Provide support and ensure accessibility at polling stations.

- **Vote Counting and Preliminary Results Announcement** (To be completed by September 11, 2024)
 - **Action:** Chief Electoral Officer manages the counting of votes and announces preliminary results.
- Post-Election Phase (September - October 2024)
- **Final Results and Certification** (To be completed by September 25, 2024)
 - **Action:** Chief Electoral Officer certifies and officially announces the final election results.
 - **Post-Election Reporting** (To be completed by October 31, 2024)
 - **Action:** Chief Electoral Officer compiles and presents a detailed election report, including feedback and evaluation.
 - **Requirement for MNBC:** Review and acknowledge the report.

Continuous Throughout the Process

- **Risk Management and Stakeholder Communication** (Ongoing)
 - **Action:** Chief Electoral Officer continuously monitors risks and maintains communication with all stakeholders.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT OF VOTERS LIST RESPONSIBILITIES

The preparation of the Voters List for the MNBC election involves coordinated efforts between MNBC, the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), and Chartered Communities. Our assessment and plan are proposed as follows:

Preparation of the Voters List by MNBC

1. **Compilation of Initial Voters List:**
 - o **Action by MNBC:** Compile an initial list of registered voters.
 - o **Timeline:** To be completed well before the CEO receives the list, ideally by June 30, 2024.
2. **Data Verification and Updates:**
 - o **Action by MNBC:** Ensure the list is current, with all eligible voters included. This involves updating addresses, removing deceased individuals, and adding newly eligible voters.
 - o **Timeline:** Ongoing, with a final review before submission to the CEO.

Chief Electoral Officer's Involvement

1. **Receipt and Review of Voters List:**
 - o **Action by CEO:** Receive the final list from MNBC.
 - o **Timeline:** Expected by July 27, 2024 (45 days before Election Day).
2. **Verification and Confirmation:**
 - o **Action by CEO:** Conduct a thorough review to verify accuracy and completeness.
 - o **Timeline:** Ideally within 2 weeks of receipt to allow time for corrections.
3. **Addressing Discrepancies:**
 - o **Action by CEO:** Communicate with MNBC regarding any discrepancies or missing information.
 - o **Timeline:** Immediately upon discovery during the review process.
4. **Finalization of the List:**
 - o **Action by CEO:** Approve the final Voters List and prepare it for distribution.
 - o **Timeline:** To be completed no later than 39 days before Election Day.

Involvement of Chartered Communities

1. **Request for Community Voter Lists:**
 - o **Action by Communities:** Request specific segments of the Voters List pertaining to their community members.
 - o **Timeline:** Requests to be made soon after the CEO's receipt of the initial list.
2. **Distribution of Community Lists:**

- **Action by CEO:** Distribute the relevant portions of the Voters List to each Chartered Community.
 - **Timeline:** Concurrent with the finalization of the Voters List, around 39 days before Election Day.
3. **Community Review and Feedback:**
- **Action by Communities:** Review their segments for accuracy and report any issues back to the CEO.
 - **Timeline:** Ideally within 1 week of receipt to allow time for any necessary adjustments.
4. **Local Voter Engagement:**
- **Action by Communities:** Utilize the list for local voter engagement and information dissemination.
 - **Timeline:** From the date of receipt until Election Day.

Communication and Updates

Throughout this process, there should be continuous communication between MNBC, the CEO, and the Chartered Communities. This ensures that any updates or changes to the Voters List are accurately reflected and understood by all parties involved. The timelines provided are indicative and may need adjustments based on practical considerations and the specific needs of the election process.

DETAILED ASSESSMENT OF NOMINATION PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS.

The nomination process for candidates in the MNBC election involves several critical steps and documentation requirements, with specific responsibilities for MNBC, the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Chartered Communities, and the Candidates themselves. Our assessment and plan are proposed as follows:

Nomination Process and Documentation Requirements

1. **Announcement of Nomination Period:**
 - o **Action by CEO:** Officially announce the opening of the nomination period.
 - o **Timeline:** To be announced at least 60 days before the election (around July 12, 2024).
2. **Nomination Package Preparation:**
 - o **Action by CEO:** Prepare and make available nomination packages, including instructions and necessary forms.
 - o **Timeline:** Prior to the announcement of the nomination period.
3. **Distribution of Nomination Packages:**
 - o **Action by MNBC and CEO:** Ensure packages are accessible to potential candidates, possibly through online platforms or Chartered Communities.
 - o **Timeline:** Concurrent with the announcement of the nomination period.

Candidate Considerations and Actions

1. **Review of Eligibility and Requirements:**
 - o **Action by Candidates:** Understand and comply with eligibility criteria and documentation requirements as outlined in the MNBC Electoral Act.
 - o **Responsibility:** Candidates must ensure they meet age, residency, and other eligibility criteria specific to the office they seek.
2. **Completion and Submission of Nomination Forms:**
 - o **Action by Candidates:** Complete nomination forms, which typically include personal information, declaration of eligibility, and, possibly, a platform statement.
 - o **Additional Requirements:** Obtain requisite signatures from eligible voters endorsing the nomination.
 - o **Timeline:** Submission must occur before the close of the nomination period (approximately August 11, 2024, or 30 days before the Election).
3. **Submission of Additional Documentation:**

- **Action by Candidates:** Provide additional documents, possibly including a criminal record check, proof of Métis citizenship, and conflict of interest declarations.
- **Responsibility:** Candidates are responsible for the timely and accurate submission of all required documents.

Role of MNBC and Chartered Communities

1. **Promotion of the Electoral Process:**
 - **Action by MNBC and Chartered Communities:** Encourage participation in the electoral process and provide information on the nomination process.
 - **Timeline:** Throughout the nomination period.
2. **Support for Potential Candidates:**
 - **Action by MNBC and Chartered Communities:** Offer guidance to potential candidates regarding the nomination process and documentation requirements.
 - **Responsibility:** Provide clear and accessible information to ensure an inclusive and transparent process.

Review and Confirmation of Nominations

1. **Review of Nominations:**
 - **Action by CEO:** Assess and verify the completeness and compliance of nomination submissions.
 - **Timeline:** Immediately following the close of nominations.
2. **Confirmation and Announcement of Candidates:**
 - **Action by CEO:** Confirm eligible candidates and officially announce the list of candidates.
 - **Timeline:** To be completed promptly after the review, ideally within a week of the nomination closing date.
3. **Addressing Discrepancies or Issues:**
 - **Action by CEO:** Communicate with candidates regarding any issues in their nomination submissions and provide an opportunity for rectification, if applicable.
 - **Timeline:** As issues arise during the review process.

SUMMARY OF NOTICES TO BE PREPARED BY THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

The Chief Electoral Officer is responsible for preparing and issuing several official notices to ensure a well-organized, transparent, and compliant electoral process. Our assessment suggests this detailed summary of Notices to be prepared:

1. **Notice of Election :**
 - Announcing the date of the election and positions available for election.
 - Detailing voter eligibility criteria and voting methods (online, mail-in, in-person).
 - Expected issue date: Immediately after the election date is set by the Métis Nation Governing Assembly, likely in March 2024.
2. **Notice of Nomination Period:**
 - Informing potential candidates about the opening and closing dates for nominations.
 - Outlining the process for obtaining and submitting nomination packages.
 - Expected issue date: At least 60 days before the election (approximately July 12, 2024).
3. **Notice of Candidates' Meeting** (if applicable):
 - Inviting confirmed candidates to a meeting to discuss election rules, campaign guidelines, and answer queries.
 - Expected issue date: Shortly after the close of nominations.
4. **Notice of Confirmed Candidates:**
 - Listing all eligible candidates post-nomination period.
 - Expected issue date: Soon after the nomination period closes (approximately August 11, 2024).
5. **Notice to Electors:**
 - Providing information about voting procedures, including the locations and hours of polling stations, and instructions for mail-in and online voting.
 - Expected issue date: At least 30 days before the election.
6. **Advance Polling Notice:**
 - Informing voters about the availability, locations, and timings of advance polling options.
 - Expected issue date: At least two weeks before the advance polls open.
7. **Notice of Voter List Availability:**
 - Informing voters about the availability of the voter list and the process for verifying their registration.
 - Expected issue date: Concurrent with the preparation of the final voters list, typically 39 days before the election.
8. **Notice of Election Day Procedures:**
 - Detailing procedures for Election Day, including health and safety protocols if applicable.

- Expected issue date: One week before Election Day.
- 9. **Notice of Results Announcement:**
 - Informing stakeholders of the date, time, and method (online, public gathering, etc.) of preliminary results announcement.
 - Expected issue date: On Election Day, before the polls close.
- 10. **Notice of Final Results and Certification:**
 - Officially announcing the final results post any recounts or dispute resolutions.
 - Expected issue date: As soon as the results are finalized post-election day (expected within 15 days of the election).
- 11. **Notice of Recounts** (if applicable):
 - If a recount is necessary, detailing the date, time, and location.
 - Expected issue date: As required, based on election results.
- 12. **Notice for By-Elections** (if applicable):
 - Announcing any by-elections needed due to vacancies or tied results.
 - Expected issue date: As circumstances warrant.
- 13. **Notice of Post-Election Debrief/Meeting:**
 - Inviting candidates, election staff, and other stakeholders to a post-election meeting to discuss outcomes and feedback.
 - Expected issue date: Within a month after the election.

Each notice should be prepared with clarity and detail, ensuring compliance with the MNBC Electoral Act and facilitating effective communication with all involved parties. The timings provided are estimates and may be adjusted based on the specific circumstances of the election cycle.

SUMMARY OF TOTAL TIME ALLOCATION

We have done our best to estimate the total number of hours required to conduct the MNBC voting event. The RFP does involve considering several variable tasks or scenarios outlined in the Request for Proposals (RFP) Scope and which also may be required by the Electoral Act. It's important to note that this is a rough estimate, as actual hours can vary based on numerous factors such as the efficiency of processes, unforeseen complexities, and the level of participation.

Here's a breakdown of key tasks and an estimated range of hours for each:

- 1. **Election Preparation (incl. Candidate Nomination and Voter List Management):**
 - Task range: 40-50 hours.
 - Activities: Managing nominations, preparing the voter list, liaising with MNBC, and setting up the election infrastructure.
- 2. **Voting System Setup and Management:**
 - Task range: 35-50hours.
 - Activities: Setting up online and mail-in voting systems, testing, and ensuring security measures.
- 3. **Material Preparation and Distribution:**
 - Task range: 50-75 hours.
 - Activities: Designing, printing, and distributing election materials, ballots, and voter information.
- 4. **Polling Place Management:**
 - Task range: 50-100 hours.
 - Activities: Securing locations, setting up polling stations, and coordinating logistics.
- 5. **Communication and Support Services:**
 - Task range: 100-150 hours.
 - Activities: Managing communications, responding to inquiries, and facilitating town hall meetings.
- 6. **Ballot Counting and Results Management:**
 - Task range: 50-100 hours.
 - Activities: Counting ballots, reconciling votes, and announcing results.
- 7. **Post-Election Activities (incl. Reporting and By-Elections):**
 - Task range: 20-30 hours.
 - Activities: Preparing reports, managing potential recounts, and handling any subsequent by-elections.
- 8. **Additional Engagement Services:**
 - Task range: 10-20 hours.

- o Activities: Setting up and managing additional communication services like web portals and text messaging.

9. **Miscellaneous and Unforeseen Tasks:**

- o Task range: 50-100 hours.
- o Activities: Handling unexpected challenges, additional meetings, and compliance issues.

Total Estimated Hours: 415-575 hours

This estimation accounts for the comprehensive responsibilities of the Chief Electoral Officer, spanning from the preparatory phase through to the conclusion of the election and reporting. It is a broad estimation and should be used as a guideline for time being.

We would recommend some time (at least one working session day) be set aside following the 2024 March MNGA to finalize the specific scope, timeline and deliverables for the 2024 Métis Nation British Columbia Provincial Election.

The current budget scope from OneFeather prior to the resolution of all variable considerations is presented below.

Chief Electoral Officer & OneFeather Staff		\$52,000 to \$72,000
	Ballot Creation	\$10,500
	Polling Station Materials, Supplies and Equipment	\$450.00 per station
Each Individual Polling Station (staff, training, oversite, and post event)		\$1,750 to \$2,500 per station
	Telephone Voting (subject to design & number of ballots)	\$5,000 to 13,000
Documents Mailed (less than 30 Grams - CDN) – insert (2-3 pages), envelope and postage		\$2.95 per unit
Documents Mailed (less than 30 Grams - USA) – insert (2-3 pages), envelope and postage		\$3.55 per unit
Documents Mailed (less than 30 Grams - Int'l) – insert (2-3 pages), envelope and postage		\$5.95 per unit
Mail in Ballot Voting Package (CDN) – ballots, instructions, return postage, envelopes		\$4.15 per unit
Mail in Ballot Voting Package (USA) – ballots, instructions, return postage, envelopes		\$6.15 per unit
Mail in Ballot Voting Package (Int'l) – ballots, instructions, return postage, envelopes		\$10.15 per unit

Other Postage and Shipping (including any package over 30 grams)	Cost Recovery plus 10%
Approved Travel and Travel Related Expenses	Cost Recovery plus 10%
Facilities and Room Rentals (Polling Locations)	Cost Recovery plus 10%
Documentation Printing and Binding (external)	Cost Recovery plus 10%
Special Equipment/Hardware Requirements (Polling Stations)	Cost Recovery plus 10%
Documentation Printing and Binding (internal) – B&W	\$0.12 per page
Documentation Printing and Binding (internal) – Color	\$0.48 per page
1-800 Number and Dedicated Voter Support	(Included)
OneFeather Digital Voting Solution	(Included)
Remote Facilitation of Townhall Meetings	(Included)
Dedicated Mailbox – Guaranteed Return Postage	(Included)
Recount (if applicable) and Reporting	(Included)
By Election or Run Off Vote	(new proposal – Not Included)
Additional Tasks Beyond the Scope of this RFP Response	\$250.00 per/hr
Contingency	\$2,500 to \$10,000.00

THIS PROPOSAL DOES NOT COVER FEES, EXPENSES OR COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH A RUN-OFF ELECTION OR ANY ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH A VOTING EVENT TO RESOLVE A TIE VOTE, OR IN ADDITION, ANY FEES, EXPENSES OR COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH A MATERIAL DELAY IN EXECUTING ANY PORTION OF THE RULES (THIS VOTING EVENT) DUE TO AN ACT OF GOD, PANDEMIC, CIVIL UNREST (BOTH LAWFUL OR UNLAWFUL), EXTREME WEATHER, SERVICE INTERRUPTION OF A 3RD PARTY PROVIDER (CANADA POST, AIRLINE CARRIER, OR COURIER FOR EXAMPLE), NATURAL DISASTER, A COMMUNITY/CULTURAL/FUNERAL EVENT OR ANY OTHER INTERRUPTION BEYOND THE SCOPE AND CONTROL OF ONEFEATHER.

MINBC REQUIREMENTS – WHAT WOULD BE REQUIRED BY THE MINBC ADMINISTRATION

- Identify at least one (1) Staff to be appointed as Electoral Assistant or Clerk for the purposes of preparation and assistance in Voters/Electors List management, and general assistance to OneFeather at no cost to OneFeather.
- Provide Voters/Electors list of all eligible voters pursuant to the RULES as of the date of the voting event in an electronic MS Excel spreadsheet format as prescribed by OneFeather.
- All Poll Location Facilities – at no cost to OneFeather.
- Courier OneFeather the signed Agreement and initial retainer, and to pay OneFeather in accordance with the terms herein.
- Provide legal advice from their Solicitor at no cost to OneFeather (if needed).
- Any and all advertising costs – for example newspaper, radio and television.
- Agreement and concurrence that any and all additional works directed or otherwise required beyond the scope of this proposal to ensure the VOTE and RULES properly and fully executed shall be billed by OneFeather at a base rate of \$250.00 per hour plus reimbursement for ALL reasonable expenses incurred.
- Provide an official appointment letter which clearly states the appointment of OneFeather, term of appointment and the set date for the voting event.
- Provide logo and/or other electronic media released for use in the voting event.

CURRENT REFERENCES ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

Please take a look at our election’s website for our most recent client list and additional information:

- <https://onefeather.ca>
- <https://onefeather.ca/elections>

STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY

OneFeather is available to conduct the 2024 Métis Nation British Columbia Provincial Election (the “VOTE”) pursuant to and in accordance with the Metis Nation Electoral Act (the “RULES”) at a date and time in September 2024 to be determined in March 2024.

Gila’kasla,



Lawrence Lewis, Chief Electoral Officer
OneFeather Founder & CEO

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Executive Summary

Voatz Canada Ltd. (“Voatz”) is pleased to submit this proposal to the Métis Nation British Columbia (hereinafter referred to as “MNBC”), in response to Request for Proposals (RFP) for “Chief Electoral Officer – MNBC Provincial Election 2024” (RFP # 2024RFP-01).

With this proposal submission, Voatz is pleased to assist MNBC in understanding existing Voting systems that make the voting experience more secure, accessible and user-friendly, and that are immediately ready for use for the MNBC Provincial Election 2024. Voatz is prepared to provide a complete solution that will meet and exceed MNBC’s expectations, including:

- ✓ **Local presence in Canada:** Voatz includes in this proposal key personnel based in Canada who have wide experience in leading such types of projects. Our local Canada presence and expertise will also afford MNBC the benefit of our ability to travel and meet locally and address any concerns or issues that may require our attention.
- ✓ **Unsurpassed team experience:** The proposed Voatz team, including Richard Catahan, has built an impressive knowledge of Canadian election processes through its delivery of over 7 Indigenous elections, over 100 Ontario Municipal Elections during the past 3 Ontario Municipal Elections (2014, 2018 and 2022) and the delivery of Municipal Elections in Nova Scotia (Halifax Regional Municipality).
- ✓ **Multiple positive Canadian and worldwide project references:** Since its first election, Voatz has been a stable industry partner, executing a flawless record of over 132 straight successful elections with over 2.3 million voters casting their ballots using Voatz software. Furthermore, in the recent 2022 Ontario Municipal Elections and in the 2023 by-elections, Voatz has successfully provided its secure remote voting solution to more than 400,000 electors in fifteen (15) municipalities.
- ✓ **Unique security:** The Voatz Voting platform implements advanced cryptographic protocols to provide a secure and reliable election, including an end-to-end vote verifiability blockchain-based mechanism along with a ballot integrity protection mechanism.
- ✓ **Robust denial of service (DoS) / distributed denial of service (DDoS) protection:** The Voatz platform uses a highly resilient 64-node base infrastructure and leverages multiple capabilities including AWS WAF & Shield to absorb and deflect unwanted traffic.
- ✓ **Securely hosted in Canada:** All production and redundant server hardware of the Voatz Online Voting System (including server hardware for technical support) will be located in Canada.
- ✓ **Fully customizable solution:** The customization features of the Voatz solution will ensure a fully compliant solution to different requirements in the MNBC Electoral Act and in the MNBC Constitution.
- ✓ **Voting solution successfully audited multiple times:** Voatz has already conducted several audits in the past, which have included Privacy Impact Assessments (PIA), red team attack simulations, threat modeling, Internal/External Network Vulnerability Assessment and Penetration testing, (D)DoS testing, Firewall Rules Review; Network switch review, security code review, cloud security review, application security and architectural review of the Platform/Software, etc.
- ✓ **Mobile Voting Option:** The optional Voatz Mobile App provides an additional voting channel compatible with smartphones and tablets offering increased and unique accessibility and security



in elections. Voters use their own Apple or Android smartphones to download a secure application that allows them to biometrically authenticate themselves before receiving any election material, automatically receive their ballot, mark and verify them electronically, and submit their secret ballot into the same geographically distributed immutable blockchain infrastructure used in the Voatz Web App.

Voatz offers access to the Voatz Mobile App to any Canadian customer that wishes to offer an additional channel to their voters.

Voatz looks forward to working with MNBC to meet the goals of this RFP and add Métis Nation British Columbia to the list of entities in Canada that already benefit from the unique Voatz offering.

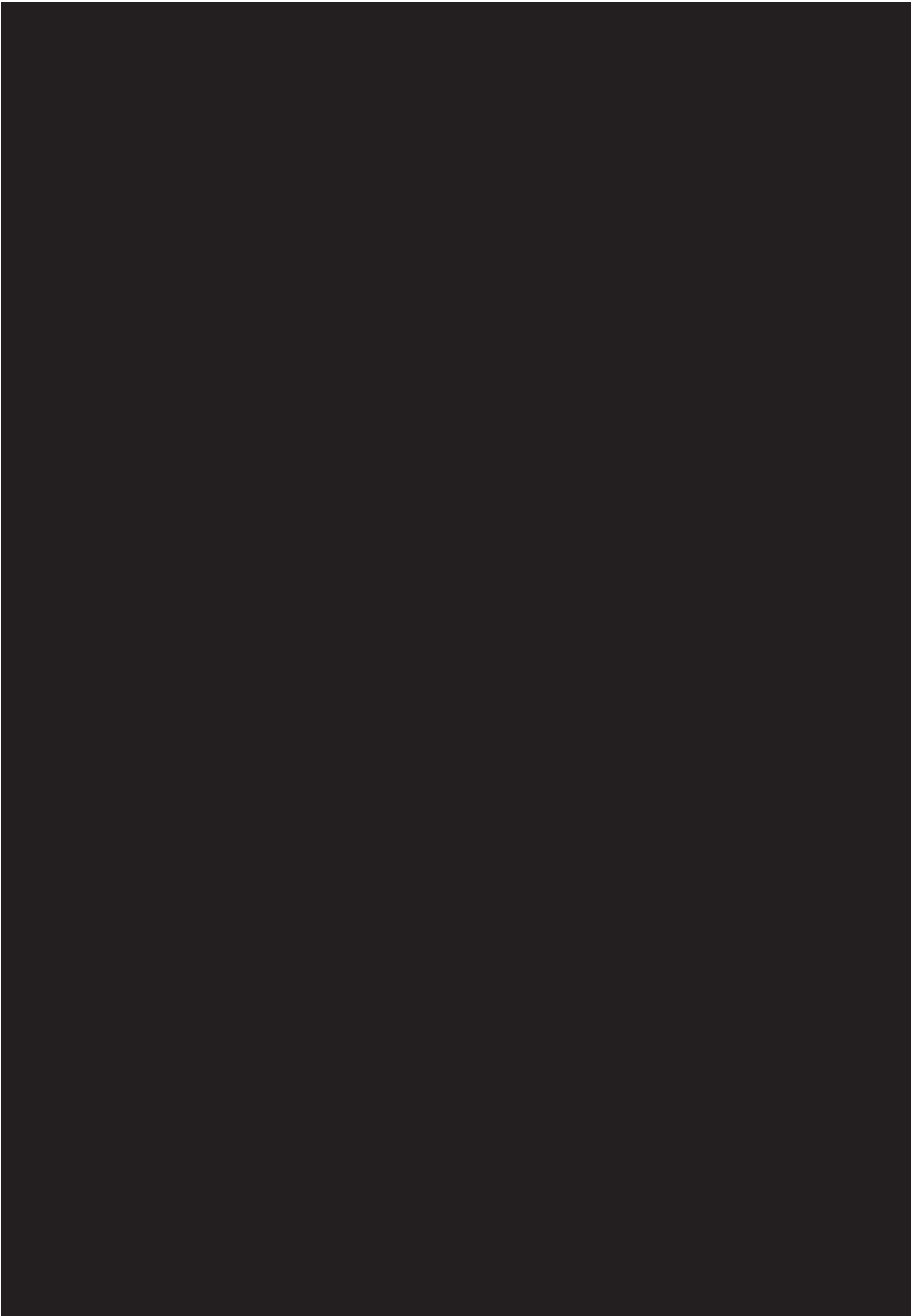
Richard Catahan
General Manager, Voatz Canada Ltd.
705-358-1860
richard.catahan@voatz.com

a) Project Consultant / Team

a).1. CONFIDENTIAL Proposed Project Team

The proposed Voatz delivery team, including Richard Catahan and Ernest Nieto, has built an impressive knowledge of Canadian election processes through its delivery of over 7 Indigenous elections, over 100 Ontario Municipal Elections over the past 3 Ontario Municipal Elections (2014, 2018 and 2022) and the delivery of Municipal Elections in Nova Scotia (Halifax Regional Municipality).

[Redacted content]





a).2. CONFIDENTIAL Demonstrated history of proposed Team

This section includes further information of the proposed key staff that has been previously introduced. Further details are available upon request.

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b) Qualifications

b).1. Voatz company overview

Voatz was founded in 2015 by brothers Nimit and Simer Sawhney, following the release of a prototype mobile voting application they developed that leveraged real-time identity verification, biometrics, and a blockchain distributed ledger for securely storing votes.

Voatz conducted its first election in 2016. Since then, it has been a stable industry partner, executing a flawless record of over 132 straight successful elections. Over 2.3 million voters have cast their ballots using Voatz software. The Voatz platform has been used for public elections by 15 Ontarian municipalities in Canada and in 30 U.S. counties, and across 5 U.S. states.

The proposed Voatz delivery team has built an impressive knowledge of Canadian election processes through its delivery of over 7 Indigenous elections, over 100 Ontario Municipal Elections over the past 3 Ontario Municipal Elections (2014, 2018 and 2022) and the delivery of Municipal Elections in Nova Scotia (Halifax Regional Municipality).

Milestones

- In 2018, Voatz ran the first mobile vote in U.S. Federal Election history using identity access management (IAM) technology with the state of West Virginia.
- In 2019, Voatz ran the first mobile vote in U.S. Municipal Election history with the city of Denver, Colorado
- In 2020, Voatz provided the first mobile and blockchain-based election system to be used for voting in the U.S. Presidential Elections.
- In 2020 Voatz was selected to facilitate Venezuela’s Consulta Popular, a national referendum organized by the members of Venezuelan civil society, the Asamblea Nacional (“National Assembly”) de Venezuela. Voatz was engaged by the organizers to create a digital voting platform for remote and in person citizen consultation. The voting platform was accessible through web browsers, mobile applications, and tablet applications as well as compatible with third party services (such as a Telegram bot application). During the referendum, over 1.7 million votes were processed via the Voatz platform.
- In the recent 2022 Ontario Municipal Elections, Voatz has successfully provided its secure remote voting solution to more than 400,000 electors in fifteen (15) municipalities.

Key Differentiators

Since the company’s inception, Voatz has always emphasized cybersecurity and testing. The Voatz founding team has extensive background in cybersecurity and the Company has emphasized those roots working with government agencies (such as the Department of Homeland Security which performed an infrastructure audit) and independent security partners (such as Consult Hyperion, LedgerOps and Synack) to conduct comprehensive security testing, penetration testing and provide feedback which Voatz incorporates into our platform.

We also note that Voatz became the first RABDMR (Remote Accessible Ballot Delivery, Marking and Return) system in the United States to successfully complete comprehensive VSTL (Voting Systems Test Laboratory) testing with ProV&V in 2020, which determined that the Voatz system meets the applicable subset of requirements set forth for voting systems in the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) 2015 Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG), Version 1.1 for Usability, Accessibility, Functionality, Security and Accuracy. To our knowledge, Voatz is the only online based solution to conduct such a review within the United States by a federally accredited testing lab.

Voatz has campaigned for the evolution of standards and guidelines in the US, and we have begun participating in similar regulatory conversations in Canada with Dr. Nicole Goodman and the Online Voting Standards Project (supported by the CIO Strategy Council - a national non-profit accredited by the Standards Council of Canada to develop National Standards of Canada).

Awards

Voatz is the winner of several technical and civic innovation awards including the MassChallenge 2017 Gold Award Winner, Microsoft Civic Innovation Award 2017, Election Center’s Democracy Award (Denver County) 2019, Innovative Entrepreneurship in Blockchain Award (Public Sector Services) 2019, and was a finalist at the GSMA Mobile World Congress 2020 Awards for Best Mobile Innovation for Accessibility and Inclusion. Voatz was recently recognized as an Honoree at the 2021 Webby Awards in the Apps and Software: Public Service & Activism Category and a Finalist and Honoree at the Fast Company World Changing Ideas Awards 2021 in three categories.

All data will be accessed and stored within Canada

All data generated by the Voatz Online system will be accessed and stored within Canada and secured against any unauthorized access in compliance with Canadian data residency regulations.

b).2. Specific Experience

Since Voatz conducted its first election in 2016, it has been a stable industry partner, executing a flawless record of over 130 straight successful elections. Over 2.3 million voters have cast their ballots using Voatz software. The Voatz platform has been used for public elections by 15 Ontarian municipalities in Canada and in 32 U.S. counties, and across 5 U.S. states.

In the recent 2022 Ontario Municipal Elections, Voatz has successfully provided its secure remote voting solution to 400,000 electors of fifteen (15) municipalities: City of Burlington, City of Kingston, Town of Newmarket, Town of Grimsby, Township of West Lincoln, Municipality of West Perth, City of Pembroke, Town of Arnprior, Town of Petawawa, Town of Renfrew, Township of Greater Madawaska, Township of Laurentian Valley, Township of McNab/Braeside, Township of Whitewater Region, and Township of Tyendinaga.

Below we are including some of the aforementioned references. Further information is available upon request.

b).2.1. CONFIDENTIAL Township of Tyendinaga – 2022 Municipal Election

Client/Company Name and Address	Township of Tyendinaga
Technical Representative and Telephone Number	CONFIDENTIAL Yvonne Murphy, Clerk clerk@tyendinagatownship.com Carla Preston, CAO- Returning Officer and Deputy Clerk cao@tyendinagatownship.com
A brief, written description of the project, operations, specific services provided, and scope of work including the year(s).	<p>Internet and Telephone Voting were used by the Township of Tyendinaga for the 2022 Municipal Elections, in accordance with the Ontario Municipal Elections Act, 1996. Online Voting addressed the Municipality’s highest Election priority: greater security and integrity of the voting process.</p> <p>As part of this project, Voatz delivered the following services to the Municipality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of an electronic voting service via the Internet (web application) and via the telephone (IVR). • Provided 3rd level help desk support to voters during the online voting period. • Provided the online voting results at the end of the election (Election Day). • Consolidated the online voting results and the phone voting results. • Proof of concept of the solution. • Tailored of the Internet voting channel to the Client’s requirements. • User Acceptance testing support. • Preparation, printing, and postage of elector notification letters. • Trained Municipal election staff. • Real-time elector list integration between voting channels. • Full integration with DataFix's Voter List management system. • Solution hosting, supervision, maintenance and operation. • On-site and remote second and third level support during critical periods of the project. • Project Management.

b).2.2. CONFIDENTIAL Town of Newmarket – 2022 Municipal Election

Client/Company Name and Address	Town of Newmarket – Legislative Services department 395 Mulock Drive P.O. Box 328 Station Main, Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7
Technical Representative and Telephone Number	CONFIDENTIAL Lisa Lyons, Director of Legislative Services and Town Clerk clerks@newmarket.ca 905-895-5183
A brief, written description of the project, operations, specific services provided, and scope of work including the year(s).	<p>Internet Voting was used by the Town of Newmarket for the 2022 Municipal Elections, in accordance with the Ontario Municipal Elections Act, 1996. Online Voting addressed the municipality’s highest Election priority: greater security and integrity of the voting process.</p> <p>As part of this project, Voatz delivered the following services to the municipality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of an electronic voting service via the Internet. • Provided 3rd level help desk support to voters during the online voting period. • Provided the online voting results at the end of the election (Election Day). • Consolidated the online voting results and the tabulator’s voting results. • Proof of concept of the solution. • Tailored of the Internet voting channel to the Client’s requirements. • User Acceptance testing support. • Preparation, printing, and postage of elector notification letters. • Trained Municipal election staff. • Real-time elector list integration between voting channels. • Full integration with DataFix's Voter List management system. • Solution hosting, supervision, maintenance and operation. • On-site and remote second and third level support during critical periods of the project. • Project Management.

b).2.3. CONFIDENTIAL Town of Grimsby – 2022 Municipal Election

Client/Company Name and Address	Town of Grimsby - Legislative Services 160 Livingston Ave, Grimsby, ON L3M 0J5, Canada
Technical Representative and Telephone Number	CONFIDENTIAL Peter Todd, Manager of Legislative Services/ Deputy Clerk ptodd@grimsby.ca (905) 309-2037
A brief, written description of the project, operations, specific services provided, and scope of work including the year(s).	<p>Internet, Telephone Voting and Paper Ballots (tabulators) were used by the Town of Grimsby for the 2022 Municipal Elections, in accordance with the Ontario Municipal Elections Act, 1996. Online Voting addressed the municipality’s highest Election priority: greater security and integrity of the voting process.</p> <p>As part of this project, Voatz delivered the following services to the municipality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of an electronic voting service via the Internet (web application and mobile app) and via the telephone (IVR). • Provided 3rd level help desk support to voters during the online voting period. • Provided the online voting results at the end of the election (Election Day). • Consolidated the online voting results and the tabulator’s voting results. • Proof of concept of the solution. • Tailored of the Internet voting channel to the Client’s requirements. • User Acceptance testing support. • Preparation, printing, and postage of elector notification letters. • Trained Municipal election staff. • Real-time elector list integration between voting channels. • Full integration with DataFix's Voter List management system. • Solution hosting, supervision, maintenance and operation. • On-site and remote second and third level support during critical periods of the project. • Project Management.

c) Work plan

The project aims to develop an online voting solution based on the robust Voatz platform with a mail-in voting option, ensuring accessibility and inclusivity for all eligible voters. The online platform should be user-friendly, secure, and capable of handling a large volume of voters, which is something that the Voatz platform fully satisfies. Additionally, the inclusion of a mail-in voting option requires establishing a streamlined process for verifying and counting mailed-in ballots. Implementing a robust and transparent system as the one proposed by Voatz is crucial to instill confidence in voters and stakeholders.

One of the key issues to address is the security and integrity of the online voting system. To mitigate this, the Voatz Voting platform implements advanced cryptographic protocols to provide a secure and reliable election, including an end-to-end vote verifiability blockchain-based mechanism along with a ballot integrity protection mechanism. Ensuring accessibility is another challenge, especially for voters who opt for mail-in ballots. Addressing this requires clear communication and user-friendly instructions for the mail-in voting process, along with a secure system for receiving, validating, and counting these ballots. It is imperative to consider potential technical glitches and downtime, necessitating a robust contingency plan to minimize disruptions and ensure a smooth voting experience.

Furthermore, engaging with the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) is crucial for the success of the project. This involves establishing a collaborative partnership to understand their specific requirements, legal considerations, and cultural nuances that may influence the design and implementation of the voting solution. Regular communication channels, such as meetings and progress updates, will be essential to address any concerns or modifications that MNBC may have throughout the development process. Collaboration with MNBC will not only ensure that the Voatz online voting solution aligns with their unique needs but will also foster trust and transparency in the election process, ultimately enhancing the democratic experience for all eligible voters within the Métis community.

c).1. Proposed technical solution

Voatz offers its secure, accessible, and verifiable remote voting solution for use by verified and authorized voters. The platform can allow voting via compatible web-browsers, smartphones, tablets, and kiosks, all in part, depending on the jurisdiction’s requirements.

The Voatz platform is 100% software-driven from the customer perspective. No proprietary hardware is required. Voters access their ballots and cast their votes using their personal web-enabled devices (PCs, tablets, smartphones). Optionally, jurisdiction’s can provide voting, securely and privately, on shared devices at the polling center.

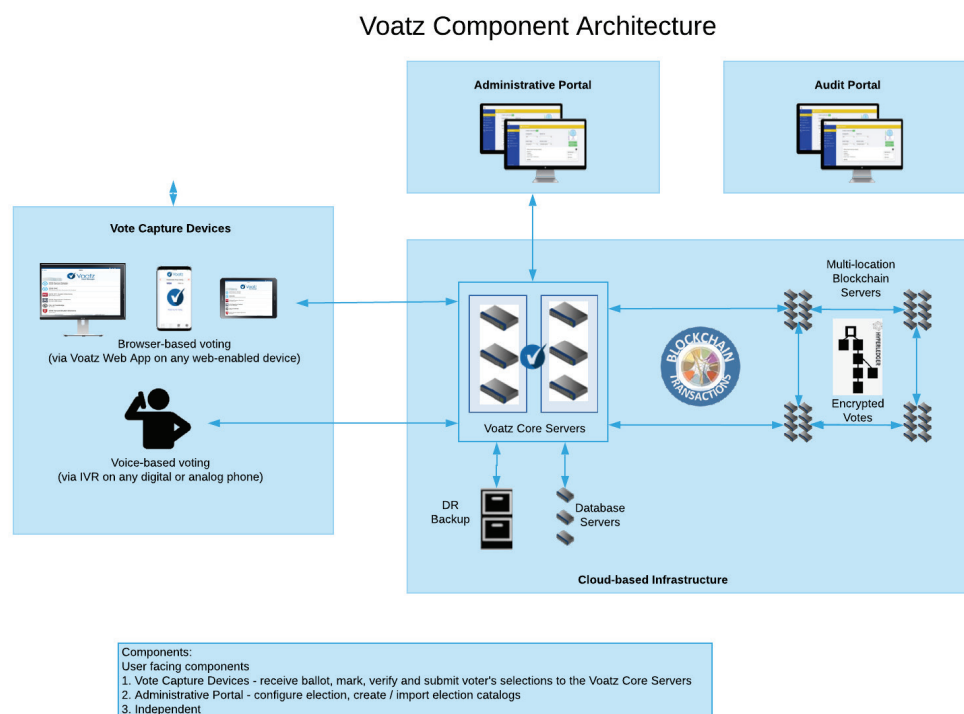


Figure: Voatz Platform Component Architecture

The **software components** of the Voatz platform include:

- **Voatz Web App:** The Voatz Web App (VWA) is a browser-based web application through which voters receive, mark, and submit their accessible electronic ballots. The VWA allows voting from any internet-connected device running a supported browser. Devices can include PCs, laptops, tablets, kiosks, as well as mobile phones. The Voatz Web App follows Responsive Web Design and is accessibility-compliant.
- **Voatz Admin Portal:** Election officials manage their Voatz Platform elections the Voatz Admin Portal, a cloud-based web interface. Officials use the Admin Portal to: Review and approve electronic ballots; Manage eligible and signed-up voters; Access marked ballots, voter affidavits, and voter receipts; Report on the election; Monitor system activity. Different permission levels limit the activities and election data to which different users have access.
- **Voatz Audit Suite:** The Voatz Audit Suite is a cloud-based web portal that allows jurisdictions to perform post-election audits of their mobile elections. Audit capabilities include ballot accounting, vote comparison, and card accounting.

The **infrastructure components** of the Voatz platform include:

- **AWS Cloud Servers:** Back-end processing, database storage, and backup. Powerful, secure, and redundant.
- **Blockchain Ledger:** Secure, immutable, auditable storage of voter selections

Key features of the platform include:

- Integrated web form voting
- Easy-to-use, secure, anonymous, auditable voting
- Support across a wide range of device/browser platforms
- Robust, compliant accessibility support for special needs voters
- Cloud-based infrastructure is scalable, redundant, and secure.

Please see “Appendix A: The Voatz Election Platform” of this document for further details of the proposed platform.

c).2. Understanding of the Requirements

c).2.1. Project Understanding

To meet MNBC’s requirements, Voatz offers to provide a complete solution that includes, but is not limited to:

1. Voatz proprietary Internet based secure software election solution, which satisfies the following criteria:
 - a. Be immediately ready for use in a Special Election and for the 2024 Municipal Election
 - b. Be robust and reliable,
 - c. Preserve the secrecy and confidentiality and integrity of the votes cast,
 - d. Be secure, providing end-to-end encryption and having strong measure to prevent illegal access by external and internal actors,
 - e. Be auditable and verifiable and ensure that votes are cast by eligible voters, and every elector can cast only one vote, anonymously and privately, stored as cast and every vote counted as intended,
 - f. Be user-friendly and intuitive,
 - g. Be accessible,
 - h. Be available 99.9% of the time with strong measures against DDoS attempts,
 - i. Be scalable with strong business continuity and fail-back processes, and
 - j. Be responsive to the Elections Act requirements.
2. A voting solution that is compliant with the legislation for conducting the election (MNBC Electoral Act and in the MNBC Constitution).
3. Cloud hosting, data protection, back-up redundancies; disaster recovery and mitigation capabilities resident (hosted) in Amazon AWS Canada (central) region cloud environment and Voatz’s physical disaster recovery facility located in Canada.
4. Transparency, integrity (only one vote) and accountability of the election process voter rights and access to the voting channels.
5. Website for electors with access to the voting application and other information related to the online voting channel (Landing page).
6. Provision of training to election staff and all the necessary reference material for the platform.
7. 2nd and 3rd level support during the e-voting period.
8. In conjunction with Canadian local resources, Voatz’s team will be composed of experienced project management staff, technical support staff and training resources.
9. Voatz’s proprietary project methodology as utilized in all Voatz assisted election events.

The Voatz Elections Platform, as it exists today, meets the requirements for Online Voting of the project. Voatz can perform any additional customization deemed desirable or necessary following review with MNBC of its Platform and the project requirements. Key to confirming and delivering on these requirements are our well-experienced Project Management, Development, and Elections Operations teams. Our developed and election-tested remote voting Platform, supported by our years of industry experience, and grasp of easy-to-use, secure, accessible voting, will deliver MNBC a higher quality solution with industry-leading security.

c).2.2 Feature Summary

Requirement	Details
Internet Voting	The Voatz Web App provides a secure, private, easy-to-use voting experience on a full range of devices and browsers.
At-the-poll voting	The Voatz Web App can be also made available (if desired) in an On-Premise mode for “at-the-poll” voting. It allows multiple users to vote using the same device while maintaining each voter’s privacy.
Confirmation of ballot submission	After submitting their ballot, voters will be immediately redirected to a confirmation screen where they will be provided with a confirmation number, which they can print or be emailed for their records.
Results reporting	Voatz supports a fully digital tallying and results preparation within the system or the seamless generation of exports for consolidation (including internet, telephone and optionally paper vote results).
Hosted	Solution to be provided as a hosted solution (including required software, hardware, telephony solution, data migration to/from municipal data sources).
Website	Website for electors with access to the voting application and other information related to the online voting channel (Landing page).
Help Desk Support	Voatz will provide live “help desk” support to Voter Help-Centre staff (2nd and 3rd level support during the e-voting period). Also, Voatz will provide Internet and phone “help” guides for electors.
Voter Authentication	Voatz will provide a secure voter identification and authentication mechanism, providing mail service for voter notification letters in partnership with Gilmore Doculink, a Commercial Printing industry leader.
Audit capability	Voatz includes an Audit Suite with robust post-election audit capability, including even the ability to invite members of the public to participate.
Accessibility support	All Voatz products offer robust accessibility support. The Voatz Web App is designed and tested to comply with the World Wide Web Consortium’s Web Content Accessibility Guidelines v2.1 level AA (WCAG 2.1/AA).

Training	Voatz will provide training to technical and election staff, and public facing and/or candidates
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c).3. Methodology

This section describes the project management approach proposed by Voatz to address the RFP Requirements, which is based on Voatz’s proprietary project methodology utilized in all Voatz assisted election events. Voatz uses Agile Standard Development Methodologies for our project management methodology, as this methodology adapts better to the needs of applications development projects and technology provision services, including the provision of technology in elections.

The objective of Agile methodologies is that the project teams provide an iterative and incremental delivery of a product. This is called "an agile project management framework" and focuses on the use of an empirical process that allows teams to respond quickly, efficiently and effectively to changes. In agile methods, time and cost are set in an effort to control requirements, while in traditional project management methods, requirements are set in an effort to control time and cost. This is done through schedules, collaboration meetings, a prioritized product backlog and frequent feedback cycles.

In the process of developing an agile project, everything depends on the collaboration between the project team, the supplier and the customer. The collaboration of all these actors is fundamental in the creation and delivery of products and services in an adequate way and without excesses.

c).4. Proposed work Plan

This section presents a proposed draft Implementation Plan for the project, which is with Voatz’s work plan to deliver a full MNBC Voting Solution. The schedule, which is displayed graphically in section d), lists major work items, dependencies, the responsible party, and suggested dates. After its review with MNBC, it is expected to review the proposed dates and content before the start of the project.

Work items are grouped into these phases:

- **Phase I - Solution Implementation:**
 - *Project Kick-off:* The project will be initiated, reviewing the schedule and the project requirements, and preparing the team members and the client team on expectations, communication, and collaboration for the project.
 - *Platform Integration and Customization Work:* During this phase the specific integration and customizations requirements will be agreed and, afterwards, will be implemented and tested, and, finally, accepted for its use in the election.
- **Phase II - Deployment in Election:**
 - *Pre-Election Staging and Support Work:* This phase covers the configuration of the election, and the logic and accuracy testing of the configured data, before it goes live.

- *Voting Window Work*: This phase covers the voting period (advanced voting and until election day), and includes all the support related activities, until the voting period closes and results are provided.
- *Post-Election Work*: This phase covers all the post-election related activities, including lessons learned sessions, post-election audits, etc.

c).4.1. Assumptions

Work items and dates in the schedule of section d) can be adjusted following review by MNBC. Dates below are based on the following information from the RFP and, if not available, have been assumed by Voatz:

- Project work to begin on March 18, 2024. Voatz can start to work on the project before, should that be required by MNBC.



c).4.2. Proposed project phases

c).4.2.1. Phase I - Solution Implementation

c).4.2.1.1. Project Kick-off

Task	Dependencies	Responsible Party	Output/Deliverables	Proposed Dates
Project Kick-off meeting	Contract signed by both parties	Project Manager	Introduce project team members and client team members. Review client expectations, and agree on communication and collaboration mechanisms for the project. Review project schedule and project requirements.	See section d)
Customer project team intro to the Voatz platform	Demo and training session scheduled by Voatz in collaboration with the Customer	Project Manager, Product Manager	Customer project team gains understanding of features, capabilities, and use of the Voatz platform Training materials provided for ongoing reference by customer project team	See section d)
Review/finalize work plan and schedule	Key dates and deadlines confirmed by Customer	Project Manager, Account Manager	Formal project work plan and schedule document provided by Voatz to the Customer and project team	See section d)
Determine file and information sharing methods. Grant permissions.	Secure file and information sharing methods reviewed by Customer, method selected	Project Manager, Customer Success Engineer	Secure file and information sharing system established All authorized parties granted access and given appropriate permissions	See section d)



Hold regular team meetings with MNBC and Proposer to review project work and provide feedback.	Team meetings scheduled by Voatz in collaboration with the Customer Feedback provided by the Customer	Project Manager	Voatz and the Customer maintain an open line of communication, with updates and progress communicated regularly Meeting notes maintained by Voatz and provided to the Customer after each meeting	See section d)
Implement problem resolution and cost and schedule control.	Project cost and schedule confirmed by the Customer	Project Manager	Formal document detailing problem resolution and cost and schedule control, provided by Voatz to the customer	See section d)

c).4.2.1.2. Platform Integration and Customization Work

Est: 04/01/2024 - 06/28/2024

Task	Dependencies	Responsible Party	Output/Deliverables	Proposed Dates
Collect requirements to determine required integration and customization to Voatz Platform	Platform requirements confirmed by the Customer	Product Manager	Report of required integration and customization to the Voatz Platform provided by Voatz to the Customer and project team	See section d)
Write test plans	Full understanding of and agreement on project requirements	Director of QA and Certification	Formal test plans provided by Voatz to the Customer and project team	See section d)



Implement defect tracking for SW defect resolution, software mishandling, or discrepancies between the built software and requirements.	Requirements document and project schedule	Director of QA and Certification	Epics and user stories for the development work and election are created in Voatz's Jira defect-tracking system.	See section d)
Implement Integration with the proposed project components	Requirements document and project schedule	Product Manager	Report of the implemented integration provided by Voatz to the Customer and project team	See section d)
Additional customizations	Additional app requirements confirmed by the Customer	Product Manager	Report of additional customization to the Voatz app provided by Voatz to the Customer and project team	See section d)
Develop Release criteria	Product requirements	Director of QA and Certification	Specify testing criteria to determine product readiness	See section d)
Testing - Internal	Test plans prepared (see above)	Director of QA and Certification	Internal testing conducted by the Voatz QA Team, report of findings provided by Voatz to the Customer and project team	See section d)
Develop Training and Support Materials		Customer Success	Finalized schedule for training and support dates Customer-tailored training plan and materials for target audiences Support materials (FAQs, videos, quick starts, agent scripts, etc.)	See section d)



Customer acceptance testing (UAT)	Voatz creates a customer acceptance checklist. Customer reviews and approves checklist.	Project Manager	Acceptance testing conducted by the Customer, report of findings provided by the Customer to Voatz for analysis and implementation Delivery of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• an election-ready error-free version of an MNBC Integrated Voting Solution to be deployed during the election event,• the SLA and• the deployment plan.	See section d)
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c).4.2.2. Phase II - Deployment in Election

c).4.2.2.1. Pre-Election Election Staging and Support Work

This phase will start once the Election has been scheduled (using as a reference below as Election Notified).

Task	Dependencies	Responsible Party	Output/Deliverables	Proposed Dates
Determine election requirements	Election Notified	Project Manager	Formal project requirements and plan provided by Voatz to the Customer and project team	See section d)
Create election instance	Election requirements in EDF format Voter List	Product Manager	The election record is created in the Voatz database. The election can be accessed in the Voatz Admin Portal.	See section d)
Import voter list	Voter list provided by the Customer for secure import, VRS integration	Product Manager	Voter list finalized in the Voatz system (additions, changes, and deletions can be made at the Customer's discretion)	See section d)
Review imported voter data	Voter list imported, VRS integration	Customer	Voter data vetted by customer administrators for accuracy and currency	See section d)
Create administration accounts	List of authorized administrators provided to Voatz by the Customer	Infosec Engineer	Authorized election administrators given access to the Voatz system via the Administrator Portal	See section d)
Train election administrators/supervisors	Training session scheduled by Voatz in collaboration with the Customer	Customer Success	Customer administrators fully trained on use of the Voatz platform Training materials provided for ongoing reference by administrators	See section d)



Import election definition data	Election data (including candidates) provided by the Customer for secure import	Product Manager	Election data finalized in the Voatz system for election preparation	See section d)
Generate ballots	Contest information and all ballot data from the Customer	Product Manager	Finalized ballots for review and approval by the Customer	See section d)
Ballot review/approval	Voatz to provide finalized ballots for review and approval by the Customer	Customer	Approved ballots	See section d)
Deploy voter resources (landing page, training materials)	All Voatz-generated landing page materials approved by the Customer for publication Desired Customer-generated landing page materials (if any) provided to Voatz	Product Manager, Development Lead	Landing page published for external viewing on the web	See section d)
Provision Support Desk	Support Desk availability and contact channels approved by the Customer	Product Manager	Voatz Support Desk will be available during agreed-upon windows and via the agreed-upon channels to serve the needs of voters and administrators	See section d)
Train poll workers	Training session scheduled by Voatz in collaboration with the Customer	Customer Success	Poll workers fully trained on use of the Voatz platform Training materials provided for ongoing reference by election officials	See section d)



Repeat Customer acceptance testing (UAT)	Voatz creates a customer acceptance checklist. Customer reviews and approves checklist.	Project Manager	Acceptance testing conducted by the Customer (repeat of testing conducted in Phase I)	See section d)
Logic & Accuracy (L & A) testing	Approved ballots L&A Test Deck	Voatz / Customer (Voatz provides test plan, customer executes)	Customer completed end to end test of ballots and integrations	See section d)

c).4.2.2.2. Voting Window Work

(Start Online Voting - Election Day)

Task	Dependencies	Responsible Party	Output/Deliverables	Proposed Dates
Live voting support	Voatz Support Desk deployed (see above)	Voatz Support Team	All voters who require assistance to participate in the election process will be aided by the Voatz Support Desk, to ensure maximum participation	Start Online Voting - Election Day
Voter list updates	Corrections and updates to voter list data, as required and approved	Election officials. Voatz Support Team	Updated voter list	Start Online Voting - Election Day
Results Reporting	Results format approved by the Customer	Project Manager, Product Manager	Election results provided in the format requested by the Customer, at the close of the election	Election Day



c).4.2.2.3. Post-Election Work

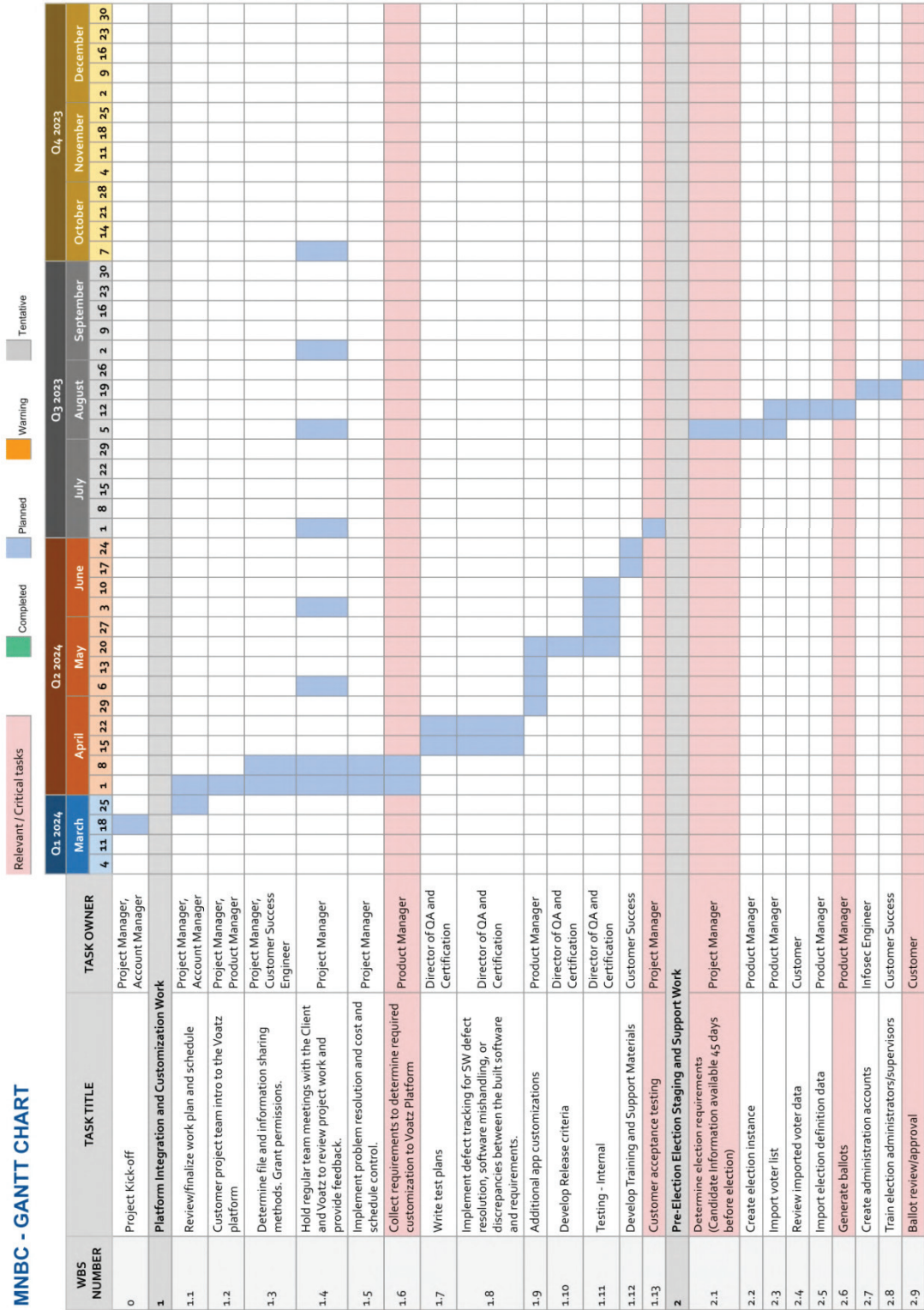
(After Election Day)

Task	Dependencies	Responsible Party	Output/Deliverables	Proposed Dates
After-action/improvement planning	Feedback from the Customer provided to Voatz for review	Project Manager, Account Manager	A consolidated project report including outcome analysis, feedback, areas for improvement, etc.	Election Day+1 day - Election Day+5 days
Post-election audit	Identify audit team	Voatz/Customer /Designated members of the public	Post-election audit report	TBD by Customer

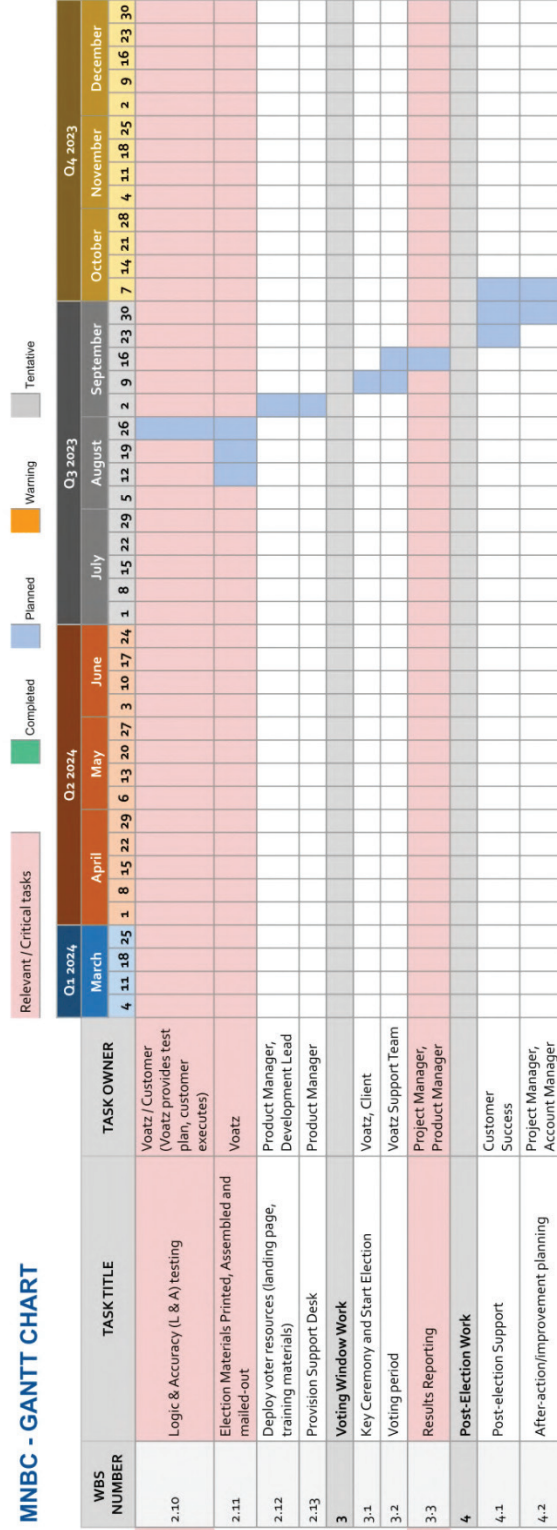


d) Task Schedule

MNBC - GANTT CHART



MNBC - GANTT CHART



e) Fee Schedule

This is the fee schedule for the election with a **hybrid system of online balloting based on the Voatz platform, and mail-in ballot**. This option can be combined with an option to conduct in-person balloting (if necessary).

e).1. Base services per election / by-election

Item	Price per elector	Units	Total price
Online Voting and required implementation and delivery services (includes 2nd/3d level support; all services delivered remotely)	\$0.64 per elector	23,500 electors	\$15,040.00
Mail-out of the voting packages Flat Size: 8.5" x 11" Final Size: 3.6875" x 8.5" Stock: Opaque Text Stock: 24# #10 Window Envelope Stock: 24# #9 Regular Envelope Inks: Bio 4/4 Process; Ballot 1/C black; Instruction sheet 1/C black Inks: Envelopes 1/0 Black Finishing: Trim, fold ballot, instruction sheet and bio sheet, insert with #9 into window#10, mail <i>Excludes postage (to be paid by MNBC)</i>	\$0.55 per voting kit	23,500	\$12,925.00
Tabulation of mail-in of the voting package based on estimated return <i>Excludes postage (to be paid by MNBC)</i>	\$1.00 per returned package	2,000	\$2,000.00
Tabulation and processing of mail-in ballots (with on-site support -2 people for 1 day), plus reimbursement of applicable travel related expenses.	N/A	N/A	\$1,700.00
Total cost (before taxes)			\$31,665.00
Applicable taxes (12%)			\$3,799.80
Total (after taxes)			\$35,464.80

e).2. Optional services

Optional items	Price (before taxes)
Voter Help Desk (1st level voter support and Toll Free number Voter Help Desk to be sized according to MNBC needs (pending to define the number of required persons)	\$200.00 per day and person
Onsite services	To be billed based on the rates listed below (section e).3), plus reimbursement of applicable travel related expenses.
Recounts of mail-in ballots, plus reimbursement of applicable travel related expenses.	\$1,700.00 + \$0.70 per paper ballot to process
Additional meetings / services	To be billed based on the rates listed below (section e).3), plus reimbursement of applicable travel related expenses.

e).3. Applicable hourly rates

Position	Hourly rate (before taxes)	Total price (after taxes)
Project Sponsor	\$150.00	\$168.00
Project Manager	\$125.00	\$140.00
Product Manager	\$125.00	\$140.00
Customer Success Engineer	\$100.00	\$112.00
Software / Quality Assurance Engineer	\$100.00	\$112.00
InfoSec or Cybersecurity Engineer	\$150.00	\$168.00
On-Site IT Support	\$100.00	\$112.00
Help Desk Support	\$70.00	\$78.40

Appendix A

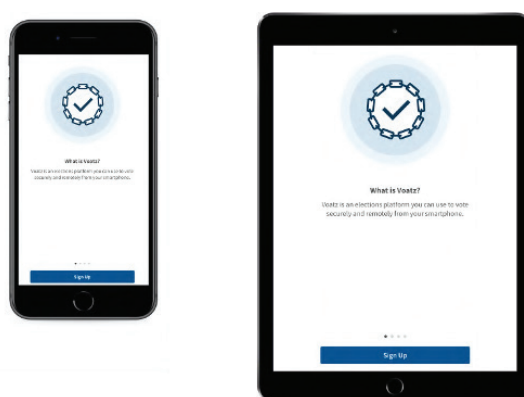
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technology information

Appendix B: The Voatz Mobile App

The Voatz Mobile App enables voting via compatible smartphones and tablets to increase accessibility and security in elections. Voters use their own Apple or Android smartphones to download a secure application that allows them to biometrically authenticate themselves before receiving any election material, automatically receive their ballot, mark and verify them electronically, and submit their secret ballot into the same geographically distributed immutable blockchain infrastructure used in the Voatz Web App. Voatz offers access to the Voatz Mobile App as an option to any Canadian customer wishing to offer an additional channel to their voters.

The Mobile Voting Experience

The Voatz Mobile Application can be accessed on both Apple & Android smartphones and tablets, as seen below. The steps below are illustrative of a potential voting workflow:



Download and access the app.

Downloading and accessing the Voatz application are the first steps in the voting process and the first phase of Identity Proofing. Here Voatz, in partnership with the jurisdiction, sends an email or letter inviting a registered voter to vote from their personal device. The correspondence contains instructions on how to configure their device to vote and a means of authenticating the voter.

The invitation contains instructions to download the Voatz application from the App Store (iOS) or Google Play Store (Android) and initiate an identity verification and proofing process. This process ensures that, even though anyone can download the Voatz application, only duly registered voters can use the application to access their ballot.

Enrollment ensures that only designated registered voters can vote remotely.

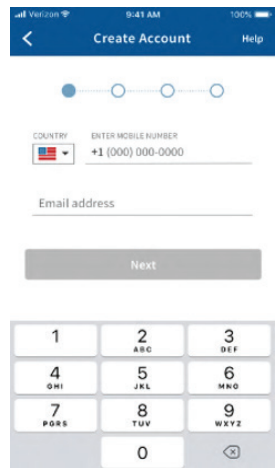


Figure: Account Creation

Sign-up procedure.

The solution includes a comprehensive identity verification and voter data management system that supports multiple forms of ID (as simple as webform self-affirmation scaling to standard government issued documents) and secondary verification sources.

The sign-up process is divided into two stages:

1. **Remote Identity Proofing:** In the first phase, the registered voter presents an approved government-issued photo ID (the “credential”) to the jurisdiction. An authorized Credential Service Provider (CSP) verifies the validity of the government-issued credential. An authorized Identity Provider (IdP) performs a biometric test for “liveness.” Identity validation is done by comparing the photo image of the remote person to the picture in the government issued credential. The secure communication between a relying party and third party CSPs and IdPs is done through the process called “federation” described below.

Voatz uses the smartphone or tablet’s digital camera to capture an approved credential (i.e. driver’s license, passport or government issued photo ID). The Voatz application integrates a third party CSP to perform both credential verification and “liveness” detection. Credential verification is a sophisticated process in which the CSP automatically examines the security artifacts of the voter’s credential against their database of known credentials. Confirmation of “liveness” is performed biometrically by taking a video “selfie” where the voter is asked to nod their head and blink their eyes. Voatz has two options to perform the comparison of the video selfie to the photograph of the voter’s credential: manually by Voatz personnel during the small pilots of governmental elections and automatically during a relatively large election by requiring agreement between two competing facial recognition services. When there is no agreement, an authorized human makes the decision which may include a video chat with the requesting person (e.g. via Skype). Biometric data is retained only as long as it takes to verify the identity of the registered voter in the real world.

Note: There may be a delay in comparing the video selfie to the voter’s credentials; until then the Voatz application will indicate a “pending status.” The voter cannot open their ballot until notification of a successful resolution of identity is received by the application.

Voatz bases its identity proofing mechanisms on the requirements of the Customer, and can support identity proofing mechanisms ranging from voting credentials distributed to voters via mail, to the government issued document verification process described above. While the latter process offers the greatest level of security, Voatz understands that each customer has unique needs, and offers a range of identity proofing options to meet those needs.

Identity proofing answers the question, “Is this person who they say they are and does that person exist in the real world?”

2. **Binding:** Binding is the final phase of identity proofing. Here the user biometrically binds the identity-proofed person to their personal smartphone or tablet. Binding prevents an identity-proofed person from voting on another device and prevents another person from voting on the device that went through the identity-proofing process. For security reasons, it is critical that this step be done in the same session as the identity proofing step.

Binding is achieved when the Voatz application requests the user to re-authenticate themselves in the same way they did to gain access to their device – typically via fingerprint or face ID

Binding prevents a remote voter from casting a ballot more than once and enables secure authentication.

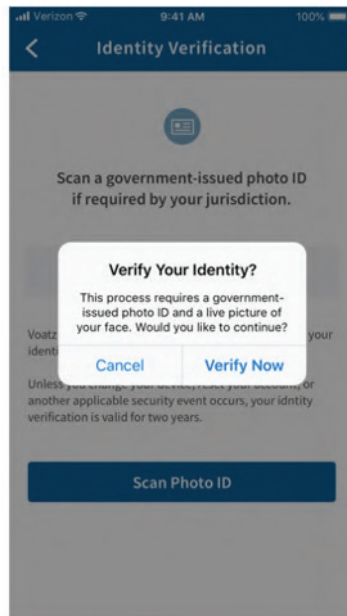


Figure: Verify Identity

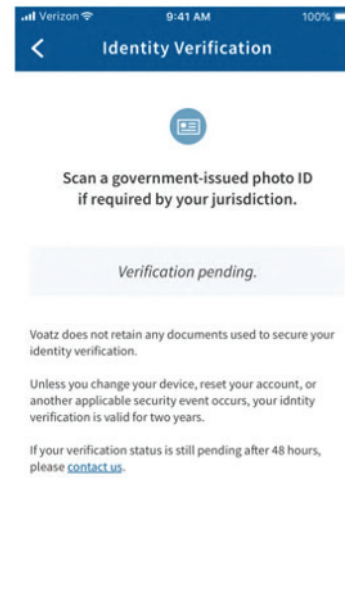


Figure: Identity Verification Status.

Access to ballot and voter information.

Access to the ballot is granted through the following processes:

Authentication: Voter authentication occurs in every election; it is unlike identity proofing which is episodic. Authentication is central to the process of associating the device to the identity of a remote voter just prior to their act of voting – but not how they voted. Authentication is performed by verifying that the voter possesses at least one method, called a “valid authenticator,” of ensuring that their identity can be confirmed at the time of voting. Devices with biometric capabilities can serve as a valid authenticator.

Voatz uses the smartphone or tablet as the “valid authenticator.” In the Voatz application, authentication is requested twice in a voting session: once when the voter tries to open their blank ballot and again when the voter submits their voted ballot. Authentication – via fingerprint or face ID – provides a registered and identity-proofed voter with the authorization to access their blank ballot and the authorization to submit their voted ballot.

Voatz carefully follows the required protocols for certificate key exchange (using Elliptic Curve/Diffie-Hellman) and approved cryptographic encryption (using AES 256). These standards provide for secure communications between the application and the voter.

Authentication provides assurance that the person who voted today on their personal device is the same person who verified their identity previously on that device.

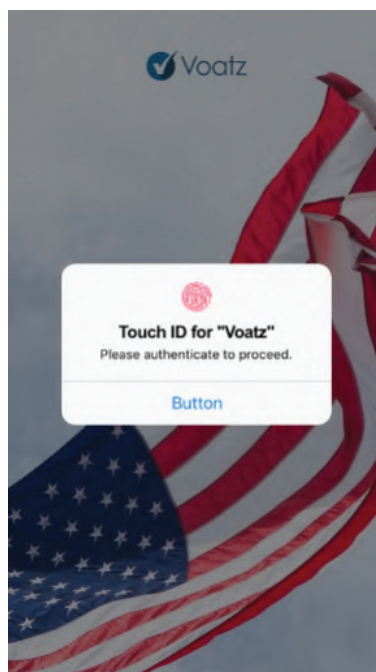


Figure: Biometric Authentication.

Federation: Federation is a process that allows for the secure conveyance of authentication and voter attribute information across networked systems. In a federated system, the Credential Service Provider (CSP) and the Identity Provider(s) (IdP), provide identity services to the application developer, called the Relying Party (RP). Federation requires relatively complex multiparty protocols that have subtle security and privacy requirements and require careful consideration.

Voatz contracts with 3rd party providers who provide credential validation and “liveness” detection. Federation, as adopted by Voatz, requires that these firms adhere to the NIST 800-63-3 or ISO/IEC 30107-3 (Biometric presentation attack detection) guidelines. Voatz carefully follows the required protocols for certificate key exchange using Elliptic Curve/Diffie-Hellman (see endnote v) and approved cryptographic encryption methods (using AES 256). These standards provide for secure communications between independent service providers, the relying party, the voter and the jurisdiction.

Federation speeds progress by enabling “best-of-breed” technologies to be securely integrated into a solution.

Voting the ballot (undervote warnings and prevention of overvotes).

Selections for choices (candidates or ballot questions) are made one contest at a time by touching a candidate’s name. A simple, familiar interface speeds the voting experience and provides instructions in the beginning of the process. The typical voting session is under two minutes. The Voatz application also supports the Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) to support voters with disabilities (e.g. Text-to-speech, font enlargement, etc.).

Voters are prevented from selecting more choices than allowed to ensure that only their allotted number of votes count. At any time before submission, the voter can review their choices and make changes if necessary (this feature is configurable). Once finished, the voter submits their ballot. Once submitted, all information is anonymized, routed via a “mixnet” and posted to the blockchain.

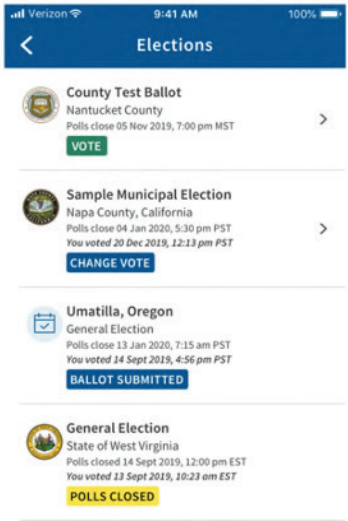


Figure: Available Elections

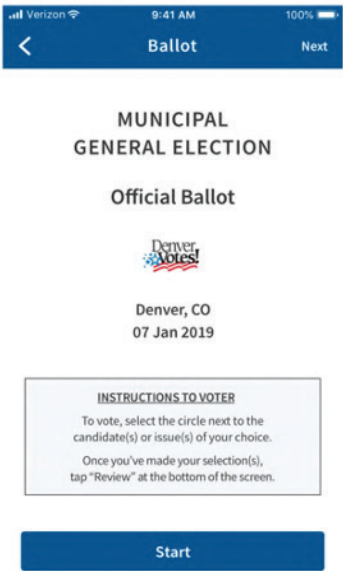


Figure: Voter Instructions

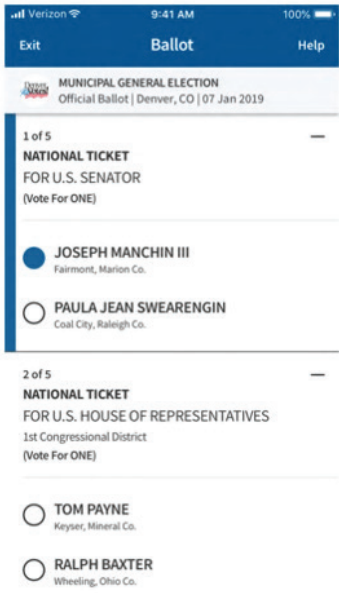


Figure: Ballots

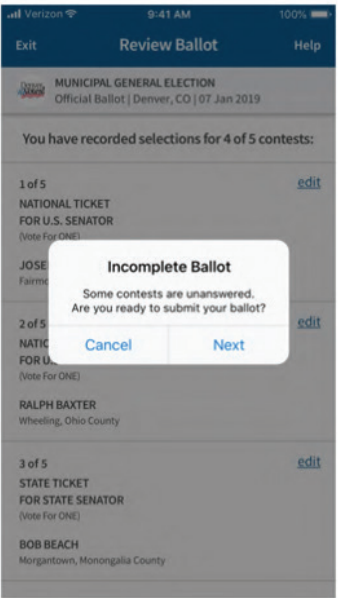


Figure: Undervote Warning

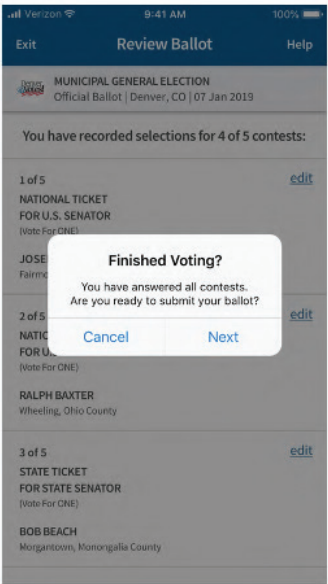


Figure: Review Ballot Warning

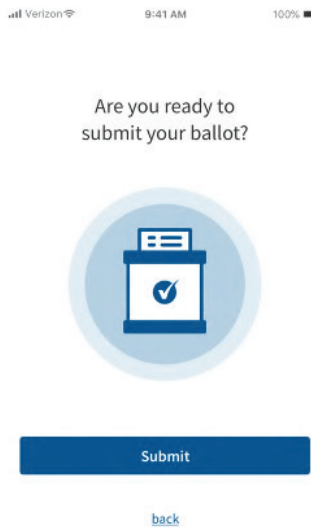


Figure: Final Submission

Confirmation messages to voters.

The voters receive Voting Confirmation Messages before and after a vote is casted. Before a ballot is submitted the application confirms the voters’ identity. Once a ballot is successfully submitted the application will let the voters know that their votes have been successfully recorded.

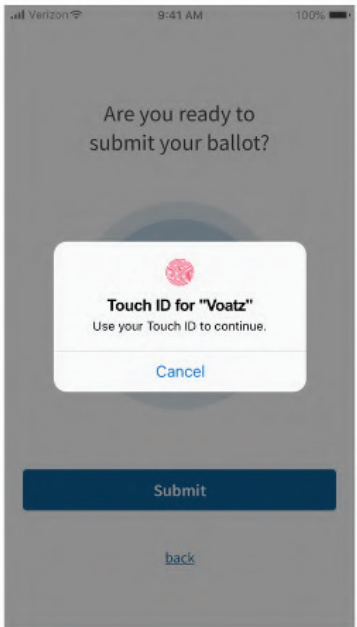


Figure: Biometric Confirmation

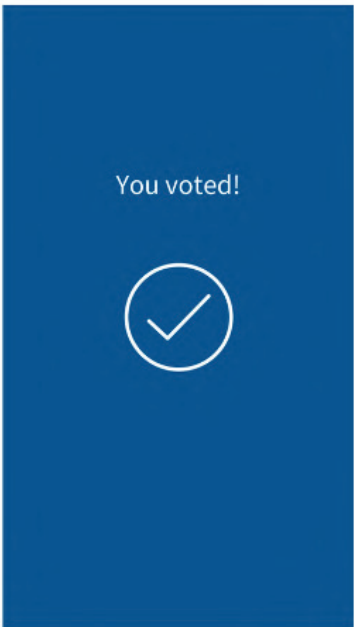


Figure: Voting Confirmation

Customer service during onboarding a voter.

The voter can find support resources via a help menu within the app or on the jurisdiction-specific web landing page (including app download instructions, video tutorials, contact information, and more). As shown in the App screen below, the voter has direct access via e-mail and/or phone call to the support help desk.

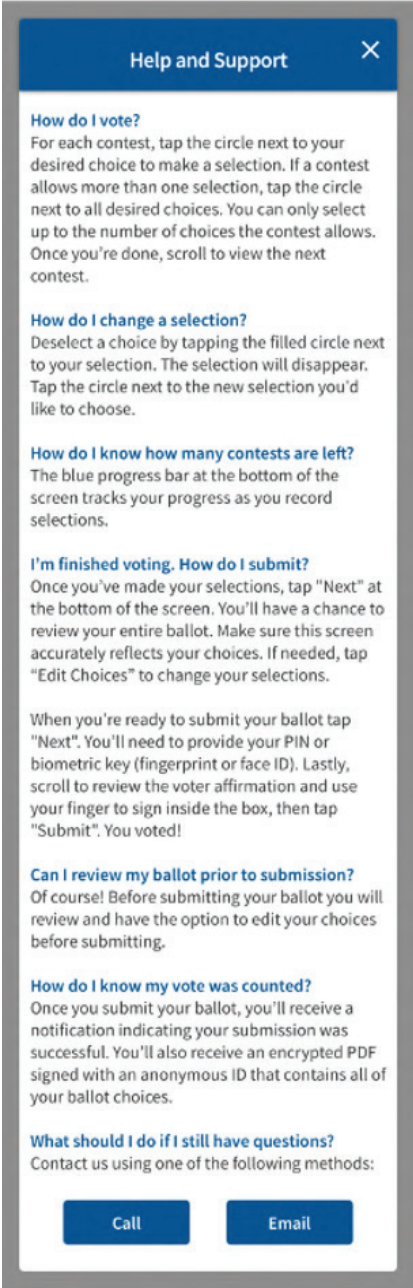


Figure: Voter Help and Support.



Supported Devices

The Voatz Mobile App requires the following minimum hardware and software to operate.

Device	Operating System	Hardware Version	Notes
Android Phone	Android OS 8.0+	Varies with manufacturer and model	1 Gb RAM required.
iOS (iPhone)	iOS 12.4.4+	iPhone version 5s or greater	

Voatz mobile apps are available from Apple App Store and Google Play Store. Voters running less than the minimum OS version on their mobile phone will not be available to install the app.

Mobile App Accessibility Tool and Function Support

The Voatz Mobile App supports native smartphone accessibility features, including those listed here.

- VoiceOver and TalkBack screen readers
- Predictable navigation
- Configurable font size
- Speech-to-Text (for write-ins)
- Voice Command (iOS)
- Configurable session timeout
- Support for Bluetooth assistive devices

RESOLUTION 1

**Submitted to the March 2024
Métis Nation Governing Assembly**

Subject:	Provision to Change Voting Procedures at the June 2024 MNGA
Legislation Affected	n/a
Submitted by:	South Okanagan-Similkameen Métis Association and North East Métis Association
Submitted to:	MNGA Clerk
Date Submitted:	January 18, 2024
Vote required for Approval:	2/3

WHEREAS:

1. The MNGA Act requires that voting at the MNGA be conducted by alphabetic roll call voting, unless the matter under consideration is deemed to be a Housekeeping Matter; and,
2. Hearing the results of Members' votes may unduly influence the votes of Members whose names are called later; and,
3. Roll call voting can be very time consuming and increase the time required to deal with all the business at an MNGA.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. Roll call voting for the June 2024, MNGA be suspended, and voting will be conducted in such a way that all Members will cast their vote at the same time, and may include electronic means to cast votes; and,
- B. If the method of voting at the June 2024, MNGA does not allow for viewing how individual Members voted immediately after voting, the voting records will be shared with MNGA Members within five business days of the end of the meeting and posted on the MNBC website within 10 days of the meeting; and,
- C. The voting records will form part of the official Minutes of the June 2024 MNGA.
- D. This provision will apply only to the June 2024 MNGA.

RESOLUTION 2

**Submitted to the March 2024
Métis Nation Governing Assembly**

Subject:	MNGA Authority to Confirm its Position on MNBC Legislation
Legislation Affected:	n/a
Submitted by:	Salmon Arm Métis Association and: Alberni-Clayoquot Métis Association; Cariboo Chilcotin Métis Association; Chilliwack Métis Association; Cowichan Valley Métis Association; Fort St. John Métis Society; Métis Nation Powell River; Mid-Island Métis Association; South Okanagan-Similkameen Métis Association; Vernon & District Métis Association.
Submitted to:	MNGA Clerk
Date Submitted:	January 19, 2024
Vote Required for Approval:	Majority

WHEREAS:

1. The MNGA is the legislative body of the MNBC as set out in the Constitution and it is well within the MNGA mandate to provide additional guidance to the MNBC's Governance processes; and,
2. Section 23 of the Constitution states:
 23. A person is disqualified from being a Member of the MNBC when:
 - 23.1. They die.
 - 23.2. They resign.
 - 23.3. They are no longer the President of the MNBC, or are no longer the Vice-President of the MNBC or are no longer a Regional Director.
 - 23.4. They are no longer the Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia
 - 23.5. They are no longer the Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia.
 - 23.6. They are under eighteen (18) years of age.
 - 23.7. They have been convicted of a criminal offence carrying a penalty of two (2) years or greater. A person disqualified from being a member of the MNBC by this sub-section may appeal that disqualification to the Senate.
 - 23.8. They have clearly been identified as having breached their fiduciary duty to the Members or to Métis Citizens.

3. Some parts of Section 23, above, apply only to active MNBC Board Members, such as Section 23.2, while others apply only to individuals intending to run, such as Section 23.6, and section 23.7 can be applied to serving members OR individuals intending to run, or both.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. The Métis Nation Governing Assembly declares that Section 23.8 of the Constitution which states:

[A person is disqualified from being a Member of the MNBC when] They have clearly been identified as having breeched their fiduciary duty to the Members or to Métis citizens

Applies to either active MNBC Board Members, or individuals running for an MNBC Board position, or both.

RESOLUTION 3

**Submitted to the March 2024
Métis Nation Governing Assembly**

Subject:	MNGA Members' Oath
Legislation Affected:	MNGA Act
Submitted by:	Fort St. John Métis Society
Submitted to:	MNGA Clerk
Date Submitted:	January 26, 2024
Vote Required for Approval:	75%

WHEREAS:

1. Article 3.4 of the MNGA Act does not allow participating MNGA members to be in a conflict of interest;
2. "Conflict of Interest" in Article 2.6 of the MNGA Act includes becoming a director or officer of a Métis provincial organization whose interests are in conflict with MNBC, or whose activities could negatively affect MNBC's authority to represent Métis people in British Columbia;
3. Not all MNGA members may know that conflict of interest includes part 2, above.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. The following be inserted as Article 3.3.1 in the MNGA Act:

Prior to representing their Community at the MNGA, the President and Vice President of each Community must make a declaration with the Clerk of the MNGA, or designate, affirming that they are not an officer or director of a provincial Métis body or association beyond MNBC, other than a Métis Chartered Community.
- B. The MNGA Clerk be directed to prepare a draft declaration outlined above, for approval at the next MNGA.

RESOLUTION 4

**Submitted to the March 2024
Métis Nation Governing Assembly**

Subject:	Clarifying Citizenship Eligibility/Acceptance
Legislation Affected:	Citizenship Act
Submitted by:	Métis Nation Columbia River Society
Submitted to:	MNGA Clerk
Date Submitted:	January 25, 2025
Vote Required for Approval:	75%

WHEREAS:

1. The Métis National Council General Assembly adopted the following “National Definition” in 2002:

“Métis” means a person who self-identifies as Métis, is distinct from other Aboriginal peoples, is of historic Métis Nation Ancestry and who is accepted by the Métis Nation.”
2. In its judgement in R. v. Powley 2003, the Supreme Court of Canada confirmed that Métis are a rights-bearing Aboriginal people and set out the components of a Métis definition for the purpose of claiming Aboriginal rights under section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 based on ancestral connection to and acceptance by historic Métis communities.
3. Pursuant to the Powley decision, Canada has supported the MNC Governing Members in establishing and maintaining citizenship registries. To be registered as Métis, a person must apply to the Métis Registry operated by the MNC Governing Member in the province in which they reside.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Citizenship Act be amended as follows:

- A. Insert the following as Article 3.1.3

3.1.3 The Applicant recognizes they must not be enrolled on any other Aboriginal registry. This includes being registered as a member, citizen or beneficiary under the Indian Act or with any other organization or group that claims to represent Métis or other Aboriginal peoples for the purposes of rights, interests, and self-government.

B. Subject to approval of A above, in Article 3.2 insert “3.1.3” after 3.1.2 so that the article will read:

3.2 Once the Registrar is satisfied that the Applicant has met the conditions in Articles 3.1, 3.1.1, 3.1.2 and 3.13, the Registration Authority may issue the Applicant notification of community acceptance not exceeding 90 days, and then issue a Métis Nation British Columbia Citizenship Card.

RESOLUTION 5

**Submitted to the March 2024
Métis Nation Governing Assembly**

Subject:	Ensuring Representation for Women and Youth at the MNGA and Regional Governance Councils
Legislation Affected:	Constitution, Electoral Act, Métis Nation Women's Act, Métis Nation Youth Act
Submitted by:	South Okanagan Similkameen Métis Association
Submitted to:	MNGA Clerk
Date Submitted:	December
Vote Required for Approval:	75%

WHEREAS:

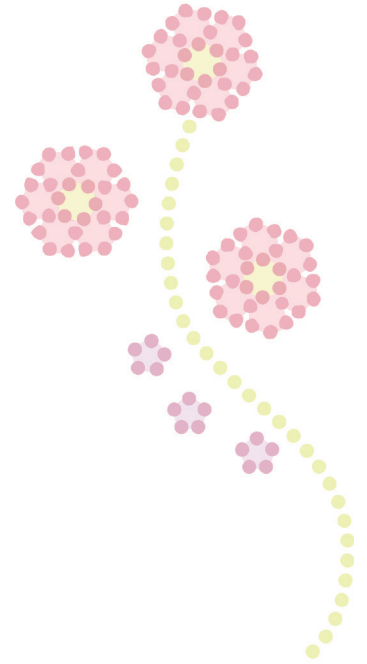
1. Chartered Community Presidents constitute a majority of the membership of Regional Governance Councils (RGCs) and the Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA);
2. In the event a Community President cannot attend an RGC or MNGA Meeting, the Vice-President may attend in their place;
3. Chartered Community Presidents and Vice-Presidents are leaders in their community, and as such may also hold elected Regional positions; and
4. If a President or Vice-President is also an elected Regional representative, reduction of representation at an RGC or MNGA for groups such as women and youth may be negatively impacted.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. The following be added as Article 12.1 to the Constitution:
 - 12.1 While serving in one of the positions noted in Article 12, a member of the MNBC may not hold a position on a Chartered Community Board.
- B. The following be added as Article 8.10 to the Electoral Act:
 - 8.10 Upon election as a Regional Women's or Youth Representative, a Citizen who holds who holds the position of President or Vice-President on a Chartered Community Board must immediately resign from that position.
- C. The following be added as a sub-Article to Article 5.4 of the Métis Nation Women's Act:

Upon election as a Regional Women's Representative, a Citizen who holds the position of President or Vice-President on a Chartered Community Board must immediately resign from that position.

- D. The following be added as a sub-Article to Article 5.5 of the *Métis Nation Youth Act*:
Upon election as a Regional Youth Representative, a Citizen who holds who holds the position of President or Vice-President on a Chartered Community Board must immediately resign from that position.



Constitution and Legislation

MÉTIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA



MÉTIS NATION
BRITISH COLUMBIA

CONSTITUTION

AS RATIFIED SEPTEMBER 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Original Ratification - September 27, 2003

Constitution of the Métis Nation British Columbia

Whereas the Métis People in British Columbia assert their inherent right of self-government and hereby establish the Government of the Métis Nation British Columbia:

FOUNDING PRINCIPLES

1. The Métis Nation is distinct within the Aboriginal peoples of Canada. The Métis are distinct from First Nations and Inuit and are the descendants of the historic Métis who evolved as a people with a common political will and consciousness.
2. Having experienced physical and political conflict and being deprived of property in the late 1800's, we are still engaged in a continuing struggle to rebuild our government and revive our cultural heritage and pride. As such, we are striving for the political, legal and constitutional recognition and guarantees of the rights of Métis people, including the right to a land and resource base, self-governance and self-government institutions. In order to achieve these objectives we are hereby re-establishing a strong and revitalized government within the province of British Columbia, which involves all sectors of Métis society.
3. In accordance with Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, the Métis people are an Aboriginal people within Canada whose existing Aboriginal and treaty rights are recognized and affirmed.

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF MÉTIS PEOPLE

4. The Métis Nation has the right of self-determination. By virtue of that right we, the citizens of the Métis Nation, will freely determine our political status and freely pursue our economic, social and cultural development.
5. The Métis Nation undertakes to respect and ensure to all Métis citizens within the Nation rights without distinction of any kind such as sex, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other views.
6. Métis men and Métis women equally enjoy all civil and political rights set forth in these articles.
7. Every Métis citizen has the right to liberty of movement and freedom to choose their residence.
8. No Métis Citizen shall be subject to arbitrary or unlawful interference with their privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to unlawful attacks on their honour or reputation.
9. Every Métis citizen has the right to freedom of thought, expression, conscience and religion.

10. Every Métis Citizen has the right of association and to assemble and organize at the community level. No restrictions may be placed on the exercise of this right other than those necessary to protect the peace and order of the Métis Nation as prescribed by the Métis Nation Governing Assembly.
11. Nothing in this Constitution abrogates or derogates from the rights Métis people have or may exercise under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

MÉTIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA (MNBC)

12. Subject to the provisions of Article 46, the MNBC shall be comprised of the seven (7) Elected Regional Directors, the elected representative for the Métis Women of British Columbia, the elected Representative of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, the President and Vice-President for a total of eleven (11) Members.
13. The MNBC shall be responsible for ensuring that Communities, departments, programs and services are running smoothly and have the necessary resources to enable them to operate efficiently. This responsibility recognizes that funding may be limited, that there will be competing priorities for resources and that all requests for resources are unlikely to be met.
14. The MNBC shall provide a written Activity Report and a written Financial Report at each session of the Métis Nation Governing Assembly.
15. The Executive of the MNBC shall be comprised of four (4) Members: the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.
16. The MNBC shall appoint a Secretary and a Treasurer to the Executive from among its Members.
17. The MNBC shall have the authority to appoint Commissions, Committees or other subsidiary bodies, where they are deemed necessary in order to effectively carry out the activities and functions of the MNBC or the Métis Nation Governing Assembly. In appointing such bodies, the MNBC must ensure that adequate financial resources are available to permit the bodies to conduct their assigned activities and that all such bodies have clear terms of reference, including reporting requirements.
18. The MNBC shall designate persons who may have signing authority for the purposes of conducting the affairs of the MNBC and the Métis Nation Governing Assembly, which shall include the Treasurer.
19. The MNBC shall meet at least four (4) times per year at the call of the President or Vice-President in the absence of the President. The President or Vice-President as the case may be shall give two (2) days written notice of all MNBC meetings to all the Members of the MNBC. The two (2) day notice period may be waived by the Members in attendance at a meeting.
 - 19.1. A meeting of the MNBC can be called by a majority of the Board of Directors.
20. Quorum of the MNBC shall be the majority of the Board of Directors.
21. Decisions of the MNBC shall require a simple majority.

22. A person may not be a Member of the MNBC when they hold a salaried position directly with the Métis Nation Governing Assembly or the MNBC. This does not disqualify a person from being a Member of the MNBC when that person receives an honorarium, salary or per diem for performing the duties of that elected office.
23. A person is disqualified from being a Member of the MNBC when:
 - 23.1. They die.
 - 23.2. They resign.
 - 23.3. They are no longer the President of the MNBC, or are no longer the Vice- President of the MNBC or are no longer a Regional Director.
 - 23.4. They are no longer the Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia
 - 23.5. They are no longer the Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia.
 - 23.6. They are under eighteen (18) years of age.
 - 23.7. They have been convicted of a criminal offence carrying a penalty of two (2) years or greater. A person disqualified from being a member of the MNBC by this sub-section may appeal that disqualification to the Senate.
 - 23.8. They have clearly been identified as having breeched their fiduciary duty to the Members or to Métis citizens.
24. A member of the MNBC shall not be removed from the MNBC for any reason other than as set out in Article 23 or through an election held in accordance with this Constitution.
25. A person may be suspended from being a Board Member of the MNBC, with or without pay, by a vote of the majority of the Members of the MNBC. A person so suspended may appeal the suspension to the Senate whose decision shall be final and binding.
26. Should there no longer be a President of the MNBC pursuant to Article 23 and 25, the Vice-President shall fulfill the Office of the President until a by-election is held to elect a new President in accordance with Article 46.
27. The Secretary or the Treasurer may resign from the Executive without being disqualified from being a Member of the MNBC.

MÉTIS NATION GOVERNING ASSEMBLY (MNGA)

28. There shall be established a Métis Nation Governing Assembly, which shall be the governing legislative body of the Métis Nation British Columbia.
29. 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, and the elected Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia.

- 29.1. In the event a Community President is unable to attend a General Assembly, the Community's Vice-President may represent that Community.
30. The Métis Nation Governing Assembly shall review and ratify legislation, regulations, rules, resolutions and constitutional amendments for presentation and final ratification at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting.
31. The Métis Nation Governing Assembly shall have the authority to appoint Commissions, Committees or other subsidiary bodies, where they are deemed necessary in order to effectively carry out their legislative duties. In appointing such bodies, the Métis Nation Governing Assembly must ensure that adequate financial resources are available to permit the bodies to conduct their assigned activities and that all such bodies have clear terms of reference, including reporting requirements.
32. 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.
- 32.1 The Métis Nation Governing Assembly shall, subject to the availability of financial resources, meet at the request of the MNBC or on the request of a Regional Governance Council, at such times and in such manner as may be appropriate in the circumstances, including but not limited to electronic or telephone communication, to consider motions that may have, as their effect, the resolve of matters that are urgent or require a decision prior to the next annual sitting of the MNGA.
33. Fifty (50) per cent plus one of the Members of the Métis Nation Governing Assembly constitutes a quorum. However quorum must include a majority of the MNBC Board of Directors.
34. A person is disqualified from being a Member of the Métis Nation Governing Assembly when:
- 34.1. They die.
- 34.2. They resign.
- 34.3. They are no longer the President or Vice-President of a Community.
- 34.4. They are no longer the Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia.
- 34.5. They are no longer the Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia.
- 34.6. They are under eighteen (18) years of age, except for the Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia.
- 34.7. They have clearly breached their fiduciary duty to the Members or the Métis citizens.

35. A person may be suspended temporarily or permanently from being a Member of the MNGA by a vote of the majority of the Members of the MNGA where at least three-quarters of the Members of the MNGA are present. A person so suspended may appeal the suspension to the Senate whose decision shall be final and binding.

ELECTIONS

36. Any Métis citizen who is eighteen (18) years of age or older may vote or seek elected office within the Métis Nation Governing Assembly, the MNBC or a Community.
37. 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.
38. 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.
39. Any person seeking elected office must have been a resident of British Columbia at least twelve (12) months prior to the date of the election and must have been a resident of a Region at least six (6) months prior to the date of the election in order to seek elected office as a Community President or Regional Director.
40. To vote in an election, a person must have been a resident of British Columbia at least twelve (12) months prior to the date of the election and must have been a resident of a Region at least six (6) months prior to the date of the election in order to vote for a Community President or Regional Director. A person who wishes to vote for a Community President or Regional Director, but has not been a resident of a Region for six (6) months may vote for a Community President or Regional Director in the Region that they lived immediately prior to the election, provided that they meet the other voting requirements.
41. The President and the Vice-President of the MNBC, the Chairperson for the Métis Women of British Columbia and the Chairperson for the Métis Youth of British Columbia shall be elected by a province-wide ballot.
42. Elections for the MNBC shall be held once every four (4) years on any date within 6 months prior to the 4th year anniversary.
43. Elections for the Métis Nation Governing Assembly who are not also Members of the MNBC shall be held at least every two (2) years.
44. There shall be no limits on the number of terms that may be served by anyone elected to the Métis Nation Governing Assembly, the MNBC or a Community.
45. In order to run for elected office in the MNBC, a candidate must provide a Criminal Record Check from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or Municipal Police Detachment to the Chief Electoral Officer with the filed nomination papers for the purpose of satisfying Article 23.7. The results and content of the Criminal Record Check shall not be made public, unless the candidate voluntarily consents in writing.

46. Subject to available financial resources, a by-election shall be held within one hundred and twenty (120) days of the date of any vacancy on the MNBC or of any elected position at the regional level. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President and financial resources are unavailable, the sitting Vice-President will fill the office of President and the MNBC Board of Directors will appoint, from among them, a person to fill the office of Vice-President until a by-election or election is held for that position.
- 46.1. In the case of a vacancy in the position of the Provincial Women's Chairperson, an interim chairperson will be recommended to the MNGA by the Board of Directors on the advice of the MWBC Provincial Governance Council.
- 46.2. In the case of a vacancy in the position of the Provincial Youth Chairperson, an interim chairperson will be recommended to the MNGA by the Board of Directors on the advice of the MYBC Committee;
- 46.3. In the case of any other vacancy on the Board of Directors, an interim Director, as selected by the RGC will be recommended to the MNGA by the Board of Directors and if approved by the MNGA, the vacancy shall be filled by the interim Director. In the case of a vacancy in a position of a MWBC Regional Representative or MYBC Regional Representative, an interim Representative will be recommended to the MNGA by the respective RGC, and if approved by the MNGA, the vacancy shall be filled by the interim representative. An interim Director or Representative shall be subject to Article 45 of the Constitution.
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.

SENATE

48. The Senate shall be responsible for the provisions outlined in the legislation known as the Senate Act.
49. The Senate shall be comprised of seven (7) Senators. Each of the seven (7) Regions shall appoint one (1) Senator in the manner and process as set out in the Senate Act.
50. In order to be considered for a Senate appointment, a Senate candidate must be a Métis citizen and must have provided a Criminal Record Check from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or Municipal Police Detachment to the MNBC who will review the Criminal Record Check in confidence to ensure compliance with sub-section 54.3. The results and content of the Criminal Record Check shall not be made public, unless the Senate candidate voluntarily consents in writing.
51. No Senator may hold any elected or salaried position within the MNBC, MNGA, Community, or subsidiary Board, Commission or Committee, Métis Women of British Columbia or the Métis Youth of British Columbia and must resign from any such position prior to appointment to the Senate.
52. Senators shall be appointed for a term and conditions as set out in the Senate Act.

53. A person ceases to be a Senator when:
- 53.1. They resign.
 - 53.2. They die.
 - 53.3. They have been convicted of a criminal offence carrying a penalty over two (2) years (2) years or greater.
 - 53.4. They take a salaried position prohibited by Article 51.
 - 53.5. Or as outlined in the provisions of the Senate Act.
54. The MNBC shall determine the rate of remuneration and expenses for the first term of the Senate. Thereafter, the MNBC shall determine the rate of remuneration and expenses for the Senate, based on financial resources, which may be available for that purpose.

COMMUNITIES

55. Communities shall be the basic unit of the Métis Government. No community (city, town, municipality or unincorporated municipal unit) shall have more than one (1) Community.
- 55.1 Communities seeking chartered designation shall require written approval by motion of seventy five (75) percent of the Applicable Regional Governance Council members and such motion to be submitted to the MNGA;
 - 55.2 Geographical boundaries of Community/Communities seeking Community Governance Charter shall be submitted as part of the motion to the MNGA;
 - 55.3 Ratification by seventy five (75) percent of the MNGA is required.
56. A Community shall be made up of at least twenty-five (25) Members who are Métis Citizens eighteen (18) years of age or older.
- 56.1 If a group of Métis Citizens residing in a city, town, municipality or unincorporated municipal unit in which there is no existing Chartered Community, that group of Citizens may apply to the applicable Regional Governance Council for interim Chartered Community designation (hereinafter referred to as an “Interim Chartered Community” or having “Interim Chartered Community Status” as the case may be) provided the application is signed by at least 15 Members who are Métis Citizens eighteen (18) years of age or older.
 - 56.2 The process for seeking Interim Chartered Community Status must follow the process set out in Articles 55.1, 55.2 and 55.3 of this Constitution.
 - 56.3 If the application is approved by the MNGA, Interim Chartered Community Status can be granted for a maximum two (2) year period from the date ratification is confirmed by the MNGA, or when the Interim Chartered Community achieves twenty-five (25) Members and then applies for Chartered Community status pursuant to the provisions of Article 55, and then is approved.

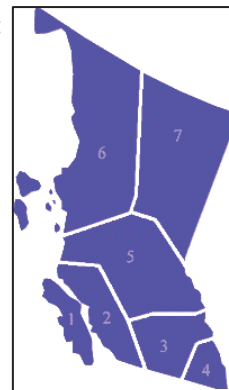
- 56.4 An Interim Chartered Community shall have observer status at an MNGA, and shall not have voting rights.
- 56.5 An Interim Chartered Community may receive benefits and services from MNBC at the sole discretion of the MNBC.
57. Métis communities recognized by the MNBC Constitution and Legislation are required to enter into Community Governance Charters that define an affiliated relationship for financial and political accountability, mutual recognition and dispute resolution. Hereinafter known as “Community Governance Charter”.
58. All Communities shall, as soon as possible, enact a Constitution that is consistent with this Constitution.

REGIONS

59. In the event that a Community is in contravention of the terms of its Community Governance Charter or of the provisions of the MNBC Constitution, the MNBC will do all within its ability to assist the community to come into compliance within the Community Governance Charter and/or MNBC Constitution as the case may be and, in the event the Community, in the discretion of the MNBC, remains or continues to be non-compliant, the MNBC shall make such recommendations to the MNGA as may be deemed appropriate, with the effect of dissolving that community’s Community Governance Charter and affiliation with the MNBC.

- 59.1 There shall be seven (7) Regions as set out in the adjacent map:

Region 1 Vancouver Island
 Region 2 Lower Mainland
 Region 3 Thompson/Okanagan
 Region 4 Kootenays
 Region 5 North Central
 Region 6 Northwest
 Region 7 Northeast



60. 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, and the Métis Women of British Columbia Regional Representative. The Regional Director of the MNBC shall be the non-voting Chairperson of the Regional Governance Council.

- 60.1. All members of a Regional Governance Council must be registered with the Métis Nation British Columbia Central Registry as MNBC Citizens.
- 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. MNBC leadership is responsible for consulting and engaging with Regional Governance Councils regarding all relevant agreements impacting Citizens.
- 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.”
- 60.7. If a member of the Regional Governance Council has been disqualified from being a member of the Métis Nation Governing Assembly pursuant to any of the provisions under Article 34, or if they have suspended from being a member of the MNGA pursuant to the provisions of Article 35, such disqualification or suspension shall also apply to their membership and participation in the applicable Regional Governance Council.
- 60.8. If the President of a Community is unable to attend an RGC meeting, each Chartered Community Board may designate an Elected Board Member of the Chartered Community to participate with voting privileges, provided they are a Métis Citizen ..

CITIZENSHIP

- 61. Métis means a person who self-identifies as Métis, is of historic Métis Nation Ancestry, is distinct from other Aboriginal Peoples and is accepted by the Métis Nation.
 - 61.1. “Historic Métis Nation” means the Aboriginal people then known as Métis or Half-Breeds who resided in Historic Métis Nation Homeland.
 - 61.2. “Historic Métis Nation Homeland” means the area of land in west central North America used and occupied as the traditional territory of the Métis or Half-Breeds as they were then known.
 - 61.3. “Métis Nation” means the Aboriginal people descended from the Historic Métis Nation, which is now comprised of all Métis Nation citizens and is one of the “aboriginal peoples of Canada” within Section 35 of the Constitution Act of 1982.
 - 61.4. “Distinct from other Aboriginal Peoples” means distinct for cultural and nationhood purposes.

62. The MNBC has a unique citizenship card for citizens of the Métis Nation in BC. These cards are numbered and the numbers recorded in the central registry by the office of the registrar.
63. Citizenship cards shall be issued to all Métis upon a person presenting themselves for citizenship and satisfying the definition set out above.
64. Where there is a dispute as to citizenship, a ruling shall be made by the Senate in accordance with the provisions of the Senate Act or the policies and procedures to be developed by the Senate, which ruling shall be final and binding.

MÉTIS INDEPENDENCE

65. The Métis Nation is seeking a third order of government within Canada, so the Métis Nation is non-partisan in respect of federal and provincial politics. This does not restrict the right of Métis individuals to hold Memberships in or to express personal opinions about federal, provincial, municipal partisan politics.
66. Any person seeking federal government or provincial government elected office shall take an unpaid leave of absence from any elected position that he or she 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 he or she may hold with the MNBC, MNGA, Senate, Community or subsidiary Board, Commission or Committee.
67. All Members of the MNBC, MNGA and Senate shall swear an Oath of Allegiance prior to taking office.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

68. An Annual General Meeting of the Métis Nation British Columbia must be held annually. The precise dates and locations of an AGM must be determined at the AGM immediately preceding that AGM. The agenda for each AGM shall include:
 - 68.1. Audited Financial Report for Previous Fiscal Year
 - 68.2. President's Report for Previous Fiscal Year
 - 68.3. Business of the Métis Nation Governing Assembly
 - 68.4. Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia Secretariat Annual Report.
 - 68.5. Separate audited financial annual reports for each subsidiary company/companies, limited corporations or sole proprietorship registered under the Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia (MPCBC) shall be appended to the MNBC Financial Audited Report.
69. Only persons who have registered as a Métis Citizen pursuant to the *MNBC Citizenship Act*, and are registered as a MNBC Citizen within the MNBC Central Registry, are entitled to speak and be issued voting credentials at a MNBC AGM or SGM.

SECRETARIAT

70. A Secretariat known as the Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia shall be continued or created under the BC Society Act for the sole purpose of carrying out the administrative duties of the MNBC, MNGA and the Senate.
71. The Board of Directors of the Secretariat shall be the Members of the MNBC.

AMENDMENT

72. All legislation, legislative amendments, constitutional amendments and resolutions shall be considered and given first reading by the MNGA in accordance with the provisions of the Métis Nation Governing Assembly Act.
73. This Constitution will only be amended by the following process:
- 73.1. Any amendment must be ratified by the MNGA, pursuant to the legislation of the *MNGA Act*;
 - 73.2. Amendments ratified by the MNGA are then presented for final approval to the Citizens present at the MNBC AGM.
 - 73.3. At least seventy-five (75%) of votes cast in favor of the proposed amendment is required for ratification.

MÉTIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA



MÉTIS NATION
BRITISH COLUMBIA

MÉTIS NATION CITIZENSHIP ACT

AS RATIFIED SEPTEMBER 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

ARTICLE ONE - TITLE

1.0 This Act may be cited as "The Métis Nation British Columbia Citizenship Act"

ARTICLE TWO - INTERPRETATION

2.1 In this Act:

- 2.2 **“Act”** means the *Métis Nation British Columbia Citizenship Act*.
- 2.3 **“Adoption”** Act of transferring parental rights and duties to someone other than the adopted person's biological parents by means of a statutory adoption or a customary Métis adoption.
- 2.4 **“Adopted Métis Citizen”** A Métis Citizen that has acquired their Métis Citizenship as per Article 12 of the MNBC Citizenship Act.
- 2.5 **“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;
- 2.6 **“Applicant”** means an individual who applies for a Provincial Citizenship Card by filing the necessary documentation with the Citizenship Authority.
- 2.7 **“Application”** means the Provincial Citizenship Standardized Application Form.
- 2.8 A **“Chartered Community”** is a Métis Community that has entered into a Community Governance Charter agreement with the MNBC.
- 2.9 **“Child”** means a child of a Métis citizen.
- 2.10 **“Citizenship Appeal Committee”** means the Métis Nation British Columbia Citizenship Appeal Committee as established and maintained by the Senate.
- 2.11 **“Citizenship Authority”** (the “Authority”) means the office in the Ministry of Citizenship which processes, assesses, ensures Chartered Community acceptance is approved within the required timeframe, and issues citizenship cards. The Authority consists of:
- The Executive Director of Citizenship
 - The Director of Citizenship
 - The Citizenship Assessment Manager
- 2.12 **“Community Governance Charter”** means the written document that shall set out the terms of the relationship between a Chartered Community and the MNBC.
- 2.13 **“Constitution”** means the *Constitution* of the Métis Nation British Columbia as amended from time to time.

- 2.14 **“Customary Adoption”** An adoption that is consistent with the historical and customary practices of the Métis Nation which has occurred at an early age by an immediate or extended family member.
- 2.15 **“Extended Family Member”** Is a grandparent, uncle, aunt, cousin, nephew and/or niece that is a Métis Citizen or is eligible for Métis citizenship as per the *MNBC Citizenship Act*.
- 2.16 **“Genealogical Evidence”** means evidence which indicates proof that an Applicant’s parent is, or parents are, of Métis Ancestry and that the Applicant is Métis and which can be verified by an objective and valid process.
- 2.17 **“Historical and Customary Practices”** The traditional undertaking of privately arranged adoption between a Métis Citizen’s family and another aboriginal family.
- 2.18 **“Immediate Family Member”** Is a parent (mother/father), child (son/daughter) or sibling (sister/brother) that is a Métis Citizen or is eligible for Métis citizenship as per the *MNBC Citizenship Act*.
- 2.19 **“Legislation”** means legislative documents or acts pursuant to which the administrative affairs and constitutional requirements of the MNBC shall be carried out.
- 2.20 **“Registration”** means citizenship in the MNBC.
- 2.21 **“Métis”** or **“Citizen”** means a Métis Citizen as defined by the *Constitution*.
- 2.22 **“Métis Nation Governing Assembly”** (MNGA) means the legislative authority of the Métis Nation British Columbia as set out in the *Constitution*.
- 2.23 **“Métis Nation British Columbia”** (MNBC) means the organization previously known as the Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia which represents and is comprised of the Métis Citizens of British Columbia and which is governed by the provisions of the *Constitution* which is also the *Constitution* of the Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia.
- 2.24 **“Métis Nation British Columbia”** (MNBC) means the governing body with the secretariat known as the Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia, which represents and is comprised of the Métis citizens of British Columbia and which is governed by the provision of the *Constitution*.
- 2.25 **“Provincial Citizenship Card”** means the identification card that shall be issued by the Citizenship Authority to all Métis Citizens who have had their Genealogy and supporting documentation validated and verified by the Office of the Citizenship Authority.
- 2.26 **“Registry”** means the data and systems used by the Ministry of Citizenship to gather and store information about Métis Citizens.

- 2.27 **“Statutory Adoption”** An adoption that is granted under the authority of provincial and/or territorial government legislation.
- 2.28 **“Supporting Documentation”** is defined as records used to support an application for Citizenship, including Vital events records, historical records, church records, archival records, and census records.
- 2.29 **“Registered”** means registered as a Métis Citizen under this Act.
- 2.30 **“Under Review”** means a previously registered Citizen whose citizenship is currently being reviewed by the Citizenship Authority following an audit or review of the Central Registry

ARTICLE THREE – MÉTIS NATION ACCEPTANCE

- 3.1 The MNBC shall accept an application for citizenship upon Applicant providing to the Citizenship Authority a written application together with sufficient Genealogical evidence which, if accepted by the Citizenship Authority, is proof that the Applicant is of Métis ancestry, and that the Applicant complies with the following conditions:
 - 3.1.1 The Applicant normally resides within the Chartered Community area and the jurisdiction of the MNBC; and
 - 3.1.2 The Applicant expressly holds themselves out to be Métis in the Chartered Community and/or within the jurisdiction of the MNBC;
- 3.2 Once the Citizenship Authority is satisfied that the Applicant has met the conditions in Articles 3.1, 3.1.1 and 3.1.2, the Citizenship Authority may issue the Applicant notification of Chartered Community acceptance not exceeding 90 days, and then issue a Métis Nation British Columbia Citizenship Card.
- 3.3 The Citizenship Authority shall provide a list of new Citizens to their respective Communities on a monthly basis, unless operational circumstances prevent that from happening, and in such a case the list of new Citizens must be provided by the end of the following month

ARTICLE FOUR - REGISTRATION PROCESS

- 4.1 An individual is entitled to make application for registration as a Métis Citizen by making application to the MNBC or to a Chartered Community;
- 4.2 Upon approval of registration, the Citizenship Authority shall issue a Provincial Citizenship Card recognizing the Applicant as a Métis Citizen.
- 4.3 The parent or guardian of a child under nineteen (19) years of age may apply for registration on behalf of the child;
- 4.4 The guardian of an individual who is under a mental or legal disability may apply for registration on behalf of that individual;
- 4.5 No individual is obliged to apply for registration;

- 4.6 In the case of an application for registration, the Applicant must provide the Citizenship Authority with genealogy and the supporting documentation necessary to validate and verify that the Applicant is Métis;
- 4.7 The Citizenship Authority shall review applications for registration and shall register an Applicant as a Métis only if:
- a) The Applicant is entitled to be registered as a Métis pursuant to the provisions of this Act;
 - b) Upon completion of the Métis Nation acceptance process; and
 - c) The application is properly made.
- 4.8 The Citizenship Authority shall establish and implement a process to seek out and encourage the application for registration of all qualified individuals who are entitled to be registered as Métis Citizens.

ARTICLE FIVE - VOLUNTARY REMOVAL FROM REGISTRY

- 5.1 A Métis Citizen may, at any time, voluntarily remove themselves from the Registry;
- 5.2 The Citizenship Authority shall remove a Métis Citizen who, by written request, declares that they no longer wish to be registered as a Métis Citizen;
- 5.3 A Métis Citizen who has removed themselves from the Registry may re-apply for Registration upon following the procedure for Registration as a Métis Citizen as set out in this Act.

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 Citizenship Authority 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 Citizenship Authority. 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 Citizenship Authority.
- 6.2 If the Citizenship Authority 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 Citizenship Authority 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 Citizenship Authority's decision to the Senate, within sixty (60) days of the date removal notice is sent by the Citizenship Authority. 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 Citizenship Authority 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 Citizenship Authority. 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.

ARTICLE SEVEN – CENTRAL REGISTRY

- 7.1 The Ministry of Citizenship shall maintain a uniform system for the Registration of Métis Citizens;
- 7.2 The Ministry of Citizenship shall collect and maintain the information necessary to determine registration; the information to be collected is listed on the MNBC Citizenship Application Package and updated from time to time.
- 7.3 The Ministry of Citizenship may collect and register additional demographic information about Métis Citizens as, in the Ministry of Citizenship's sole discretion, is deemed necessary and/or expedient;
- 7.4 All information concerning Applicants or Métis Citizens located at the Central Registry is confidential and the Ministry of Citizenship shall adhere to or cause to be adhered to, all federal and provincial Privacy Laws;
- 7.5 The Ministry of Citizenship shall cause the Registry to be kept safely by administrative, physical, and technological safeguards that are reasonable and consistent with this Act;
- 7.6 The Ministry of Citizenship will, with the consent of the MNBC Board of Directors obtain permission from Citizens to release certain personal information of Citizens to the Provincial or Federal Governments for health and social determinants of health research purposes only, provided that each Citizen affected by that permission has been provided with an information document fully describing the information proposed by the Ministry of Citizenship to be released, including a release statement that provides that Citizen with an opportunity to

decline or refuse to permit the release of the personal information proposed to be released.

- i) In the event a Citizen, having been provided with a reasonable opportunity to respond to the Ministry of Citizenship at the address provided, declines to give their consent for the information to be released, then that information will not be released.

- 7.7 Applicants may apply for Citizenship by written Application through a Chartered Community, a regional registry clerk, or directly to the Métis Nation British Columbia registry;
- 7.8 Application shall be submitted by the Chartered Community of the MNBC and/or the Regional Registry Clerk to the Ministry of Citizenship for consideration and entry into the Central Registry;
- 7.9 An Applicant whose application is not approved by the Ministry of Citizenship shall be notified, in writing of the decision;
- 7.10 An Applicant, having applied for Citizenship directly to the MNBC and whose Application the Citizenship Authority approves, shall be issued a Provincial Citizenship Card by the Central Registry and forwarded directly to the Applicant;
- 7.11 An Applicant, who has applied for MNBC Citizenship, where the application has been forwarded by a Chartered Community or Regional Registry Clerk, and whose application the Provincial Citizenship Authority approves, shall be issued a Provincial Citizenship Card by the Central Registry and forwarded directly to the Applicant;
- 7.12 Each Provincial Citizenship Card shall bear a personal and individual registration number and clearly identify which MNBC Region the Citizens resides;
- 7.13 Provincial Citizenship Cards issued pursuant this Act shall constitute the only legitimate and valid proof of Métis Citizenship to the exclusion of all other cards and/or documents of any nature;
- 7.14 Except as may be otherwise provided by this Act, the MNBC shall be solely responsible for the development and distribution of the Provincial Citizenship Application Forms and the Provincial Citizenship Card.

ARTICLE EIGHT - REGISTRY OFFICE

- 8.0 The MNBC shall establish a Citizenship Authority which shall maintain and provide Provincial Citizenship Application Forms and Provincial Citizenship Cards to Applicants or Chartered Communities when consent to Release of Personal information forms have been signed and submitted by the Applicant.

ARTICLE NINE - THE MINISTRY OF CITIZENSHIP

- 9.1 The Ministry of Citizenship shall be required to follow all policies and procedures developed by the MNBC and shall:
- 9.2 Receive and review applications for citizenship submitted by an Applicant on the Provincial Standardized Citizenship Application Forms and shall render a decision whether a person is entitled to be registered pursuant to this Act;
- 9.3 Be and is authorized to request and obtain Genealogical evidence and/or any other documentation and information which may be relevant to an application and the proper discharge of the Ministry of Citizenship's duties;
- 9.4 Provide a report in writing to MNGA and the MNBC upon their reasonable request;
- 9.5 Maintain the Central Registry in a suitable and proper manner;
- 9.6 Provide a written decision to the Applicant and/or the Chartered Community, as may be appropriate under the circumstances concerning an application;
- 9.7 Include with any written decision, written instruction on the procedure for commencing an appeal from a decision of the Ministry of Citizenship;
- 9.8 Be authorized to render decisions on the voluntary removal of Métis Citizens from the Central Registry;
- 9.9 Applicants whose applications are not approved for Citizenship by the Central Registry may appeal such decision to the Senate;
- 9.10 Ensure that all documentation and information in the possession of the Ministry of Citizenship with respect to the application under appeal is provided, together with the Ministry of Citizenship's report, to the Senate prior to the date upon which the appeal is to be heard;
- 9.11 Comply with any reasonable request of the Senate or of the Citizens' Appeal Committee or other appropriate Senate Tribunal for information or material concerning the Application or an appeal;
- 9.12 Supervise the staff and operation of the Registry Office;
- 9.13 Respond to any reasonable request for information from an Applicant, the appropriate Chartered Community or the MNBC concerning an application.

ARTICLE TEN - CITIZENSHIP APPEAL

- 10.0 An Applicant, Chartered Community or the MNBC may appeal a decision of the Citizenship Authority concerning the application of an Applicant for Citizenship to the Senate pursuant to the provisions of this Act or the Senate Act.

ARTICLE ELEVEN - FINANCES

- 11.0 The expenses and costs associated with the maintenance of the Ministry of Citizenship including the remuneration for the office of the Citizenship Authority and the Registry office staff shall be established by the MNBC based on the availability of fiscal resources.

ARTICLE TWELVE - ADOPTION

- 12.1 The MNBC shall accept an application for citizenship as a Métis Citizen upon applicant providing to the Citizenship Authority objectively verifiable proof of an adoption which, if accepted by the Citizenship Authority, proves that the Applicant has been adopted by a Métis Citizen or is eligible for citizenship as per the *MNBC Citizenship Act*.
- 12.2 The adopted Métis Citizen's citizenship is limited by a life estate termination, unless;
- 12.3 The adopted Métis Citizen marries a Métis Citizen, thereby which the offspring can attain their citizenship through the Métis genealogy of the other parent.
- 12.4 An adult adoption (18 years or older) is exempt from receiving Métis Citizenship as per *Article 12.0*.

MÉTIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA



MÉTIS NATION
BRITISH COLUMBIA

MÉTIS NATION ELECTORAL ACT

AS RATIFIED SEPTEMBER 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

ARTICLE ONE – NAME

- 1.0 This *Electoral Act* of the Métis Nation British Columbia shall be cited as the "*MNBC Electoral Act*" and hereinafter be referred to as the "*Electoral Act*".

ARTICLE TWO – PURPOSE, SEAL AND NAME

- 2.0 The purpose of the *Electoral Act* is to establish fair, open and democratic procedures and rules for the Elections of the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC).

ARTICLE THREE – DEFINITIONS

- 3.0 In this document:
- 3.1 **“Advance Poll”** means a vote held prior to the designated Election Day so as to allow those voters who may be unable to attend a Polling Station the ability to vote either by voting at a Polling Station or by Mail-in Ballot;
 - 3.2 **“Ballot”** or **“ballot”** means a paper or document representing a vote by an Elector and means vote where the context so dictates;
 - 3.3 **“Board Member”** means a person that currently holds a position on the MNBC Board of Directors.
 - 3.4 **“Board of Directors”** means the governing body of the MNBC made up of the President, Vice-President, the Regional Directors, the Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia, and the Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia;
 - 3.5 **“By-Election”** means an Election to replace or fill a vacancy in the MNBC Board of Directors, the Métis Women of British Columbia and/or the Métis Youth of British Columbia 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*;
 - 3.6 **“Campaign Period”** means that period of time from the date that the MNBC Election is called and the date at which the Chief Electoral Officer declares the successful Candidates elected;
 - 3.7 **“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 and Chairperson and Regional Representatives of the Métis Women of British Columbia;

- 3.8 “**Chief Electoral Officer**” means a contractor appointed in writing after final approval of the Métis Nation Governing Assembly. The Métis Nation British Columbia Board of Directors is charged with developing a call for proposals and short listing potential contractors to operate Elections for the Métis Nation British Columbia. This short list will be presented to the MNGA for final approval of the successful Chief Electoral Officer;
- 3.9 “**Conflict of Interest**” means the circumstances in which there is a real, potential or apparent conflict between the private interests of a person and the interests of the Métis Nation. This also includes circumstances in which a person represents or is a director/officer of an organization, association or party whose interests are in conflict with the interests of the MNBC;
- 3.10 “**Constitution**” means the *Constitution* of the Métis Nation British Columbia as adopted by the Métis citizens at the Annual General Meeting September 2003 and revised from time to time thereafter;
- 3.11 “**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, and Chairperson and Regional Representatives of the Métis Women of British Columbia as set out in the Métis Nation British Columbia Constitution.
- 3.12 “**Election Day**” means the official day when the votes cast by Electors at an Election are counted;
- 3.13 “**Election Voting Period**” means, in the case of a Polling Station vote, that period of time as designated by the Chief Electoral Officer and in the case of a Mail-in Ballot or online voting Election, that period of time as set by the Chief Electoral Officer pursuant to Sub-Article 15.2 of this *Electoral Act*.
- 3.14 “**Election Officer**” means the Chief Electoral Officer, Returning Officers and Poll Clerks appointed for a particular Election or by-Election;
- 3.15 “**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.
- 3.16 “**Interim Appointee**” means a person who is appointed to fill a vacancy on the Board of Directors, or a MWBC Regional Representative or MYBC Regional Representative on an interim basis pursuant to the provisions of Article 46 of the *Constitution*.

- 3.17 **“Leave of Absence”** means an unpaid leave of absence for an MNBC employee, however, where applicable, an employee may use any accrued annual vacation.
- 3.18 **“List of Electors”** means a list made pursuant to this *Electoral Act* and prepared by the MNBC Central Registry of individuals entitled to vote in a Métis Nation British Columbia Election;
- 3.19 **“Mail-in ballot”** means a vote that is cast by an Elector and delivered by mail or courier to the location or individual designated by the Chief Electoral Officer in accordance with Sub- Article 5.6 herein;
- 3.20 **“Métis Citizen”** is a Métis person as defined in the *Constitution* and listed in the central registry;
- 3.21 **“Métis Community”** shall mean the Métis Nation British Columbia communities as set out in the *Constitution*;
- 3.22 **“Métis Nation British Columbia Senate”** means the judicial arm of the of the Métis Nation British Columbia and in accordance with *Senate Act*;
- 3.23 **“Mobile Polling Station”** means an advance poll consisting of a team of election officials who visit Communities, and have two secure ballot boxes: one to collect Mail-in Ballots, and one to collect ballots issued by the team to electors who have not previously received a Mail-in Ballot.
- 3.24 **“Online Voting”** means a vote that is cast by an Elector using a web-based voting system;
- 3.25 **“Ordinarily Resident”** means a Métis citizen who actually lives and has lived continuously in British Columbia for at least twelve (12) full months prior to the date of the Election. In making such determination, temporary absences from British Columbia for reasons such as travel, education, medical treatment, military service or incarceration shall be considered periods of residence provided the person was ordinarily resident prior to such temporary absences. A person can have only one place of Ordinarily Residence;
- 3.26 **“Poll Book”** means a list of names of persons who have received ballots at an Election pursuant to the *Electoral Act*;
- 3.27 **“Poll Clerk”** means a person appointed by the Chief Electoral Officer to assist a Returning Officer at the polls pursuant to this *Electoral Act*;
- 3.28 **“Polling Station”** means a place established by the Election Officers where Electors cast their vote or send their ballots by Mail-In Ballots in accordance with Sub-Article 5.6 herein and which is set up pursuant to the *MNBC Electoral Act*;
- 3.29 **“Region or Electoral Region”** means one of the seven (7) regions of the Métis Nation British Columbia;

- 3.30 “**Regional Director**” means a person who holds the position of Regional Director of one of the seven (7) Métis Nation British Columbia regions after being elected pursuant to the *Electoral Act* or after a By-Election pursuant to *Section 47* of the *Métis Nation British Columbia Constitution*;
- 3.31 “**Returning Officer**” means a person appointed by the Chief Electoral Officer pursuant to the *Electoral Act*; and
- 3.32 “**Scrutineer**” means a person appointed in writing who is authorized to represent a Candidate’s interests at a Polling Station pursuant to the *Electoral Act*.

ARTICLE FOUR – DATE OF ELECTION

- 4.0 The date of the Election shall be established by the MNGA in conjunction with the terms outlined in the *Constitution*.

ARTICLE FIVE – CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

- 5.0 The Chief Electoral Officer shall be appointed by the MNGA to hold office for each Election. This individual shall manage and conduct an Election. The Chief Electoral Officer shall also have the responsibility of conducting any necessary By-Elections while their appointment remains in effect. The Chief Electoral Officer shall:
- 5.1 Provide guidance and supervision respecting the conduct of the Election:
- a. Create all electoral notifications, forms, ballots and documents as may be required;
 - b. Decide the eligibility of all Candidates seeking office in an Election;
 - c. Prepare the List of Electors;
 - d. Appoint Returning Officers and Poll Clerks;
 - e. Ensure that all Election Officers are in compliance with this *Electoral Act* and use the guiding principles of fairness and impartiality when conducting an Election;
 - f. Issue to Election Officers any information and guidance they consider necessary for the administration of the *Electoral Act*;
 - g. Reconcile all ballots and prepare an official Election report for the Métis Communities and Métis Nation British Columbia Board of Directors; and
 - h. Perform all duties assigned pursuant to this *Electoral Act*.
- 5.2 In addition, the Chief Electoral Officer shall:
- a. Implement public education and information activities to make the electoral process better known to the public, particularly to those persons most likely to experience difficulties in exercising their democratic rights; activities may include, but are not limited to:

- i. Working with MNBC staff to develop and distribute a voters guide for electors, that explains in plain language where, when, and how to vote;
 - ii. Newspaper advertisements in local papers where there is a Chartered Community (if available and subject to funding);
 - iii. Social media, including the purchase of ads;
 - iv. Direct mail and email notices to electors;
 - v. Arranging for virtual townhall meetings, either individually in each region, or in combination with other regions, for provincial and regional Candidates to respond to questions and comments from electors;
 - vi. Working with MNBC committees and Chartered Communities to provide outreach opportunities in their communities, especially youth outreach;
 - vii. Any other opportunities that may be requested by a Chartered Community or Region, or considered by the Chief Electoral Officer to be appropriate for all or for a specific region or Community.
- b. The Chief Electoral Officer shall, as much as reasonably possible in as many outreach activities as possible, include information regarding the positions available for election, a description of responsibilities, and time commitments
- c. Remove from office and replace Election Officers upon being satisfied that the officers:
 - i. Refuse, neglect or have an inability to act;
 - ii. Have failed to perform satisfactorily the duties of their office; or
 - iii. Is engaging in partisan political activities.
- 5.3 The Chief Electoral Officer shall consult with the Solicitor for the MNBC, when and if necessary with respect to issues that may arise from time to time concerning the Election process.
- 5.4 If during the course of an Election, it transpires that insufficient time has been allowed, or insufficient Election Officers or Polling Stations have been provided, for the execution of any of the purposes of the *Electoral Act*, by reason of the operation of any provision of this *Electoral Act*, the Chief Electoral Officer, notwithstanding anything in the *Electoral Act* may:
 - a. Increase the number of Election Officers (subject to financial resources);
 - b. Increase the number of Polling Stations (subject to financial resources);
- 5.5 However, the Chief Electoral Officer may not extend the hour for the opening or closing of an ordinary or advance polling station, or for accepting nomination packages on nomination day or change the date of ordinary polling day.

- 5.6 The Chief Electoral Officer shall conduct Elections by Mail-in Ballot and by Online Voting.
- a. An MNBC Chartered Community may, via written request to the Chief Electoral Officer, request a secured ballot box to the Community, for the deposit of mail-in ballots.
 - i. The ballot box will be secured through the requirements provided in Article 18 of this Act, and
 - (a) The person appointed as Returning Officer pursuant to Article 14.1 of the *MNBC Electoral Act* shall be responsible for the security of the above-noted ballot box.
 - ii. The ballot box shall be placed in an accessible location pursuant to the requirements provided in Article 18 of this Act.
 - iii. The Returning Officer shall send, by mail or courier, Mail-in Ballots deposited by Electors in a secured ballot box in a Community to the location and by the date designated by the Chief Electoral Officer.
 - iv. The Chief Electoral Officer shall provide the date that the secured ballot box will be closed, and when the ballots must be sent to the Chief Electoral Officer.

ARTICLE SIX – ELECTORS

- 6.1 Any Métis Citizen of the MNBC who is Ordinarily Resident in British Columbia is eligible to be an Elector subject to *Article 6.2* herein.
- 6.2 An Elector is entitled to cast one (1) vote for the each of the following offices:
- a. President;
 - b. Vice President;
 - c. Regional Director;
 - d. Regional Youth Representative for the Métis Youth of British Columbia for the Region in which the Elector is entitled to vote being 15 years of age to 30;
 - e. Chairperson for the Métis Youth of British Columbia 15 years of age to 30.
 - f. Regional Women’s representative for the Métis Women of British Columbia for the region in which the Elector is entitled to vote being female 18 years of age and older.
 - g. Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia being female eighteen (18) years of age and older
- 6.3 Any person is eligible to vote if:
- a. A Métis person, pursuant to the *MNBC’s Constitution*;
 - b. No less than 18 years of age of the date of the Election;
 - c. No less than 15 years of age and no more than 30 years of age for the MYBC;

- d. Any female Métis citizen who is eighteen (18) years of age or older may vote for the Métis Women of British Columbia.
 - e. Registered as a Métis citizen pursuant to the *MNBC Citizenship Act*; and
 - f. Ordinarily resident in British Columbia.
- 6.4 The following individuals are not eligible to vote in a Métis Nation British Columbia Election:
- a. Individuals who are not registered on the MNBC Central Registry;
 - b. Individuals who are not 18 years of age on Election Day; with the exception of the MYBC;
 - c. Individuals who are not 15 years of age and older than 30 on Election Day for the MYBC;
 - d. Individuals who are not female 18 years of age and older on Election Day for the MWBC; and
 - e. The Chief Electoral Officer;
- 6.5. Each Elector shall, before voting, affirm that they are a Métis Citizen of British Columbia and identify as such. In addition, electors must affirm that they are not registered under either the Indian Act or the Inuit Registry.
- 6.6. In the case of Online Voting, an elector shall have the option of voting by a Mail-in Ballot or at a Polling Station designated by the Chief Electoral Officer on Election day, if they are not able to vote online.

ARTICLE SEVEN – LIST OF ELECTORS

- 7.1 The Chief Electoral Officer shall obtain from the MNBC Central Registry a final listing of registered voters no later than 5:00 p.m. Pacific Daylight time on or before the 45th day. Subject only to the discretion of the Chief Electoral Officer as set out in *Article 7.7* herein, no individual shall be permitted to be included or accepted on the List of Electors after 5:00 p.m., Pacific Daylight Time, on or before the 45th day.
- 7.2 Upon receipt of the final lists as stated herein, the Chief Electoral Officer shall, from the Central registry listing, prepare a List of Electors and satisfy themselves as to the accuracy of the List of Electors.
- 7.3 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 a copy of the provincial List of Electors. Also a list for each of the nominated and official Candidates for a vacancy in the office of Regional Director, Regional Women’s Representative of the Métis Women of British Columbia, and the Regional Youth Representative of the Métis Youth of British Columbia a copy of the applicable Regional List of Electors. In addition, a copy of the applicable community List of Electors will be provided to each Métis community.

- 7.4 Electors shall vote at the Polling Station closest to where they are ordinarily resident or in the case of a Mail-in Ballot shall send their ballot by mail or courier to a location so designated by the Chief Electoral Officer within the time set by the Chief Electoral Officer as the Election Voting Period, or, in the case of Online Voting, within the time set by the Chief Electoral Officer as the Election Voting Period.
- 7.5 In the event an Elector, who, being on the List of Electors, attends a Polling Station other than the Polling Station at which their name is included on the List of Electors, the Returning Officer at that Polling Station shall deal with that Elector's ballot as set out in *Article 28* herein.
- 7.6 No individual shall be permitted to be included or accepted on the List of Electors after the 45-day timeline. The Chief Electoral Officer shall then, from the list of registered electors, prepare a List of Electors and satisfy themselves as to the accuracy of the List of Electors.
 - a. The Chief Electoral Officer shall submit to each nominated and official Candidate for President, Vice-President, Chairperson of the Métis of British Columbia, and Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia a copy of the provincial List of Electors. Also this will be submitted to each of the nominated and official Candidates for Regional Director, Regional Youth Representative of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, and Regional Representative of the Métis Women of British Columbia a copy of the applicable regional List of Electors;
 - b. The List of Electors referred to in *Article 7.3* herein shall be provided to the Candidates no less than 39 days prior to the date of the Election;
 - c. The Chief Electoral Officer may amend the List of Electors as necessary; and
 - d. The Chief Electoral Officer shall place a copy of the List of Electors with each Métis community.
- 7.7 Upon provision of evidence to the satisfaction of the Chief Electoral Officer, of a legitimate error or omission, a Métis citizen can have their name added to, or removed from the List of Electors at any time up to fourteen (14) days prior to the Election.
- 7.8 Electors shall vote at the Polling Station closest to where they are ordinarily resident. In the event of any discrepancy, the Chief Electoral Officer shall make the determination as to which Polling Station is deemed closest. Electors may request of the Chief Electoral Officer that they be placed on the List of Electors of another polling station and such determinations shall be at the sole discretion of the Chief Electoral Officer.
- 7.9 No Métis citizens shall:
 - a. Willfully apply to be included in the List of Electors in a name that is not their own; and
 - b. Willfully apply to be included in the List of Electors for a region that they are not qualified or entitled to vote as an Elector.

ARTICLE EIGHT – NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES

- 8.1 The Chief Electoral Officer shall, 60 days before the date of the Election, through a mail-out to all Electors and a posting on the MNBC website, provide notice of the Election and the applicable rules surrounding the Election and the preparation of the List of Electors:
- a. The place and hours fixed for the nomination of Candidates and the date fixed for closing nominations;
 - b. The positions available for election, including a description of responsibilities and time commitment.
 - c. The nomination papers required to be filed with the Chief Electoral Officer; and
 - d. The address, email and phone number of the Chief Electoral Officer.
- 8.2 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, and Chairperson and Regional Women's Representative of the Métis Women of British Columbia shall be received in writing or electronically no less than 45 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.
- 8.3 Any Métis Citizen is eligible to be nominated as a Candidate if, on the day their nomination papers are filed:
- a. They are an ordinarily resident in British Columbia
 - b. Is 18 years of age or older; with the exception of the MYBC;
 - c. Any Métis citizen who is between fifteen (15) years of age and thirty (30) years of age may seek elected office within the Métis Youth of British Columbia;
 - d. Any female Métis citizen who is eighteen (18) years of age or older may seek elected office within the Métis Women of British Columbia.
 - e. If they are seeking to be nominated as a Candidate for President, Vice-President, Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, and Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia they have been a resident of the Métis Community in British Columbia for not less than one year;
 - f. If they are seeking to be nominated as a Candidate for a Regional Director, or Regional Youth Representative of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, or Regional Women's Representative of the Métis Women of British Columbia has been a resident of the Métis Community of the Region they are seeking nomination for not less than 6 months;
 - 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 nomination, 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.
 - 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.
 - i. At the close of nomination has provided a letter of resignation to the CEO for any salaried (contractor or employment) position held within the MNBC;
 - j. In accordance with *Article 23.7* of the *MNBC Constitution*, has provided a criminal record check satisfactory to the Chief Electoral Officer in accordance with *Articles 45* and *23.7* of the *MNBC Constitution*; and
 - k. Is registered with the Métis Nation British Columbia Central registry pursuant to the *Métis Nation British Columbia Citizenship Act*.
- 8.4 All nominations for the positions of President, Vice-President, Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, and Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia shall include the follow:
- a. Written acceptance of the nomination by the Candidate;
 - b. A minimum of twenty (20) original signatures of Electors who reside in the Province of British Columbia, who are not signatories of another Candidate's nomination papers for the same position and who are eligible to vote in the Election at which the Candidate seeks to be nominated for the position of President and Vice President;
 - c. A minimum of ten (10) original signatures of electors who reside in the Province of British Columbia, who are not signatories of another Candidate's nomination papers for the same position and who are eligible to vote in the Election at which the Candidate seeks to be nominated for the chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia;
 - d. A minimum of ten (10) original signatures of female electors who reside in the Province of British Columbia, who are not signatories of another Candidate's nomination papers for the same position and who are eligible to vote in the Election at which the Candidate seeks to be nominated for the chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia;
- 8.5 All nominations for Regional Directors, Regional Youth Representative of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, and Regional Women's Representative of the Métis Women of British Columbia shall include the following:
- a. Written acceptance of the nomination by the Candidate;

- b. A minimum of ten (10) signatures of Electors who reside in the region for which the Candidate seeks to be nominated, who are not signatories of another Candidate's Nomination papers for the same position and who are eligible to vote in the Election at which the Candidate for Regional Director seeks to be nominated;
 - c. 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 at which the Candidate for the Regional Youth Representative of the Métis Youth of British Columbia seeks to be nominated.
 - d. A minimum of five (5) signatures of female 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 at which the Candidate for the Regional Women's Representative of the Métis Women of British Columbia.
- 8.6 A Candidate may not accept a nomination for more than one position on the MNBC Board of Directors, the Métis Youth of British Columbia, or the Métis Women of British Columbia.
- 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 elections is announced.
- 8.7 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, or the Métis Women of British Columbia 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.
- 8.8 Candidates who use malicious or objectionable practice or conduct themselves in a malicious or objectionable manner during the Campaign Period shall be subject to disqualification at the discretion of the Chief Electoral Officer.
- 8.9 Candidates shall not be permitted to use the offices or equipment of the MNBC or any program delivery offices for the purposes of presenting or advancing their campaign at any time during the campaign period.

ARTICLE NINE – ELECTION BY ACCLAMATION

- 9.1. If only one Candidate is nominated for any one office at the close of nominations the Chief Electoral Officer shall declare that Candidate acclaimed to office, the day following the close of nominations.

ARTICLE TEN – NO CANDIDATES NOMINATED

- 10.1. If, after the close of nominations there are offices that remain without Candidates or without persons elected by acclamation, the Chief Electoral Officer shall set another day for the receipt of nominations for the remaining offices subject to available funding. Nominations shall be received for an Election to be held no earlier than three (3) months and no later than six (6) months from the date of the original Election and shall follow the processes and rules set out in this *Electoral Act*.

ARTICLE ELEVEN – POSTING OF NOTICE OF POLL & CANDIDATES

- 11.1 The Chief Electoral Officer shall, within five (5) days after the close of nominations, post on the MNBC website a notice indicating the names of the Candidates, the voting method options, and the date and time for voting.
- 11.2 Candidates whose nominations are accepted by the Chief Electoral Officer shall be entitled to receive a copy of the applicable List of Electors, a copy of the *Electoral Act* and other materials as deemed appropriate by the Chief Electoral Officer.

ARTICLE TWELVE – WITHDRAWAL OF CANDIDATE

- 12.1. A Candidate may withdraw at any time up to twenty-one (21) days prior to Election Day by filing with the Chief Electoral Officer a written, signed and witnessed declaration to that effect.
- 12.2. When a Candidate has withdrawn, the Chief Electoral Officer shall take whatever steps are necessary to ensure that Electors are advised when receiving a ballot.

ARTICLE THIRTEEN – DEATH OF CANDIDATE

- 13.1. If a Candidate for the position of President, Vice-President, Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, or Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia dies after close of nominations and prior to closing of the Polling Stations on Election Day, the Election shall be held.
- 13.2. If a Candidate for Regional Director, Regional Youth Representative of the Métis Youth of British Columbia, or Regional Women's Representative of the Métis Women of British Columbia dies after close of nominations and prior to closing of the Polling Stations on Election Day, the Election shall be held.

ARTICLE FOURTEEN – APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICER AND POLL CLERK

- 14.1 The Chief Electoral Officer shall appoint a Returning Officer and a Poll Clerk for each location where a Polling Station is to be established in the electoral region, or in the case of a Mail-in Ballot in accordance with Sub-Article 5.6 herein the Chief Electoral Officer shall appoint a Returning Officer and Poll Clerks for the location designated to

receive ballots.

- a. The Returning Officer with assistance from a Poll Clerk is responsible for the conduct at a Polling Station in an electoral region.
- b. The following persons shall not be appointed as either a Returning Officer or a Poll Clerk:
 - i. A person who is the spouse, child, brother, sister, mother, father, common-law partner, or individual who lives with any Candidate;
 - ii. A member of the Métis Nation British Columbia Senate;
 - iii. An individual who is a Candidate or a Candidate's representative.
 - iv. A person who is the spouse, child, brother, sister, mother, father, common-law partner, or who lives with either a Returning Officer or Poll Clerk, shall not be appointed for the same Polling Station location.

14.2 A person appointed, as either a Returning Officer or Poll Clerk shall hold office from the time appointed until thirty (30) days after the Election Day.

14.3 The Chief Electoral Officer may remove from office any Returning Officer or Poll Clerk who:

- a. Is incapable, by reason of illness, of satisfactorily performing their duties under the *Electoral Act*;
- b. Fails to discharge competently their duties as Returning Officer or Poll Clerk so as to comply with an instruction of the Chief Electoral Officer;
- c. Knowingly makes a contribution to a Candidate's campaign whether or not the contravention occurs in the exercise of his or her duties under the Act.

14.4 Where a vacancy occurs in the office of Returning Officer or Poll Clerk, the Chief Electoral Officer shall forthwith appoint another person to fill the vacancy.

ARTICLE FIFTEEN – POLLING HOURS

15.1. Polling shall begin at 8:00 a.m. Pacific Daylight Time or Mountain Daylight Time in accordance with the particular time zone on the date of the Election and close at 8:00 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time or Mountain Daylight Time on that same day.

- a. Advance polls shall be open for at least four (4) consecutive hours between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on the day they are scheduled.

15.2 In the case of an Election by Mail-in Ballot, Electors shall be able to mail or deliver their ballots to the location or locations established by the Chief Electoral Officer within such specified period of time as may be established by the Chief Electoral Officer but in any event such period of time shall not be less than fourteen (14) calendar days.

15.3 In the case of an Election by Online Voting System, Voters shall be able to vote within such specified period of time as may be established by the Chief Electoral Officer but in any event such period of time shall not be less than 14 calendar days.

ARTICLE SIXTEEN – LOCATION OF POLLING STATIONS

- 16.1. A Polling Station shall be in a location that in the determination of the Chief Electoral Officer is convenient for the Electors.
- 16.2. In the case of an Election by Mail-in Ballot there shall be a location or locations established by the Chief Electoral Officer for the purpose of receiving Mail-In Ballots.
- 16.3. In the case of online voting, the system used shall be secure.
- 16.4. A final List of the Polling Stations will be listed twenty-one (21) days prior to the Election Date.
- 16.5. Best efforts will be made to ensure that every Polling Station will be accessible to persons who have a disability that could affect their ability to vote on the Election date.
- 16.6. No Polling Station may be located in the following places:
 - a. Premises where alcohol or spirits are served; or
 - b. Premises in which a Candidate has an interest.

ARTICLE SEVENTEEN – SCRUTINEERS

- 17.1. Each Candidate may appoint Scrutineers in writing to the Chief Electoral Officer to represent them at each Polling Station, and to observe the Election procedures on their behalf.
 - a. A Candidate may appoint more than one Scrutineer to attend a particular Polling Station while voting is in progress but only one Scrutineer per Candidate may be present in the polling area at any one time.
 - b. A Candidate shall supply their scrutineer with a form approved for such use by the Chief Electoral Officer, appointing them as a scrutineer. If scrutineers are only present for part of a day and are replaced by another scrutineer, the replacement scrutineer must have their own form to show the Returning Officer.
- 17.2. Scrutineers may observe the operation of the Polling Station and observe the counting of the ballots.
- 17.3. In the case of a Mail-in Ballot Election a Candidate may appoint up to 2 scrutineers to be present at the designated location or locations during the opening of the ballot boxes and the counting of the ballots.

ARTICLE EIGHTEEN – BALLOT BOXES

- 18.1. The Chief Electoral Officer shall provide each Returning Officer with a ballot box to conduct the Election in his or her region. The ballot box shall be made of durable non-see-through material and accompanied by a sufficient number of appropriate seals. The ballot box shall permit the deposit of ballots but not permit their removal without breaking the seals after they have been attached.

ARTICLE NINETEEN – CONTENTS OF BALLOTS

- 19.1 The Chief Electoral Officer shall ensure that a sufficient number of ballots are prepared for an Election.
- 19.2 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, or Chairperson of the Métis Women's Secretariat-British Columbia 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, and Regional Women's Representative of the Métis Women's Secretariat-British Columbia located second and arranged alphabetically in the order of their surnames.
- 19.3 If two (2) or more Candidates for the same office have the same surnames, their names shall be listed in alphabetical order according to their given names.
- 19.4 Ballots shall be printed on one side only.

ARTICLE TWENTY – POLLING BOOTHS

- 20.1. Each Polling Station shall contain one or more polling booths arranged so that when an Elector is in the polling booth they are screened from observation and may mark their ballot without interference.
- 20.2. In each polling booth, Electors will be provided with a suitable table, desk or shelf and a suitable marking instrument for marking their ballots. These materials shall be properly maintained during polling hours.

ARTICLE TWENTY-ONE – MATERIAL AT POLLING STATION

- 21.1 The Returning Officer shall before the opening of the Poll ensure the following are available:
- a. An area where Electors can mark their ballots in private;
 - b. A document providing voting instructions for Electors;
 - c. A Poll Book where the names of all Electors who vote are to be entered;
 - d. A copy of the final List of Electors;
 - e. A ballot box or ballot boxes as required;
 - f. Tape to secure the ballot box or ballot boxes until the ballots are ready to be counted;

- g. A sufficient number of ballot papers;
- h. The material necessary to enable Electors to mark the ballot papers;
- i. Instructions for the Returning Officers and Poll Clerks; and
- j. Such other forms, office stationery and materials as may be required to enable the Returning Officer to perform their duties.

ARTICLE TWENTY-TWO – PERSONS ENTITLED TO REMAIN IN POLLING AREA

- 22.1 Only the following individuals may remain in a polling area during polling hours:
- a. Returning Officer;
 - b. Poll Clerk;
 - c. Chief Electoral Officer;
 - d. One Scrutineer per Candidate; and
 - e. Interpreters.
- 22.2 Nothing in this *Electoral Act* restricts a Candidate from briefly visiting a Polling Station during polling hours.

ARTICLE TWENTY-THREE – SECRET BALLOT

- 23.1 Voting shall be by secret ballot and in the case of an Election by Mail-in Ballot, a double envelope system as defined by the Chief Electoral Officer shall be used by Electors to send their ballots to the designated location or locations for receiving ballots.
- 23.2 In the case of online voting, the voter shall be required to authenticate their identity. Their identity and the personal authenticity information of the voter shall remain confidential.
- 23.3 No person in attendance at a Polling Station or at the counting of votes shall fail to maintain or fail to aid in maintaining the secrecy of the voting.

ARTICLE TWENTY-FOUR – SECRECY OF VOTING

- 24.1 Each Returning Officer, Poll Clerk, Candidate and/or Scrutineer in attendance at a Polling Station or at the counting of the ballots shall assist in maintaining the secrecy of the voting process and they shall not communicate or attempt to communicate any information obtained at the Polling Station regarding which Candidate an Elector has voted for or is about to vote for.
- 24.2. Returning Officers and Poll Clerks shall not communicate any information obtained at the counting of the ballots to any person other than the Chief Electoral Officer or those in their office.

ARTICLE TWENTY-FIVE – OPENING OF POLLING STATION - DISPLAY OF BALLOT BOX

- 25.1. Each Returning Officer shall attend the Polling Station at least thirty (30) minutes prior to the opening of his or her Polling Station.
- 25.2. During the 30 minutes immediately prior to the opening of the Polling Station, the Returning Officer shall show the ballot box to Candidates, Scrutineers and other persons entitled to be present so that they may see that the ballot box is empty.
- 25.3. After the ballot box has been shown, it shall be locked or sealed for receipt of ballots and at all times during the hours of voting.

ARTICLE TWENTY-SIX – ADVANCE POLLS

- 26.1 The Chief Electoral Officer shall establish at least one advance poll to accommodate electors. Such a poll may take place at a location of a Community which has requested and received a secure ballot box, or may be a mobile polling station, or both, at the discretion of the Chief Electoral Officer. The dates, times, and locations of advance polls will be scheduled to provide reasonable access to as many electors as possible.
- 26.2 Advance Poll(s) shall be held on a day or days designated by the Chief Electoral Officer.
 - a. The days and times of a Mobile Polling Station in Communities shall be included in the list of polling stations referenced in Section 16.4 of the *MNBC Electoral Act*.
- 26.3 Any person on the list of electors and in possession of a mail ballot who attends an advance poll may mark their ballot and deposit it at that advance poll, in the ballot box reserved for Mail Ballots.
- 26.4 Any person who meets the criteria set out in Article 6 of this *Act* and:
 - Has not received a mail-in ballot, and
 - Has not voted online, and
 - Signs a document witnessed by the Chief Electoral Officer or Returning Officer, attesting that they have not voted before and will not vote again in the current election, online, by mail, or in person,May receive a ballot from the Chief Electoral Officer or Returning Officer at an advance poll conducted in their Community or Region where they are ordinarily resident and vote in person.
- 26.5 Any person who has received a mail ballot and has spoiled it:
 - i. May exchange the spoiled ballot for a replacement ballot, or
 - ii. If not in possession of the spoiled ballot, may receive a replacement ballot after signing a document witnessed by the Chief Electoral Officer or Returning Officer,

attesting that they have not voted before and will not vote again in the current election, online, by mail, or in person;

at an advance poll conducted in their Community or Region where they are ordinarily resident and vote in person

The Chief Electoral Officer or Returning Officer shall ensure a log of replacement ballots is kept.

ARTICLE TWENTY-SEVEN – POLL BOOKS

- 27.1 Each Returning Officer shall be provided with a Poll Book in which the Returning Officer or the Poll Clerk shall enter the names of all Electors who attend the Polling Station and apply to vote unless those names are previously printed therein. The Returning Officer or Poll Clerk shall record whether those Electors are objected to or vouched for and by whom and if objected to whether the Elector voted or not.

ARTICLE TWENTY-EIGHT – GENERAL PROCEDURES AT POLLING STATION

- 28.1 Where an Elector presents themselves at the Polling Station for the purpose of voting, the voting process shall proceed as follows:
- a. Each Elector shall present their MNBC Citizenship Card for the purpose of proving their identity and Métis citizenship to the Returning Officer.
 - b. The Returning Officer shall ascertain whether the name of the person applying to vote (the “Applicant”) is on the List of Electors and, if it is,
 - c. Each eligible Elector shall be given a ballot to be marked clearly, in secret, for the Candidate of that Elector’s choice which thereafter shall be placed in a ballot box as instructed by the Returning Officer.
 - d. If the Applicant’s name is not on the List of Electors, the Returning Officer shall not permit that person to vote unless the Applicant can present a valid MNBC Citizenship Card that can be verified by the Returning Officer as being the MNBC Citizenship Card of the Applicant.
 - e. In the event that the Applicant can produce a valid MNBC Citizenship Card, the Returning Officer shall record, in the proper column of the Poll Book, the Applicant’s name, address and MNBC Citizenship number and shall provide that Applicant with a ballot paper on which the Applicant shall clearly mark, in secret, the Applicant’s choice of Candidate.
 - f. Upon being presented with a completed ballot by a person who is not on the List of Electors at the Polling Station where the Applicant has attended to vote and was permitted to vote by the Returning Officer, the Returning Officer shall:
 - i. Place the Applicant’s ballot in an envelope with the Applicant’s name, the date and time noted;
 - ii. Place that envelope into another envelope that shall be kept separate from the ballots cast by Electors (whose names were located on the List of Electors for that Polling Station) and forwarded to the Chief Electoral Officer for verification of the eligibility of the Applicant.

- g. If verified as eligible by the Chief Electoral Officer, the Applicant's vote shall be counted.
- h. Any Candidate or their scrutineer may object to the eligibility of any Métis citizen requesting a ballot. If in the opinion of the Returning Officer such objection is reasonable, it shall be noted in the Poll Book and shall include the reason for the objection along with the name of the Candidate on whose behalf the objection is being made. The Returning Officer may then give the Métis Citizen a ballot paper so that the Métis Citizen may cast their ballot. In the event of an objection to the Métis Citizen, the Returning Officer shall follow the procedure under *Article 36.7* of this *Electoral Act*.
- i. The Returning Officer shall record the names and obtain the signatures of all persons who, although deemed ineligible to vote, attended at the Polling Station and requested a ballot."

ARTICLE TWENTY-NINE – CONDUCT AT POLLING STATION

- 29.1. No person shall interfere or attempt to interfere with an Elector who is marking their ballot or casting their vote or otherwise make any attempt to obtain, at the Polling Station, information as to the Candidate or Candidates for whom an Elector at that Polling Station is about to vote or has voted.
 - a. No individual shall, directly or indirectly, threaten to inflict injury, damage, harm or loss on or against an Elector so as to persuade or compel the Elector to vote or refrain from voting, or because the Elector voted or refrained from voting.
- 29.2. No person shall, having voted, apply at the same Election for a ballot paper in the Elector's own name, or vote more than once at the same Election.
- 29.3. No individual shall vote knowing that they have no right to vote, or induce or persuade any other individual to vote knowing that the other individual has no right to vote.
- 29.4. No person shall apply at an Election for a ballot paper in the name of another person, whether living or dead, or a fictitious person.
- 29.5. The campaign office of a Candidate must not be within one (1) kilometer of a Polling Station.
- 29.6. There shall be no campaigning in or in the vicinity of a Polling Station on Election Day.
- 29.7. Every Returning Officer and Poll Clerk is responsible for maintaining peace and order in their Polling Station during an Election.
- 29.8. During an Election, no Candidate or other person on behalf of a Candidate shall, directly or indirectly, or as an accessory, give or cause to be given any alcohol or spirits to or for any person, for the purpose of persuading that person to vote for the Candidate or for the purpose of influencing that person or any other person to vote or

refrain from voting at an Election.

- 29.9. No Candidate shall make or take a share or interest in a bet or wager based on the result of the Election.
- 29.10. Any person in breach of *Article 29* of this *Electoral Act* will be removed from the Polling Station and will not be entitled to vote.

ARTICLE THIRTY – EXPLANATION OF VOTING

- 30.1 The Returning Officer may and upon request shall, either personally or through their Poll Clerk explain to the Elector as concisely as possible the way in which voting is to be performed.

ARTICLE THIRTY-ONE – VOTING BY A DISABLED PERSON

- 31.1. Where an Elector on the List of Electors comes to a Polling Station to vote and is unable to mark a ballot due to an inability to read or has a physical or mental disability, the Returning Officer shall:
- a. Have a friend or relative complete an Elector Assistance Form indicating the name of the Elector, their own name and the reason the person is incapable of voting alone;
 - b. Permit that person to accompany the Elector into the polling area to mark the ballot in accordance with the Elector's instructions;
 - c. Receive the completed ballot, check their initials and place the ballot in the ballot box; and
 - d. Enter the reason the Elector was permitted to vote in this manner, and the name of the person who assisted the Elector, in the Poll Book.
- 31.2. An individual other than an Election Officer must not act to assist more than one Elector in an Election to mark a ballot unless the individual is assisting more than one member of their family.

ARTICLE THIRTY-TWO – APPOINTMENT OF AN INTERPRETER

- 32.1 Where the Returning Officer has been given thirty (30) days advance notice by a Métis Community or an Elector in that Métis Community, that an Elector or Electors who are unable to speak or read the English Language may present themselves at a Polling Station, subject always to availability, an interpreter may be provided by the Returning Officer for the purpose of explaining to those Electors, questions and answers concerning voting in the following languages: Michif, French or Cree.
- 32.2. The interpreter must make a solemn declaration that they are able to make the translation and will do so to the best of their abilities.
- 32.3. Every interpreter shall make a declaration of secrecy.

ARTICLE THIRTY-THREE – REMOVAL OF BALLOT FROM POLLING STATION

- 33.1. Except in the case of a Mail-in Ballot an Elector who has received a ballot paper shall not take it out of the Polling Station.

ARTICLE THIRTY-FOUR – FORFEITURE OF VOTING RIGHTS

- 34.1. Where an Elector leaves the Polling Station without first delivering their ballot paper to the Returning Officer or returns it after declining to vote, they forfeit their right to vote and the Returning Officer shall make an entry in the Poll Book in the column for remarks to the effect that the Elector received the ballot paper, but took it out of the Polling Station or returned it declining to vote.
- 34.2. Where an Elector returns their ballot paper declining to vote, the Returning Officer shall immediately write the word “declined” upon it and preserve the ballot paper.

ARTICLE THIRTY-FIVE – SPOILED BALLOT

- 35.1. An Elector, who upon voting, has inadvertently spoiled their ballot paper may on returning it to the Returning Officer obtain another ballot paper and the Returning Officer shall immediately write the word “spoiled” upon the returned ballot paper and preserve it as set out in this Article.

ARTICLE THIRTY-SIX – PROCEDURE ON CLOSE OF POLL

- 36.1. After the closing of the poll, the Returning Officer shall, in the presence of the Poll Clerk and any Candidate and/or Scrutineers who may be present, immediately:
- a. Count the number of spoiled and declined ballots and record the total on the outside of the envelope containing these ballots and then seal it; and comply with the procedures as set out in Article 28 herein.
- 36.2. On complying with subsection 36.1, the Returning Officer shall count the number of Electors whose name appears on the List of Electors and the number of Electors recorded in the Poll Book as having voted and those persons who having attended were deemed ineligible to vote and shall draw a line immediately under the last name in the Poll Book and affix their initials to the list.
- 36.3. On complying with *Subsection 36.2*, the Returning Officer shall open the ballot box and proceed with a count of vote and record the result.
- 36.4. The Returning Officer shall endorse with the words “not initialed” any ballot paper that does not have their initials or the initials of such person acting on their behalf on the back thereof and any such ballot shall be counted with the other ballots but immediately upon the conclusion of the count, the Returning Officer shall:
- a. Count the number of “not initialed” ballots, and
 - b. Record the total on the outside of the envelope containing these ballots and seal it.

- 36.5 In counting votes, the Returning Officer shall reject any ballot that:
- a. Was not supplied by them;
 - b. Does not indicate any vote for any Candidate;
 - c. Contains votes for more Candidates than are to be elected;
 - d. Is so marked, that it is uncertain for which Candidate the vote was cast; and
 - e. Contains any writing or mark enabling the Elector to be readily identified.
- 36.6 Notwithstanding *Subsection 36.5*, a ballot shall not be rejected:
- a. By reason of any writing, numbering or mark omitted by the Returning Officer; or
 - b. When the vote, though incorrectly made on the ballot, clearly indicates the Elector's intention to vote for one particular Candidate.
- 36.7 In the event the Returning Officer determines that an Elector's right to vote has been reasonably disputed pursuant to *Article 28*, the Returning Officer shall make a note in the Poll Book of every objection and the name of any Candidate on whose behalf such objection was made. The Returning Officer shall place such ballot in a special envelope that shall, on its cover, contain the name of the Elector, their MNBC Citizenship number, the name of the Polling Station and the Returning Officer initials. Such envelopes shall be preserved by the Returning Officer and forwarded to the Chief Electoral Officer. The Returning Officer shall also forward the specific objection to such Elector, as noted in the Poll Book. The Chief Electoral Officer shall investigate the objection of such Elector and in the event the Chief Electoral Officer determines that the objection is valid, the ballot shall be placed in a separate envelope and shall not be counted. If the Chief Electoral Officer determines that the objection is without merit, the envelope shall be opened and the Chief Electoral Officer shall count the vote(s).
- 36.8 The Returning Officer at the conclusion of the count shall complete a statement of poll, indicating the number of votes for each Candidate, which shall be signed by the Returning Officer and Poll Clerk. The Returning Officer shall then immediately inform the Chief Electoral Officer, by phone or by fax, as to the number of votes for each Candidate, the number of spoiled ballots and any disputed Electors.
- 36.9 A copy of the statement of poll shall be attached to the Poll Book and one page shall be retained by the Returning Officer to be sent to the Chief Electoral Officer.
- 36.10 Upon completion of the statement of poll, the Returning Officer shall in presence of the persons authorized to be present, place into separate packets the:
- a. Statement of poll;
 - b. The ballots objected to but counted;
 - c. The ballots objected to but not counted;
 - d. The rejected ballots not objected to;
 - e. The rejected ballots objected to;
 - f. The spoiled and declined ballots;

- g. The discarded ballots;
- h. The unused ballots;
- i. The envelopes containing the ballots of those persons who voted in accordance with *Article 28* herein;
- j. The Poll Book with the declaration of the Returning Officer therein;
- k. The List of Electors used at the poll;
- l. The declaration of Electors;
- m. The statement of the number of Electors as marked by the Returning Officer as “Voter assistance”;
- n. The notes taken of objections to ballot papers found in the ballot box; and
- o. All other documents that were completed prepared or used at the Election.

36.11 The Returning Officer shall seal each of the envelopes mentioned in *Section 36.10* with their own seal and initial the outside of the envelopes.

36.12 The Returning Officer shall mark on the outside of each of the envelopes a short statement of the contents of the envelopes, the date and name of the Election and their name.

36.13 The Returning Officer shall then return all envelopes and relevant documents to the Chief Electoral Officer as directed.

ARTICLE THIRTY-SEVEN – ANNOUNCEMENT OF VOTE

37.1 The Chief Electoral Officer shall publicly announce the results of the Election and declare elected the Candidates who received the largest number of votes.

37.2 When the original reports and ballots have been received from the Returning Officers, the Chief Electoral Officer shall check the reports, but not the ballots, and verify or confirm the results.

ARTICLE THIRTY-EIGHT – RECOUNT

38.1 Subject to *Article 37.2* herein, the Chief Electoral Officer shall recount the ballots where applicable if the Chief Electoral Officer decides that there is a need for a recount or if they receive a written request to recount from a Candidate within seven (7) days from the date of the Election;

38.2 A Candidate shall be entitled to require a recount if:

- a. The Candidate has been nominated to contest the position of President, Vice-President, Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia, or the Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia;
- b. The Candidate has been nominated to contest the position of Regional Director, Regional Representative for the Métis Women of British Columbia (MWBC) or Regional Youth Representative for the Métis Youth of British Columbia;
- c. There are no more than fifteen (15) votes difference between the Candidate who has the most votes for that position and the Candidate requesting a

- recount; and
- d. Two (2) or more Candidates for the same position have an equal number of votes, the Chief Electoral Officer shall declare a tie and conduct a recount.

ARTICLE THIRTY-NINE – RECOUNT PROCEDURE AND TIE BREAKING VOTE

- 39.1 The Chief Electoral Officer shall give written notice to each Candidate of the place, date and hour of the recount
- 39.2 The recount shall, if possible, be held within the next seven (7) days from receipt of a Candidate's written request for a recount.
- 39.3 No person may be allowed in the room where the recount is being conducted except the following:
 - a. The Chief Electoral Officer;
 - b. The Returning Officer (at the CEO recommendation);
 - c. The Candidates or an Elector appointed in writing to be present on behalf of each of the Candidates.
- 39.4 In recounting the ballots, the Chief Electoral Officer shall follow the same counting rules that a Returning Officer is required to follow under this *Electoral Act*.
- 39.5 The Chief Electoral Officer will be required to set another Election Day in the event of a tie between two or more Candidates receiving the most votes for the same position. The Election in that event would be conducted solely for the purpose of filling the subject position and only the tied Candidates would be eligible to run. Such Election shall be held no earlier than three (3) months and no later than six (6) months from the date of the original Election and shall follow the process and rules set out in this *Electoral Act*.

ARTICLE FORTY – ANNOUNCEMENT OF RECOUNT RESULTS

- 40.1 Upon the completion of any and all recounts, the Chief Electoral Officer shall certify the final results of the Election publicly announce the results of the recount and declare the names of the successful Candidate who received the largest number of votes.

ARTICLE FORTY-ONE – DESTROYING BALLOTS

- 41.1 The Chief Electoral Officer shall destroy all ballots ninety (90) days from the date of the Election unless:
 - a. Directed by an order of a Court; or
 - b. Directed by an order of the Senate; or
 - c. A request for a recount is received in which case the ballots shall be destroyed after ninety (90) days from the date of the recount unless otherwise ordered.

ARTICLE FORTY-TWO – ELECTION APPEAL

- 42.1 Decisions of the Chief Electoral Officer during an Election may be appealed to the Métis Nation British Columbia Senate.
- a. The Chief Electoral Officer will have the authority to refuse Candidates and voters who do not meet the required eligibility pre-requisites and deadlines set out in the *MNBC Electoral Act*.
 - b. All Candidates or electors refused will have the option to file a written Election appeal before the Métis Nation British Columbia Senate.
- 42.2 A Candidate or elector will have fourteen (14) days from the date of the Election or fourteen Days from the date of the recount to file a written Election appeal before the MNBC Senate.
- a. The written appeal sent to the MNBC Senate should outline the rationale of the Election appeal, along with any documents or other materials that should assist the appeal.
 - b. As part of filing an Election appeal, the Candidate or elector shall deposit with the MNBC Finance Department the sum of \$150.00 in cash or money order. This deposit is non-refundable and serves as security for administrative costs in connection with carrying out the appeal process.
- 42.3 The Chief Electoral Officer will provide information at the request of the MNBC Senate during the Election appeals process so as to deliver a fair and balanced decision.
- a. The Chief Electoral Officer will be responsible in providing reasons for refusal as supported by the Articles in the *Electoral Act*.
 - b. The MNBC Senate reserves the right to set a date when the Candidate or elector who filed the Election appeal may present their arguments in person. The onus to prove the appeal to the satisfaction of the MNBC is upon the individual who filed the Election appeal.

ARTICLE FORTY-THREE – GENERAL

- 43.1 The appeal will not be successful if it is shown that the Election was conducted in accordance with this *Election Act* and that the irregularity, failure, non-compliance or mistake did not materially affect the result of the Election, and no Election is void by reason of:
- a. Failure to publish, late distribution or non-receipt of the Métis communities;
 - b. A failure to hold a poll at any place appointed for holding a poll;
 - c. A non-compliance with the provisions of this *Electoral Act* relating to the counting of the votes or with regard to limitations of time; or
 - d. Any mistake in the use of the prescribed forms.

ARTICLE FORTY-FOUR – INTERPRETATION

- 44.1. Unless the context otherwise requires, words imparting the singular number shall include the plural number, as the case may be, and vice-versa.

ARTICLE FORTY-FIVE – REGULATORY AUTHORITY

45. The Métis Nation Governing Assembly may, by resolution, make election rules regarding matters not specifically set out in the *Electoral Act*. Such rules will expire 30 days after election day for the election they pertain to.

MÉTIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA



MÉTIS NATION
BRITISH COLUMBIA

MÉTIS NATION GOVERNING ASSEMBLY ACT

AS RATIFIED SEPTEMBER 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

ARTICLE ONE - TITLE

1.0 This Act may be cited as "*The Métis Nation Governing Assembly Act*"

ARTICLE TWO - INTERPRETATION

2.0 In this Act:

- 2.1. “**Act**” shall mean the *Métis Nation Governing Assembly Act*.
- 2.2 “**Chartered Community**” are those Métis Communities that have entered in a Community Governance Charter agreement with the MNBC.
- 2.3 “**Constitution**” shall mean the Constitution of the Métis Nation British Columbia (the "MNBC") as amended from time to time.
- 2.4 “**Clerk**” shall mean the Clerk of the Métis Nation Governing Assembly.
- 2.5 “**Community Governance Charter**” means the written document that shall set out the terms of the relationship between a Community and the MNBC.
- 2.6 “**Conflict of Interest**” shall exist when an immediate family member of a member of the MNGA or a person or individual has an interest in a matter being dealt with by the MNGA. An immediate family member is defined as father, mother, stepfather, stepmother, foster parent, brother, sister, spouse (including a common law spouse), child (including a child with a common law spouse), ward, father-in-law, mother-in-law or relative permanently residing with a member or any close personal or business associate. An interest in a matter will arise when a person or individual may benefit financially or otherwise as a result of a matter being dealt with by the MNGA.

A conflict of interest shall also exist when a member of the MNGA is or has become a director or officer, whether elected, appointed or otherwise, of a Métis provincial organization, association or group whose interests are in conflict with the interests of the MNBC in that their activities could negatively affect MNBC’s ability or authority to operate, negotiate on behalf of and represent the Métis people in British Columbia.
- 2.7 “**Deputy Speaker**” shall mean the Deputy Speaker of the MNGA.
- 2.8 “**Executive**” shall mean the Executive members of the MNBC who are elected province-wide and which includes the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary.
- 2.9 “**Gabriel Dumont Scout**” or “**Dumont Scouts**” shall mean the individual or individuals appointed and responsible for the keeping of the peace at the MNGA, named in honor of Gabriel Dumont’s peacemakers historically called ‘Scouts.’
- 2.10 “**Governing Assembly**” shall mean a meeting of the MNGA as set out in the Constitution.

- 2.11 **“Housekeeping Matters”** in the context of an amendment, addition or replacement of an Article contained in or proposed for Legislations of the Constitution means those matters that do not affect the meaning of intent of the Article of the subject Legislation of the Constitution. In the event of ambiguity, the proposed amendment, addition or replacement of an Article contained in or proposed for Legislation of the Constitution shall be deemed to be not a Housekeeping Matter.”
- 2.12 **“Legislation”** means legislative documents, laws and/or acts including amendments to existing legislative documents, laws and/or acts and, for the purpose of this Act, will include draft or proposed Legislation.
- 2.13 **“Métis Nation Governing Assembly”** (MNGA) means the legislative body of the MNBC, as set out in the Constitution.
- 2.14 **“Métis Nation British Columbia”** means, the organization that represents the Métis Citizens pursuant to the provisions of the Constitution.
- 2.15 **“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 BCMUYC and which, represents the Métis Citizens and for the purpose of this Act will be referred to as the MNBC.
- 2.16 **“Orders of the Day”** shall mean the compilation of documentation for members of the MNGA including the Agenda, Reports, Minutes, Draft Legislation, Motions and Constitutional Amendments to be tabled at a General Assembly of the MNGA.
- 2.17 **“Regions”** shall mean the MNBC regions as are defined by the Constitution.
- 2.18 **“Roll Call”** shall mean the call to order of a General Assembly and shall include the identification and an announcement of the Speaker for that General Assembly, the names of all members of the MNGA, Gabriel Dumont Scouts, and invited guests in attendance at the General Assembly and shall state whether a Quorum of MNGA members are in attendance.
- 2.19 **“Senate”** shall mean the MNBC Senate.
- 2.20 **“Speaker”** shall mean the Speaker of the MNGA.

ARTICLE THREE - COMPOSITION OF THE MÉTIS NATION GOVERNING ASSEMBLY

3.0 In this Act:

- 3.1 The MNGA shall be composed of:

- a) The MNBC Executive as represented by the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary; plus the Regional Directors, Métis Women of British Columbia Chairperson and MYBC Chairperson; and
 - b) The Presidents of the Chartered Communities of the MNBC.
- 3.1.1 A person shall hold one member position at MNGA meetings. If the person holds more than one role that is part of the membership of the MNGA as set out in 3.1 above, they must inform the Clerk of the role they will be fulfilling.
- 3.2 In the event a Community President is unable to attend a Governing Assembly, the Community's Vice-President may represent that Community.
- 3.3 All MNGA voting delegates must be registered with the Métis Nation British Columbia Central Registry in accordance with the Métis Nation British Columbia Citizenship Act.
- 3.4 No member of the MNGA shall be allowed to be in conflict of interest. If found to be in a conflict of interest by a majority of the MNGA, that member shall be subject to a permanent or temporary suspension from being a Member of the MNGA by a majority vote of the Members of the MNGA where at least three-quarters of the Members of the MNGA are present. A person so suspended may appeal the suspension to the Senate whose decision shall be final and finding.

ARTICLE FOUR - VOTING AND QUORUM

4.0 In this Act:

- 4.1. Fifty percent (50%) plus one of the members of the Métis Nation Governing Assembly constitutes a quorum for the General Assembly. However quorum must include a majority of the MNBC Board of Directors;
- 4.2.1 Roll call voting shall be the method of voting for the Métis Nation British Columbia Governing Assembly for ratification or amendments to the MNBC Constitution or Legislative Acts.
 - a) Each member of the MNGA is entitled to one vote per motion at meetings.
- 4.2.2 The procedure for taking roll call votes is to call the names of the representatives or delegates alphabetically, and to have each person indicate orally their vote. All those in favor of the adoption of the Resolution will say, "Yes" as their names are called. Those opposed will say "No". Those who wish to abstain will say, "Abstain". The MNGA Clerk will call the roll.

- 4.2.3 All resolutions submitted as housekeeping as determined by the MNGA shall not require the roll call voting process as described in article 4.2.1 and 4.2.2 and shall be determined by a simple majority of the Roll Call at a General Assembly.
- 4.3. Resolutions and ratifications other than Legislation or amendments to the Constitution and the ratification or approval of any appointments shall be made by a simple majority of the Roll Call at a Governing Assembly;
- 4.4. The MNGA shall, at a Governing Assembly, draft, review and consider Legislation and amendments to the Constitution for first reading, also referred to as ratification herein, and presentation to the MNBC at an Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting;
- 4.5. Ratification of Legislation or amendments to the Constitution that are properly before a Governing Assembly shall require majority of seventy-five percent (75%) of the Roll Call at a Governing Assembly;
- 4.6. Legislation or amendments to the Constitution that have been ratified by the Governing Assembly shall be presented for final approval or ratification by the Métis Citizens in attendance at an MNBC Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting.
- 4.7. Legislation or amendments to the Constitution which have been ratified by the Governing Assembly shall be provided to the MNBC at least forty-five (45) days prior to an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting to be included in the agenda of that Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting.
- 4.8. The MNGA may, by resolution, make election rules regarding matters not specifically set out in the *Electoral Act*. Such rules will expire 30 days after election day for the election they pertain to.
 - 4.8.1 That any elected representative, who is a declared candidate in a current election, who is a member of the MNGA, may not propose such a rule.

ARTICLE FIVE - SPEAKER OF THE MÉTIS NATION GOVERNING ASSEMBLY

- 5.0 The Speaker and Deputy Speaker shall:
 - 5.1 Be appointed by the MNGA at a Governing Assembly;
 - 5.2 May be made from within or outside the MNGA, but must be a registered MNBC Citizen pursuant to the *Citizenship Act*;
 - 5.3 Be for a term of two (2) years subject to re-appointment;
 - 5.4 Be responsible for the procedures, rules, debates and decorum of the Governing Assembly;

- 5.5 Receive the list of members and seating arrangements of the Governing Assembly from the Clerk as established by the Roll Call;
- 5.6 Approve all participation in debates and voting;
- 5.7 Secure a written record of the Governing Assembly and certify the minutes;
- 5.8 Require Gabriel Dumont Scouts to expel for the remainder of the day any MNGA member or any observer from the Governing Assembly for failing to follow the ruling of the Speaker;
- 5.9 Ensure that only MNGA members are seated in the designated Assembly area with all other individuals or observers seated outside of the designated Assembly area;
- 5.10 Approve all documentation to be circulated to MNGA members.

ARTICLE SIX - CLERK

- 6.0 The Clerk of the MNGA shall:
 - 6.1 Be a designate of the Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia;
 - 6.2 Be responsible for compiling the necessary documentation for the Orders of the Day;
 - 6.3 Be responsible for the presentation of the agenda prepared by the MNGA, for a Governing Assembly of the MNGA as directed by the MNBC;
 - 6.4 Obtain and retain a certified copy of the minutes from the Speaker;
 - 6.5 Provide the certified minutes of the MNGA to the members of the MNGA at least 14 (fourteen) days prior to the date set for a Governing Assembly;
 - 6.6 Secure, by contract, an independent person or agency to duly record the minutes and procedures of the MNGA;
 - 6.7 Ensure that the necessary staff are in place for a Governing Assembly;
 - 6.8 Also hold the seat as Clerk at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting of the MNBC; and
 - 6.9 Be authorized to appoint or designate a Deputy Clerk to assist in carrying out their duties.

ARTICLE SEVEN - SENATE

7.0 The Senate shall, in relation to the MNGA:

7.1 Maintain a Ceremonial Role in the MNGA and Governing Assemblies by:

- a) Being responsible for Opening and Closing Prayers;
- b) Swearing-In any new members.

ARTICLE EIGHT- GABRIEL DUMONT SCOUTS

8.0 In this Act:

8.1 Gabriel Dumont Scouts will be appointed by the MNBC to maintain order and ensure proper procedure during a Governing Assembly.

ARTICLE NINE - REPORTING

9.0 Notwithstanding any sittings or meetings of the MNGA to conduct business that is not the subject of a Governing Assembly, the following written reports shall be tabled by the Clerk for the MNGA and shall be included in the Orders of the Day:

9.1 Executive Reports;

- 9.1.1 President
- 9.1.2 Vice-President
- 9.1.3 Secretary
- 9.1.4 Treasurer
- 9.1.5 Regional Director Reports;
- 9.1.6 Métis Women of British Columbia Report;
- 9.1.7 Ministerial Reports, including, where applicable, program reports and audits;
- 9.1.8 Senate Report;
- 9.1.9 Métis Youth of British Columbia Report; and
- 9.1.10 Any other reports required by the Constitution or Legislation.

9.2 Expenditure Report

- 9.2.1 An interim Expenditure Report for the period between April 1st and December 31st of the current fiscal year shall be given, which shall contain all spending by MNBC elected members and the Executive Director/CEO including but not limited to: remuneration, travel costs, accommodation costs, per diems, honoraria, legal and professional fees, consultant and contractor fees and reimbursed expenses. Each year the Expenditure Report of the entire previous fiscal year's expenditures of MNBC elected members and executive staff shall be posted on the MNBC website by June 1st.

ARTICLE TEN- MINUTES

- 10.0 The Minutes of a Governing Assembly shall:
- 10.1 Be received and prepared by an independent individual or person;
 - 10.2 Be forwarded to the Clerk; and
 - 10.3 Refer to the Minutes of the previous Governing Assembly, which shall be included in the Orders of the Day.

ARTICLE ELEVEN - NOTICE OF LEGISLATION AND CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS, AND NOTICE OF OTHER MATTERS

- 11.1 Legislation or amendments to Legislation:
- a) Shall be tabled only by the members of the MNGA;
 - b) Shall be tabled with the Clerk no less than 30 days prior to the MNGA being held in the manner required and shall be included in the Orders of the Day for the MNGA, which shall consider the proposed Legislation or amendments to the Legislation.
 - c) Notice of the proposed Legislation or amendments to the Legislation shall be distributed to the members of the MNGA no less than 21 days prior to the MNGA being held, and
 - d) Be given first reading and if approved, ratified by the MNGA for presentation to the MNBC at an Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting in accordance and for the purpose as set out in Article 4 herein.
- 11.2 Constitutional Amendments
- a) Shall only be tabled by the members of the MNGA;
 - b) Shall be tabled with the Clerk no less than 40 days prior to the MNGA meeting being held in the manner required and shall be included in the Orders of the Day for the MNGA, which shall consider the proposed amendments to the Constitution;
 - c) Notice of the proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be distributed to the members of the MNGA no less than 21 days prior to the MNGA being held; and
 - d) Be given first reading and if approved, ratified by the MNGA for presentation to the MNBC at an Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting in accordance and for the purpose as set out in Article 4 herein.

11.3 Other Matters

- a) Shall be tabled only by the members of the MNGA;
- b) Shall be tabled with the Clerk no less than 30 days prior to the MNGA meeting being held in the manner required and shall be included in the Orders of the Day for the MNGA, which shall consider the matters;
- c) Notice of the matters, the minutes of the previous MNGA, and all reports of Ministers, Regions, and all other reports that are to be presented to the MNGA shall be distributed to the members of the MNGA no less than 21 days prior to the MNGA being held; and
- d) Be considered at the MNGA.

11.4 Notice of Legislation and proposed Constitutional amendments, and other matters from the MNBC Board of Directors

- a) Notice of Legislation and proposed Constitutional amendments and other matters from the MNBC Board of Directors shall be tabled with the Clerk no less than 45 days prior to the MNGA meeting being held, and shall be distributed to the members of the MNGA no less than 40 days prior to the MNGA meeting being held.

11.5 Resolutions of an urgent and pressing nature

- a) Resolutions of an urgent and pressing nature proposing to deal with a matter(s) that has arisen after the filing deadline with the Clerk, and that such matter(s) may have implications for the Métis Nation if it is not dealt with on an urgent basis by the MNGA, may be added to the Order Paper by the Clerk, if at least 50% plus one of the MNGA members in attendance agree.

11.6 Notice of the MNGA

- a) Notice of the date and location of the MNGA shall be distributed to the members of the MNGA no less than 60 days prior to the MNGA meeting being held.

ARTICLE TWELVE - APPLICATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS

- 12.0 The MNGA shall be authorized to receive and determine applications for Métis Community Governance Charter from applications in accordance with the requirement as outlined in Article 56.1 of the MNBC Constitution. The application terms of the Métis Community Governance Charter shall consider any special circumstances that may affect the status on an existing or prospective Métis Community Governance Charters.

- 12.1 The MNGA shall proclaim:
- a) The date of the next MNBC election, as set out in the Constitution; and
 - b) Holidays and days of commemoration, such as Louis Riel Day.
- 12.2 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 and the position MWBC Regional Representative or MYBC Regional Representative.

ARTICLE THIRTEEN - FINANCING

- 13.0 Fiscal resources for the institution and maintenance of the MNGA shall be provided by the MNBC if available, in accordance with the laws and regulations of the MNBC Financial Policies and Procedures, shall provide financial resources to the MNGA as required for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of this Act.
- 13.1 The fiscal resources allocated by the MNBC for the purposes in 13.1 shall be those fiscal resources that are within the means available to the MNBC for those purposes.
- 13.2 The Speaker shall make formal written request to the MNBC for all expenditures of the MNGA.
- 13.3 The MNBC shall actively pursue fiscal resources for the functions of the MNGA.
- 13.4 The MNBC will be responsible for the expenses and any remuneration for the MNGA in pursuance of the provisions of this Act.

MÉTIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA



MÉTIS NATION
BRITISH COLUMBIA

MÉTIS NATION NATURAL RESOURCES ACT

AS RATIFIED SEPTEMBER 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

ARTICLE ONE – TITLE

- 1.0 This Act is cited as “Métis Nation British Columbia - Natural Resource Act.”

ARTICLE TWO – INTERPRETATIONS

- 2.0 In this Act and subsequent Addendums and Regulations:

- 2.1 “**Act**” means the *MNBC Natural Resource Act*.
- 2.2 “**Addendums**” are Ministerial approved supplements to the *Natural Resource Act* that enables the development of annually renewed, low-level legislation.
- 2.3 “**BCMANR**” means the British Columbia Métis Assembly of Natural Resources which is a non-political committee that manages the natural resources on behalf of the MNBC.
- 2.4 “**Captain’s Assembly**” consists of the eight voting regional Captains of the Hunt.
- 2.5 “**Captain of the Hunt**” means a MNBC citizen who has been selected, through the BCMANR Policies and Procedures, and endorsed by the Regional Governance Council of their respective region.
- 2.6 “**Constitution**” means the *Constitution* of the MNBC as amended from time to time.
- 2.7 “**Issuer**” means a person that is delegated the authority by BCMANR to issue licensing, tags and permits.
- 2.8 “**Legislation**” means legislative documents, laws and/or acts including amendments to existing legislative documents, laws and/or acts and, for the purposes of this Act, will include draft or proposed Legislation.
- 2.9 “**MNBC**” means the Métis Nation British Columbia which represents and/or is comprised of the Métis Citizens of British Columbia and which is governed by the provisions of the *Constitution*.
- 2.10 “**Métis Citizen**” as defined by the *MNBC Citizenship Act*.
- 2.11 “**Minister of Environmental Protection**” means the MNBC Board Member that has been assigned the Environmental Protection and Métis Rights Ministry.
- 2.12 “**Minister of Economic Development and Natural Resources**” means the MNBC Board Member that has been assigned the Natural Resource Ministry.
- 2.13 “**Ministry of Environmental Protection**” means the MNBC Secretariat department that is responsible for all environmental protection regulations and policy, under the authority of the Minister of Environmental Protection (political), Senior Director of Environmental Protection (technical) and BCMANR.

- 2.14 **“Ministry of Economic Development and Natural Resources”** means the MNBC Secretariat department that is responsible for all natural resource issues under the authority of the Minister of Economic Development and Natural Resources (political), Senior Director of Economic Development and Natural Resources (technical) and BCMANR.
- 2.15 **“Parties”** for the purpose of consultation means government, proponents, regulatory agencies and other external entities whose mandate includes Aboriginal consultation.
- 2.16 **“Region”** means a MNBC Region as determined by the *Constitution*.
- 2.17 **“Regulation”** is the annually renewed provincial and regional rules that manage the Métis harvest.
- 2.18 **“Senate”** means the MNBC Senate.
- 2.19 **“Senior Director of Economic Development and Natural Resources”** means a person that is employed by the MNBC Secretariat and has expertise and experience in the natural resource section.
- 2.20 **“Senior Director of Environmental Protection”** means a person that is employed by the MNBC Secretariat with the requisite expertise and experience in environmental protection.
- 2.21 **“Youth”** for the purpose of harvesting under the authority of this *Act* and to provide consistency with existing provincial and federal government legislation (i.e. *B.C. Wildlife Act*) means a Métis Citizen between the ages of 10-18 years of age.

ARTICLE THREE – PURPOSE OF THE ACT

- 3.0 The purpose of this Act is to provide Métis specific legislative authority for the regulated management of all natural resources in British Columbia which are utilized by the Métis Citizens, thus;
 - 3.1 Establish natural resource regulation, policy and guidelines by combining both Métis traditional knowledge and western-based science management principles;
 - 3.2 Institute sound conservation practices and measures;
 - 3.3 Protect the sustenance and cultural needs of the Métis Citizens in British Columbia;
 - 3.4 Ensure adequate consultation on all natural resource issues.

ARTICLE FOUR – FINANCES

- 4.0 The financial requirements for MNBC’s Ministry of Environmental Protection shall be satisfied as follows:
 - 4.1 Where fiscal resources are available, the MNBC, in accordance with the laws and regulations of the MNBC Financial Policies and Procedures, shall provide financial resources to BCMANR as required for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of

this Act.

- 4.2 Such resources shall be within the means available to the MNBC for such purposes.
- 4.3 The Senior Director of Environmental Protection shall make a formal written request to the MNBC for all expenditures of BCMANR.
- 4.4 The MNBC shall actively pursue financial resources for the functions of BCMANR and the Ministry of Environmental Protection.
- 4.5 The MNBC will be responsible for travel expenses and honorariums for BCMANR while conducting official BCMANR business, pursuant to this Act.

ARTICLE FIVE – RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING PROCEDURES

5.0 In this Act:

- 5.1 BCMANR shall keep written minutes of all meetings, and shall issue these minutes to the Senior Directors and Ministers of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection.
- 5.2 All decisions of BCMANR shall be recorded and a report provided to the Citizens at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting of the MNBC and the Métis Nation Governing Assembly.
- 5.3 The MNBC's Minister responsible for Natural Resources will be required to report all updates to the MNBC Board of the Directors.

ARTICLE SIX – HARVESTING FOR PROFIT AND COMMERCIAL PURPOSES

6.0 In this Act the harvesting of wildlife and fish for profit or commercial purposes;

- 6.1 Is not authorized, and;
- 6.2 Only permits harvesting by Métis Citizens for food, social, ceremonial and traditional purposes.

ARTICLE SEVEN – MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS

7.0 Management agreements;

- 7.1 The MNBC Board of Directors may enter into agreements with Canada or British Columbia pertaining to management, perpetuation or rehabilitation of wildlife or fish populations or the ecosystems of which those populations are a part.
- 7.2 The MNBC Board of Directors may enter into agreements with aboriginal nations, non-government organizations and stakeholder groups that pertain or contribute to natural resource management and conservation of fish and wildlife populations and habitats.
- 7.3 The MNBC Board of Directors may enter into agreements with the owners of lands

respecting the management of the lands for the purposes mentioned in *Article 3.0*, and such agreements may authorize BCMANR to carry out habitat improvement work, protective measures, stocking programs, fencing, erection of signs, harvesting activities and any other management practice.

- 7.4 The MNBC Board of Directors may enter into agreements, for the purpose of consultation, as per *Article 11.0* of this Act.

ARTICLE EIGHT – MNBC HARVESTING CARDS

- 8.0 In this Act:

8.1 MNBC Harvesting Cards

- 8.1.1 MNBC Harvesting Cards may be issued to Métis Citizens who submit applications and meet requirements for approval. This Act applies only to those persons who have chosen to harvest under the authority of the Act.
- 8.1.2 A MNBC Citizen cannot harvest a wildlife and fish quota (or bag limit) under multiple licensing authorities (i.e. MNBC Harvesting Card and a Province of British Columbia *Wildlife Act* hunting license).
- 8.1.3 The holder of a MNBC Harvesting Card constitutes acceptance of all terms and conditions for use of the card as outlined in this Act and any subsequent regulations created under the authority of Article 9.0.
- 8.1.4 Contravention of terms is an Offence.
- 8.1.5 No person shall contravene the terms or conditions of the person's MNBC Harvesting Card.

8.2 Transfer of MNBC Harvesting Card, validation or tag;

- 8.2.1 Except as provided in the regulations, no MNBC Harvesting Card shall be transferred and no person shall buy, sell, exchange or in anyway be a party to the transfer of a MNBC Harvesting Card, validation or tag, or in any way use or attempt to use a MNBC Harvesting Card, validation or tag, issued to any other person.

8.3 MNBC Harvesting Cards apply only to those species, areas and times described by regulations developed under the authority of *Article 9.0*.

8.4 Cancellation of MNBC Harvesting Card in event of error;

- 8.4.1 BCMANR may cancel any MNBC Harvesting Card where an error has been made from any cause when issuing it, and the holder has no claim for indemnity or compensation with respect to it other than the adjustment or refund of any fee collected.

8.5 MNBC Harvesting Card is to be carried and produced upon demand;

- 8.5.1 No holder of a MNBC Harvesting Card shall hunt, fish, trap or collect natural resources unless at that time they have a valid MNBC Harvesting Card on their person;
- 8.5.2 The holder of a MNBC Harvesting Card shall produce the card to any enforcement officer whenever requested.
- 8.6 MNBC Harvesting Card obtained by misrepresentation;
 - 8.6.1 The holder of a MNBC Harvesting Card obtained by any false or misleading statement made in respect of any information required for the issue of the MNBC Harvesting Card shall be deemed to be the holder of a void MNBC Harvesting Card and the holder will be prosecuted under this Act.
- 8.7 Refusal of MNBC Harvesting Card;
 - 8.7.1 An issuer of MNBC Harvesting Cards may refuse to issue a MNBC Harvesting Card where the refusal is due to failure to verify MNBC Citizenship for the applicant or,
 - 8.7.2 An issuer of MNBC Harvesting Cards may refuse to issue a MNBC Harvesting Card where the refusal is reasonably necessary for the achievement of the purpose and intent of this Act as per *Article 3.0*.
- 8.8 Notice of refusal
 - 8.8.1 Where an issuer of MNBC Harvesting Card refuses to issue a MNBC Harvesting Card, BCMANR shall serve notice of the refusal on the application for the MNBC Harvesting Card.
- 8.9 A person, who has not complied with terms of any BCMANR Captain's Assembly decisions related to offences under the Act, will not be eligible to apply for a MNBC Harvesting Card, unless the offence has been overturned by a successful MNBC Senate appeal.

ARTICLE NINE – REGULATIONS BY BCMANR

- 9.0 BCMANR will make regulations that are consistent with *Article 3.0* and develop regulations based on the principles of existing case law, and whereas;
 - a. An agreement (as per *Article 7.0*) that has been endorsed between the MNBC and a provincial and/or federal government partner, or;
 - b. Legislative or political direction has been provided by the Métis Nation Governing Assembly, MNBC Annual General Assembly or a ratified motion of the MNBC Board of Directors, however;
 - c. If neither *Articles 9.0 a.* nor *9.0 b.* are present, then provincial and federal government legislation and regulation will be sanctioned.

- 9.1 BCMANR will make regulations as follows:
 - 9.1.1 Respecting threatened species or endangered species;
 - 9.1.2 Application for MNBC Harvesting Cards and permits as per *Article 8.0*;
 - 9.1.3 Prescribing the conditions of a MNBC Harvesting Card and conditions that the Issuer may attach to a MNBC Harvesting Card when they issue it to a Métis Citizen;
 - 9.1.4 Limiting the number and types of tags and permits that may be held by a person;
 - 9.1.5 Prescribing fees;
 - 9.1.6 Prescribing the maximum number of a species of wildlife, by sex and age, that a person may kill or possess in a period of time and the circumstances in which a person may kill or possess wildlife;
 - 9.1.7 Designating no shooting and/or no harvesting areas;
 - 9.1.8 Providing for cancellation or suspension of, periods of ineligibility for and periods of suspension of MNBC Harvesting Cards for specified offences or combinations of offences, and specifying what a second or subsequent offence is, consistent with *Article 12.0*;
 - 9.1.9 Specifying lakes, streams or areas of British Columbia for the purpose of requiring Métis Citizens to hold a MNBC Harvesting Card issued under the authority of this Act to engage in angling in that lake, stream or area for special designated harvests;
 - 9.1.10 Respecting how decision for appeal may be supplied for the purposes of *Article 13.0*;
 - 9.1.11 Prohibiting or regulating methods and devices for hunting or taking wildlife and respecting safety in those activities;
 - 9.1.12 Providing for the reporting and recording;
 - 9.1.13 Requiring wildlife or a part of wildlife to be permanently or temporarily marked or tagged;
 - 9.1.14 Requiring that a person who kills wildlife, take that wildlife or a part of it to a place and report to a person specified by BCMANR;
- 9.2 Without limiting *Article 9.1*, BCMANR will make regulations as follows:
 - 9.2.1 Specifying open seasons or closed seasons, or both, for a sex, age or species of wildlife;

- 9.2.2 Prescribing the hours of the day or night during which the hunting of wildlife is prohibited or allowed;
- 9.2.3 Prescribing restrictions on the manner in which fish caught by angling may be dressed or packed and limits on the amount of fish or fish parts possessed by a person at a place other than at a private residence;
- 9.2.4 Prescribing MNBC Harvesting Cards or permits that must be held to angle for or to catch and retain a designated species of fish or to angle in a designated area of British Columbia, including tidal waters;
- 9.2.5 Prescribing tags that must be attached in the prescribed manner to fish caught by angling;
- 9.2.6 Prescribing an offence under a specified provision of this Act, or a regulation under this Act, as an offence.
- 9.3 BCMANR, despite anything in this Act, may make regulations respecting the issue of permits.
- 9.4 Regulations must assure public safety and public health.
- 9.5 This Act authorizes the creation of a BCMANR Policy and Procedure section pertaining to the process for regulation development.
- 9.6 All regulation must be approved, via motion, by the BCMANR Captain's Assembly.

ARTICLE TEN – ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

- 10.0 This Act authorizes the development of Environmental Protection Policy.
 - 10.1 The Environmental Protection Policy is the responsibility of the MNBC Ministry of Environmental Protection.
 - 10.2 BCMANR will be responsible for all Environmental Protection regulations developed under the authority of this Act.
 - 10.3 The MNBC Board of Directors has the approval authority for all Environmental Protection Policy.

ARTICLE ELEVEN – CONSULTATION

- 11.0 This Act authorizes the development of an MNBC Consultation Guidelines and supporting procedures.
 - 11.1 The development of MNBC's Consultation Guidelines is the joint responsibility of the MNBC Ministries of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection. The policy will be revised from time to time to reflect MNBC's position with respect to consultation within context of current Supreme Court of Canada rulings and associated regulatory requirements as they apply to Métis rights and interests;

- 11.2 The Consultation Guidelines will include a definition of traditional knowledge, written by the BCMANR Captain's Assembly, to ensure adherence to purpose of this Act in *Article 3.0*.
 - 11.2.1 Traditional knowledge protocol and procedure in the Consultation Guidelines will be established by the BCMANR Captain's Assembly.
- 11.3 The MNBC Board of Directors has the approval authority for all Consultation Guidelines.
- 11.4 The implementation of the Consultation Guidelines is the joint responsibility of the Senior Directors of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection, under the direction and guidance of the respective MNBC Ministers, where relevant.
- 11.5 Consultation Guidelines will address the following principles;
 - 11.5.1 Promote the adherence of government, proponent and regulatory agencies to the implementation of Aboriginal consultation in a manner that respects and addresses the unique culture, heritage by:
 - 11.5.1.1 Increasing awareness of the Métis in British Columbia including the cultural, heritage and land use issues of concern to Métis;
 - 11.5.1.2 Strive to ensure the timely and effective avoidance, mitigation, accommodation and/or compensation of potentially adverse impacts to Métis rights and interests in keeping with current MNBC mandates related to consultation;
 - 11.5.2 The MNBC Ministry of Economic Development and Natural Resources and the Ministry of Environmental Protection will endeavor to keep apprised of and inform the MNBC's Board of Directors of current case law, regulatory requirements, government policies and other matters that may influence Métis rights and interests and have bearing on the MNBC's Consultation Guidelines;
 - 11.5.3 Establish appropriate, efficient practices that will fulfill MNBC consultation principles in accordance with MNBC Board direction for all natural resource matters.
 - 11.5.4 Promote and facilitate the protection of traditional land use locations and other historical resources of significance to Métis within British Columbia;
 - 11.5.5 Guide Parties in fulfilling their consultation duties and objectives in a spirit of reconciliation and transparency and will meet each party's goal of fairness and certainty; and,
 - 11.5.6 Guide MNBC's decision-making processes regarding consultation as it relates to all natural resource matters including resource development and land management practices.
- 11.6 Consultation Guidelines will require the MNBC to;

- 11.6.1 Represent and advocate for consultation of British Columbia Métis Citizens with governments, regulators, proponents and other relevant agencies;
- 11.6.2 Provide direction and support to the Chartered Métis Communities;
- 11.6.3 Work with BCMANR to ensure traditional and contemporary land use information is employed to support consultation where such information is available; or,
 - 11.6.3.1 If absent, advocate for resources to compliment the consultation project with adequate traditional and contemporary land use information.
- 11.6.4 Provide information to government and industry to facilitate consultation activities;
- 11.6.5 Manage and determine the adequacy of consultation activities within the context of MNBC consultation policies, legal precedents and regulatory requirements;
- 11.6.6 Report to the Chartered Métis Communities, government, regulators, proponents and other relevant agencies regarding decisions concerning consultation as related to their respective mandates; and,
- 11.6.7 Consider any other issue or take any other action the MNBC deems necessary to ensure consultation adequately protects the rights and interests of British Columbia Métis Citizens.

ARTICLE TWELVE – COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

- 12.0 This Act authorizes the BCMANR Captain's Assembly to function in the following compliance and enforcement capacities;
 - 12.1 To operate in the capacity of the initial judiciary in relation to offences against this Act or any regulations empowered by this Act.
 - 12.2 Powers available to the Captain's Assembly for offences against this Act are;
 - a. Suspension of a MNBC Harvesting Card for a period not to exceed two years, offences greater than two years are considered an apprehension.
 - b. Apprehension of a MNBC Harvesting Card for a period not to exceed five years. If the apprehension is recommended by the Captain's Assembly to be greater than five years; the MNBC Minister of Environmental Protection Resources must sanction the apprehension.
 - c. Community service hours
 - d. Reparations or mitigated measures

- 12.3 Determine the policies and procedures for the compliance and enforcement authorities assigned under this Act.

ARTICLE THIRTEEN – APPEAL MECHANISM

- 13.0 The MNBC Senate has the authority to hear appeals for;
 - 13.1 Any decisions established under the authority of this Act, or;
 - 13.2 Any offences established by the BCMANR Captain’s Assembly under the authority of *Article 12.0* of this Act.

ARTICLE FOURTEEN – BCMANR NATURAL RESOURCE FUND

- 14.0 BCMANR Natural Resource fund is established to fund projects and activities related to natural resource management, protection, enhancement, education and legal challenges and that a BCMANR Natural Resource fund policy is developed to ensure management of the fund by BCMANR is strategic, effective and transparent.

MÉTIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA



MÉTIS NATION
BRITISH COLUMBIA

MÉTIS NATION SENATE ACT

AS RATIFIED SEPTEMBER 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

ARTICLE ONE - TITLE

- 1.0 This Act may be cited as "The Métis Nation British Columbia Senate Act"

ARTICLE TWO - INTERPRETATION

- 2.0 In this Act:

- 2.1. **“Act”** means the *Métis Nation British Columbia Senate Act*.
- 2.2 **“Constitution”** means the Constitution of the Métis Nation British Columbia (“MNBC”) as amended from time to time.
- 2.3 **“Legislation”** means legislative documents, laws and/or acts including amendments to existing legislative documents, laws and/or acts and, for the purposes of this Act, will include draft or proposed Legislation.
- 2.4 **“Métis Nation British Columbia”** means the organization which represents and/or is comprised of the Métis Citizens of British Columbia and which are governed by the provisions of the Constitution.
- 2.5 **“Métis Nation Governing Assembly”** (MNGA) means the legislative authority of the Métis Nation British Columbia, as set out in the Constitution.
- 2.6 **“Ordinarily Resident”** means the Region to which the person is registered as a member and the Region of the member's fixed home address to which whenever they are absent they have the intention of returning.
- 2.7 **“Region”** means Region as determined by the Constitution.
- 2.8 **“Registrar”** means the individual who fulfils the office of Registrar as defined in the *Citizenship Act*.
- 2.9 **“Senate”** means the Métis Nation British Columbia Senate.
- 2.10 **“Senator”** means a member of the Métis Nation British Columbia Senate.

ARTICLE THREE - MANDATE AND POWERS OF THE SENATE

- 3.0 The Senate shall:

- 3.1 Act as the judicial arm of the Métis Nation British Columbia in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution;
- 3.2 Consist of seven (7) Senators, one Senator per Region; and

- 3.3 Determine and abide by guidelines for protocol, policy and procedure and to provide to the MNBC a written copy of those guidelines (the “Protocol Guidelines”).
- 3.4 A Senator shall not be subject to any civil action, suit of prosecution as a result of any things done or not done in relations to the performance of their duties as Senators.

ARTICLE FOUR - QUALIFICATIONS FOR A SENATOR

- 4.0 A person is eligible for appointment to the Senate if they:
 - 4.1 Are a Citizen of the Métis Nation British Columbia;
 - 4.2 Are appointed by the Regional Governance Council by a motion at a Regional meeting;
 - 4.3 Are ordinarily resident in the Region from which they were appointed;
 - 4.4 Are non-partisan and non-political, including non-affiliation except as members only of Federal, Provincial and Métis organizations;
 - 4.5 Are at least fifty-five (55) years of age; and
 - 4.6 They have not been convicted of a criminal offence carrying a penalty of two (2) years or greater.
 - 4.7 They are registered with the Métis Nation British Columbia Central Registry in accordance with the Métis Nation British Columbia Citizenship Act.

ARTICLE FIVE - APPOINTMENT AND RATIFICATION OF SENATORS

- 5.0 Notice of Senate appointments shall be forwarded to the MNBC and the Senate Chairperson, when appointed, by the official charged with recording the minutes of the meeting at which the appointment was made. The submission will include a copy of the minutes of the meeting, indicating the motion and shall be accompanied by a resume and biography of the appointed Senator.
 - 5.1 A call for application for Senators will be issued by the MNBC 120 days prior to the Senators term.
 - 5.2 The application package must contain:
 - a) Biography of the Applicant.
 - b) Proof of age.
 - c) Copy of the MNBC Provincial Métis Citizens card.
 - d) A Criminal Record Check in accordance with the MNBC Constitution and Senate Act.

- e) Nomination in writing by a Métis Citizen that holds a MNBC Provincial Métis Citizens card.
 - f) Application package must be submitted to the MNBC Regional Director 30 days prior to the end of the Senator's term.
- 5.3 The Regional Governance Council shall review the Applicant's submissions and will reject applications that do not contain the items listed in 5.2.
- 5.4 All or any candidates shall not participate in the Regional Governance Council meeting or when Senator deliberations are being carried out.
- 5.5 The Regional Governance Council will deliberate until the appointment of their Regional Senator is reached by simple majority.
- 5.6 The successful Applicant will upon notification of their appointment, immediately resign any and all positions held within the MNBC, MNGA, Community or subsidiary Board, Commission or Committee, Métis Women of British Columbia, or the Métis Youth of British Columbia.

ARTICLE SIX - TERM AND REMOVAL OF OFFICE

- 6.0 In this Act:
 - 6.1 The term of office for a Senator shall be four (4) years;
 - 6.2 Notwithstanding Article 6.1, the term of office of a Senator shall terminate if a Senator is:
 - a) Disqualified for violating any part of this Act; or
 - b) Is unable to fulfill their duties on a permanent basis.
 - 6.3 A Senator shall be removed or suspended from office by the Senate:
 - a) For being convicted of an indictable offence and all appeals are exhausted;
 - b) If they take up residency outside of the Province of British Columbia;
 - c) For actions unbecoming the stature of a Senator while holding office;
 - d) By voluntarily resigning in writing to the Chairperson of the Senate;
 - 6.4 A Senator shall take a leave of absence from the office of the Senate upon being charged with an indictable offence and pending final determination of the allegations forming the basis for the charge;
 - 6.5 A Senator may be suspended by a seventy five percent (75%) majority of the Senate. The suspension may be with or without remuneration at the sole discretion of the Senate and shall be effective immediately upon that Senator being notified of their

suspension;

- 6.6 A Senator may appeal their suspension to the MNGA by written notice to the MNGA within thirty (30) days of receiving notice of his suspension.

ARTICLE SEVEN – GUIDELINES FOR PROTOCOL, CODE OF ETHICS, STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

- 7.0 Within four (4) months of the final ratification of this Act, the Senate shall prepare, compile and deliver to the MNGA a copy of guidelines, in writing, setting out the Protocol, Code of Ethics and Standard of Conduct pursuant to which the Senate shall conduct its affairs and manage and administer the duties and functions of the Senate in accordance with this Act and the Senator's fiduciary duty to the MNGA, the MNBC and Métis Citizens.

ARTICLE EIGHT - COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE

- 8.0 Pursuant to this Act the Senate shall establish any such committees as are required by the Métis Nation British Columbia Constitution or Legislation and as required to carry out the following duties:
- a. Mediation;
 - b. Citizenship and Central Registry Appeals;
 - c. Election Appeals;
 - d. Regional and Community Disputes;
 - e. Ceremonial Activities and Exchanges;
 - f. Conducting Opening / Closing Prayers;
 - g. Directing Swearing-In Ceremonies and Oaths;
 - h. Presenting Awards and Gifts of Recognition where applicable;
 - i. Displaying Métis Flags and Sashes; and
 - j. Natural Resources Appeals;
- 8.1 Each committee established pursuant to Article 8.1 shall appoint an individual from among its members to serve as the spokesperson for that committee.

ARTICLE NINE - APPEALS

- 9.0 Members of the Senate conducting appeals shall:
- a) Hear and provide written decisions on all matters and appeals properly before the Senate;
 - b) Have such powers, rights and privileges as may be necessary in regards to attendance, swearing in and examination of witnesses, the production and inspection of documents, the enforcement of its orders and other matters necessary or proper for the due exercise of its jurisdiction.

- c) The Senate shall determine the tribunal or committees required for the jurisdictions supplied under Article 8.0 of this Act.
 - d) Consider and determine issues with a majority of members in attendance; and
 - e) May appoint an individual(s) to inquire into and report on any matter before making a decision on it.
- 9.1 In all matters concerning appeals, be bound by the rules of natural justice;
- 9.2 Where a time frame to submit an appeal is not otherwise legislated, any appeal by a MNBC Citizen must be made within sixty (60) days of the event.
- 9.2.1 The Senate will consider an application for an extension of time to appeal.
- 9.3 All decisions of the Senate must be in writing and sealed, then forwarded to the affected parties within thirty (30) days of its decision.
- 9.4 The decisions of the Senate shall be in writing and forwarded to the Métis Nation British Columbia for its review and such action as necessary by the Métis Nation British Columbia.

ARTICLE TEN - QUORUM AND VOTING

- 10.0 To conduct official Senate business:
- 10.1 A simple majority of the Senators will constitute a quorum for a full Senate sitting and/or a simple majority of the composition of a Senate committee and/or tribunal.
- 10.2 Decisions made by a quorum of the Senate shall be deemed to be a decision of the Senate.

ARTICLE ELEVEN - FINANCES

- 11.0 The Financial requirements for the institution and operation Senate shall be satisfied as follows:
- 11.1 Where fiscal resources are available, the MNBC, in accordance with the laws and regulations of the MNBC Financial Policies and Procedures, shall provide financial resources to the Senate as required for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of this Act.
- 11.2 Such resources shall be within the means available to the MNBC for such purposes.
- 11.3 The Chairperson of the Senate shall make formal written request to the MNBC for all expenditures of the Senate.
- 11.4 The MNBC shall actively pursue fiscal resources for the functions of the Senate.

11.5 The MNBC will be responsible for travel expenses and honorariums for the Senate while conducting official Senate business, pursuant to this Act.

11.6 In the absence of timely Senate resources, the Senate will be provided full consideration for required resources on a case-by-case basis through mutual consultation between the Senate and MNBC.

ARTICLE TWELVE - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING PROCEDURES

12.0 In this Act:

12.1 The Senate shall keep written minutes of all meetings and shall issue such reports to those persons or individuals as may be required.

12.2 All decisions of the Senate shall be recorded and a report and posted on the MNBC website for general Citizenship to view.

ARTICLE THIRTEEN – CLERK OF THE SENATE

13.0 The Clerk of the Senate shall:

13.1 Operate independent of MNBC;

13.2 Operate under the authority and direction of the MNBC Senate;

13.3 Shall be remunerated by the MNBC;

13.4 Shall hold no other seat as MNGA/AGM Clerk or administrator/staff personnel within MNBC.

MÉTIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA



MÉTIS NATION
BRITISH COLUMBIA

MÉTIS NATION VETERANS ACT

AS RATIFIED SEPTEMBER 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

ARTICLE ONE

- 1.1 This act may be cited as the Veterans Act (the “Act”).

ARTICLE TWO – PURPOSE OF THE ACT

- 2.1 The purpose of this Act is to define the role and position of the Métis Veterans of British Columbia (the “MVBC”) within the MNBC.

ARTICLE THREE – MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1 Métis who have received a MNBC Citizenship Card and who meet the Department of Veterans Affairs Canada definition for a Veteran, being a current member or, a former member of, the Canadian Armed Forces (Regular Forces or Reserve Forces), that was released with an honourable discharge and, who successfully underwent basic training is considered to be a Métis Veteran. A Métis Veteran shall also include those still serving or retired RCMP members. The “Veterans” shall, upon submission of proof of service and Métis Citizenship and upon application to the MVBC being approved, be the members of the MVBC (hereinafter “Members”).
- 3.2 The spouses and children of MVBC Members who wish to join MVBC may apply for associate membership of MVBC and may be accepted as an associate member (the “Associate Member” or “Associate Members” as the case may be) of MVBC. The MVBC Committee will assess and accept or deny applications for Associate Membership.
- 3.3 The MVBC Committee may, at their sole discretion, revoke a person’s associate membership.
- 3.4 Associate Members shall not be permitted to participate or vote at a meeting of the MVBC and shall not be entitled to appointment to the MVBC Committee.
- 3.5 A Member or Associate Member may resign their membership in MVBC, through a written request submitted to the MVBC Committee.

ARTICLE FOUR – METIS VETERANS BC COMMITTEE

- 4.1 Métis Veterans BC Committee (the “MVBC Committee”) shall be constituted of a Métis Veteran Chairperson, seven Métis Veteran Representatives (the “Regional Representatives”), a Woman Veteran Representative, and a Service Officer, all being MVBC members.
- 4.2 The MVBC Membership shall elect from among themselves the Chairperson, Women’s Representative, and Service Officer. The MVBC Regional Representatives shall be appointed in consultation with the appropriate MNBC Regional Governance Council.

- 4.3 The term of office for all MVBC Committee members shall be no more than four (4) years. Elections and appointments shall be held at a MVBC General Meeting, in the year on which the term for those MVBC Committee members shall expire.
- 4.4 The MNBC Minister of Veterans will notify the relevant Regional Director no less than ninety (90) days before their MVBC Regional Representative term will expire, and an appointment must be made by the Regional Governance Council, if a suitable candidate can be found.
- 4.5 No Member may serve for more than two (2) consecutive terms as Chairperson, Women's Representative, or Service Officer, without the approval of the MNBC Minister of Veterans.
- 4.6 At least one member of the MVBC Committee shall be a serving or retired member of the RCMP, if a suitable candidate can be found.
- 4.7 A Treasurer and Membership Clerk will be appointed by the MVBC Committee from the MVBC Committee Regional Representatives, who, together with the Chairperson, Women's Representative, and Service Officer, shall collectively act and be known as the "Executive Committee".
- 4.8 The MVBC Committee shall be responsible for the following duties and functions on behalf of the Métis Veterans British Columbia:
 - a.) Maintenance of policy and procedures relating to the conduct and mandate of the Métis Veterans and Associate Members;
 - b.) Maintenance of a list of all Métis Veterans and Associate Members in British Columbia as defined by article three (3);
 - c.) Prepare an annual report for presentation at the MNBC Annual General Meeting, and other reports as requested by the MNBC Minister of Veterans;
 - d.) Serve as *Gabriel Dumont Scouts* as may be requested by MNBC from time to time;
 - e.) Co-ordinate and organize flag processions and flag placement as requested or appropriate from time to time; and other duties as required;
 - f.) Advocate to enhance the status of Métis Veterans;
 - g.) Provide service and support to Métis Veterans in British Columbia;
 - h.) Represent themselves as Métis veterans at municipal, provincial, federal, commemorative, or other events.
- 4.9 Subject to available funding, the MVBC Committee shall meet at least twice per year at a location chosen by the MVBC Committee and may be held in conjunction with the MNBC Annual General Meeting or a MNBC Métis Nation Governing Assembly. The MVBC General Meeting will generally be held in conjunction with the MNBC Annual General Meeting.
- 4.10 Meetings of the MVBC Committee shall be called by the Chairperson. In the event that the Chairperson is unwilling or unable to call a meeting, three MVBC Committee members may call a meeting.

- 4.11 No less than seven (7) days' notice of a MVBC Committee meeting will be provided to all MVBC Committee members.
- 4.12 An MVBC Member, while conducting their duties of the MVBC, shall not be subject to any civil action, lawsuit, or prosecution, as a result of anything done or not done in relation to their duties.

ARTICLE FIVE – MNBC MINISTER OF VETERANS

- 5.1 The MNBC Minister of Veterans shall be an MNBC Board Member.
- 5.2 The MNBC Minister of Veterans shall provide Provincial and Federal representation on behalf of the MVBC and will be accountable to the MVBC Committee. In the event the Minister of Veterans is unable to attend, the Minister may request that an alternate MNBC Board Member and the Chairperson of the MVBC attend in their place.
- 5.3 For the purpose of official business, the voice of the MVBC shall be brought to the MNBC, Métis National Council, Federal and Provincial Governments, organizations, and associations through the Minister in consultation with the MVBC Committee.

MÉTIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA



MÉTIS NATION
BRITISH COLUMBIA

MÉTIS NATION WOMEN'S ACT

AS RATIFIED SEPTEMBER 2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PREAMBLE

0.0 Mission Statement of the Métis Women of British Columbia:

*"We the Métis women of B.C. have an agenda of an open heart and we respect and trust in the process.
We are encouraging appropriate relationships, principles and procedures."*

ARTICLE ONE – TITLE

1.0 This act may be cited as the *MNBC Women's Act* (the "Act").

ARTICLE TWO – PURPOSE OF THE ACT

2.0 The purpose of this Act is to entrench the Métis Women of British Columbia (the "MWBC") in the MNBC governance structure to ensure that Métis Women are equally represented and engaged in all levels of governance.

ARTICLE THREE - DEFINITIONS

- 3.1 In this Act:
- 3.2 **"MWBC Provincial Governance Council"** means the seven elected Métis Women's representatives, one from each Region and the Métis Women's Chairperson also known as the Minister Responsible for Métis Women.
- 3.3 **"Legislation"** means legislative documents, laws and/or acts including amendments to existing legislative documents, laws and/or acts.
- 3.4 **"MWBC"** means the Métis Women of British Columbia.
- 3.5 **"Minister Responsible for Métis Women"** means the person elected as MNBC Provincial Métis Women's Chairperson in accordance with the provisions of the *MNBC Electoral Act*, who shall serve as the Minister Responsible for Métis Women on the MNBC Board of Directors.
- 3.6 **"The Provincial Métis Women's Chairperson"** the MNBC Métis Women's representative elected in a Province wide election in accordance with the provisions of the *MNBC Electoral Act*.
- 3.7 **"Regional Métis Women's Representative"** means the MNBC Métis Women's Representative elected to represent the Métis Women of a Region in accordance with the provisions of the *MNBC Electoral Act*.
- 3.8 **"Métis Women"** means those Métis Women residing in British Columbia, 18 years of age and older.
- 3.9 **"Métis Nation Governing Assembly"** (MNGA) means the legislative body of the MNBC, as set out in the *Constitution*.

- 3.10 “MNBC Assembly” means MNBC Annual General Meeting (AGM).

ARTICLE FOUR – GENERAL OBJECTIVES

- 4.1 MWBC shall:
- 4.2 The MWBC Provincial Governance Council acknowledges and accepts the *MNBC Constitution* as the law governing the MWBC and agrees to comply with the provisions of the *MNBC Constitution* and MNBC Legislation.
- 4.3 The objective of MWBC is to listen to Métis Women, to voice Métis Women's perspectives, and to acknowledge the past and present contributions of Métis Women for the benefit of Métis People and the Métis Nation.
- 4.4 The voice of the Métis Women in British Columbia shall be brought to the MNBC, Métis National Council, Women of the Métis Nation Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak, Federal and Provincial Governments, organizations and associations through the MWBC Committee.

ARTICLE FIVE – MWBC GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

- 5.1 MWBC shall:
- 5.2 The MWBC Provincial Governance Council shall attend every MNGA Assembly and MNBC Assembly.
- 5.3 The Provincial Women's Chairperson is a voting director on the MNBC Board of Directors.
- 5.4 The Provincial Women's Chairperson shall provide Provincial and Federal representation and be accountable to the Provincial Governance Council and the MNBC Board of Directors.
- 5.5 The seven Regional Women's Representatives each shall hold voting seats on their respective Regional Governance Councils.
- 5.6 All Métis Women of British Columbia (MWBC) Provincial Governance Council members shall not be subject to any civil action, suit or prosecution as a result of anything done or not done in relation to the performance of their duties as Métis Women of British Columbia representatives.
- 5.7 The MWBC Provincial Governance Council shall elect, from among its members, a Vice-Chair, and a Secretary.
- 5.8 The MWBC Provincial Governance Council shall hold no less than four meetings, including telephone or in person meetings, each year called by the Minister Responsible for Women or, in the event the Minister Responsible for Women is unwilling or unable to call a meeting shall be called by the Vice-Chair.
- 5.9 MWBC shall prepare and maintain written minutes of all meetings and conference

calls (the “MWBC Minutes”).

- 5.10 MWBC Minutes shall be archived in the head office of the Métis Nation British Columbia.
- 5.11 The MWBC Provincial Governance Council shall, on behalf of the MWBC take such action or hold such functions as may be deemed appropriate to encourage and support the Spiritual, Physical, Mental and Emotional well being Métis Women or for funding purposes.

ARTICLE SIX – ELECTORAL PROCESSES

- 6.1 MWBC electoral processes are:
- 6.2 Métis Women seeking elected office must meet all eligibility requirements as set out in the *MNBC Constitution* and the *MNBC Electoral Act*.
- 6.3 The MWBC Provincial Governance Council shall be elected for a 4-year term in conjunction with the *MNBC Electoral Act*.

MÉTIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA



MÉTIS NATION
BRITISH COLUMBIA

MÉTIS NATION YOUTH ACT

AS RATIFIED SEPTEMBER 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

ARTICLE ONE - TITLE

- 1.0 This act may be cited as the Youth Act (the “Act”).

ARTICLE TWO – PURPOSE OF THE ACT

- 2.0 The purpose of this Act is to entrench the Métis Youth of British Columbia (the “MYBC”) in the MNBC governance structure to ensure that Métis Youth are equally represented and engaged in all levels of governance.

ARTICLE THREE - DEFINITIONS

- 3.1 In this Act:
- 3.2 “**MYBC Committee**” means the seven elected youth representatives, one from each Region and the Chairperson also known as the Minister Responsible for Youth.
- 3.3 “**Legislation**” means legislative documents, laws and/or acts including amendments to existing legislative documents, laws and/or acts.
- 3.4 “**MYBC**” means the Métis Youth of British Columbia.
- 3.5 “**Minister Responsible for Youth**” means the person elected as MNBC Provincial Youth Chairperson in accordance with the provisions of the *MNBC Electoral Act*, and appointed as the Minister Responsible for Youth by the MNBC President. All Métis Youth BC (MYBC) committee members shall not be subject to any civil action, suit or prosecution as a result of anything done or not done in relation to the performance of their duties as Métis Youth BC representatives.
- 3.6 “**The Provincial Youth Chairperson**” the MNBC Youth representative elected in a Province wide election in accordance with the provisions of the *MNBC Electoral Act*.
- 3.7 “**Regional Youth Representative**” means the MNBC Youth Representative elected to represent the Métis Youth of a Region in accordance with the provisions of the *MNBC Electoral Act*.
- 3.8 “**Métis Youth**” means those Métis Citizens between 15 to and including 30 years of age.
- 3.9 “**The Director of Youth**” shall mean an employee of Métis Nation BC who is hired or appointed as the Director of Youth to support and further the Métis Youth of British Columbia.

ARTICLE FOUR – GENERAL OBJECTIVES

- 4.1 MYBC shall:
- 4.2 The MYBC Committee acknowledges and accepts the *MNBC Constitution* as the supreme law governing the MYBC and agrees to comply with the provisions of the

Constitution and MNBC Legislation.

- 4.3 The objective of MYBC is to advance and enhance valuable Métis Youth perspectives, and to acknowledge Métis Youth for the benefit of the Métis Nation.
- 4.4 *The voice of the Métis Youth in British Columbia shall be brought to the MNBC, Métis National Council, Federal and Provincial Governments, organizations and associations through the MYBC Committee.*
- 4.5 The Director of Youth shall assist MYBC in all administrative functions in advancing all MYBC youth initiatives throughout the Province.
- 4.6 The Director of Youth shall actively pursue funding to support and maintain the activities of the MYBC.

ARTICLE FIVE – MYBC GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

- 5.1 MYBC shall:
- 5.2 The MYBC Committee shall, subject to available funding, attend every MNGA Assembly and MNBC Assembly.
- 5.3 The Provincial Youth Chairperson is a voting director on the MNBC Board of Directors.
- 5.4 The Provincial Youth Chairperson shall provide Provincial and Federal representation and be accountable to the MYBC Committee and the MNBC Board of Directors
- 5.5 The seven Regional Youth Representatives each shall hold voting seats on their respective Regional Governance Councils.
- 5.6 The regional youth representatives should be accountable to the Métis Youth BC (MYBC) Committee, their Regional Governance Councils and Métis citizens of BC.
- 5.7 The MYBC Committee shall elect, from among its members, a Co-Chair, a Secretary and Treasurer, who shall collectively be known as the “Executive”.
- 5.8 The MYBC Committee shall, subject to available funding, hold no less than four meetings, including telephone or in person meetings, each year called by the Minister Responsible for Youth or, in the event the Minister Responsible for Youth is unwilling or unable to call a meeting shall be called by the Co-Chair.
- 5.9 MYBC shall prepare and maintain written minutes of all meetings and conference calls (the “MYBC Minutes”).
- 5.10 MYBC Minutes shall be retained in the office of the Director of Youth.
- 5.11 The MYBC Committee shall, on behalf of the MYBC take such action or hold such functions as may be deemed appropriate to enhance the status of Métis Youth or for funding purposes.

ARTICLE SIX – ELECTORAL PROCESSES

- 6.0 MYBC electoral processes shall:
- 6.1 Métis Youth seeking elected office must meet all eligibility requirements as set out in the *Constitution* and the *MNBC Electoral Act*.
 - 6.2 The MYBC Committee, including the Provincial Métis Youth Chairperson, shall be elected for a four (4) year term in conjunction with the *MNBC Electoral Act* and *MNBC Guidelines*.¹
 - 6.3 In the event a vacancy in the MYBC Committee shall arise due to the resignation, removal, suspension or otherwise of a MYBC Committee Member, the MYBC Committee shall hold a by-election in accordance with the *MNBC Electoral Act*.

¹ Amended September 2021 Annual General Meeting, not in force until 2024 MNBC Provincial Election.

Filed Date and Time: November 28, 2018 01:11 PM Pacific Time

Society Incorporation Number: S0036019

CERTIFIED COPY
Of a document filed with the
Province of British Columbia
Registrar of Companies


CAROL PREST

BYLAWS
OF
METIS PROVINCIAL COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
(the “MPCBC” or the “Society” as the case may be)

1. **Definitions**

“Act” means the *Societies Act* of British Columbia as amended from time to time;

“AGM” means the Annual General Meeting of the Society.

“Board” or “Board of Directors” means the Directors of the Métis Nation British Columbia (the “MNBC”) which are the MNBC President; Vice-President; Métis Women’s Provincial Representative; the Métis Youth Provincial Representative; and the Regional Directors.

“Bylaws” means these Bylaws as may be altered from time to time.

“Community” means those individuals who, residing in a defined geographical area, are related to each other through Métis connections of a historical, cultural, or traditional nature.

“Constituent” means an individual who has a connection with a Métis Community and wishes to enjoin with Métis Citizens in celebrating the Métis cultural heritage. A Constituent shall not be entitled to a vote at meetings of the Society.

“Director” means a member of the Board of Directors.

“Distinct from other Aboriginal Peoples” means distinct for cultural and nationhood purposes.

“Member” means a Métis Citizen

“Métis Citizen” or “Citizen” as the case may be, means a person who self-identifies as Métis, is of historic Métis Nation Ancestry, is distinct from other Aboriginal peoples and is accepted by the Métis Nation as a Métis Citizen in accordance with the provisions of the *Citizenship Act*.

“Métis Nation” means the Aboriginal peoples descended from the Historic Métis Nation, which is now comprised of all Métis Nation Citizens and is one of the “aboriginal peoples of Canada” within s.35 of the Constitution Act of 1982.

“Métis Nation British Columbia (the “MNBC”) means the governing body of the Métis Citizens and Métis Communities in British Columbia which has as its Constitution the Constitution of the MNBC and as its administrative arm and secretariat, the MPCBC.

“Officer” means a person elected or appointed with the authority to sign documents and agreements on behalf of MPCBC if so authorized by the Board of Directors.

“SGM” means a special general meeting of the Society.

- 1.1 Subject to the Definitions herein provided the Definitions in the Act shall apply to these Bylaws.
- 1.2 In these Bylaws, words importing the singular include the plural and visa versa and words importing a gender applies to both genders.
- 1.3 Unless specified to the contrary in these Bylaws, any conflict between the provisions of these Bylaws and the Act or the regulations to the Act the provisions of the Act or the regulations will prevail.

2. Membership

- 2.1 Annual Dues, if any, shall be determined by the Board of Directors.
- 2.2 Constituents shall not be deemed to be Métis Citizens and shall not be entitled to a vote.
- 2.3 A person shall cease to be a Member in the event of the following:
 - a) upon delivering a written letter of resignation to the Society or that Member’s Regional Director;
 - b) the death of the Member; or
 - c) the removal of the Member as a result of being confirmed on the Indian Registry System as maintained by Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada.
- 2.5 Any Member may be suspended or removed from the Society or have their name removed from the list of the Members of the Society by a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority vote at an AGM or SGM called for that purpose if notice of that suspension or removal is given to that person at least 30 days prior to the AGM or SGM and that person has had an opportunity to give an oral and/or written response to the suspension or removal.
- 2.6 Notice of a suspension or removal shall be made to the Member being suspended or removed in a written document which describes in plain, unambiguous language, the proposed suspension or removal and the reasons therefore as described in the MNBC policy and procedure manual as amended from time to time.
- 2.7 A Member shall not be suspended or removed from the Society or have their name removed from the list of Members in any way except as is set out in these Bylaws.
- 2.8 No Member may be suspended for more than four (4) years. A suspended Member may not run for any office or sit on any board.

- 2.9 The Society will strive to ensure that the Society its Members and Constituents gain fair benefit from, and have equal access to, all aboriginal programs in Canada and the Province of British Columbia.

3 Meetings

- 3.1 A general meeting shall be held at the time and place that the Board determines.
- 3.2 Ordinary business to be conducted at a general meeting includes the following:
- a) adoption of the rules of order;
 - b) financial statements of the Society;
 - c) consideration of officers, Directors or auditors reports, if any;
 - d) election or appointment of Directors when applicable;
 - e) appointment of an auditor, if required;
 - f) business arising out of a report of the directors not requiring the passing of a special resolution; and
 - g) such other matters as shall be included on the Agenda for that AGM.
- 3.3 Annual General Meetings (“AGM”) shall be held in September of each year with no less than fourteen (14) days’ notice to the Members at a time, date and location chosen by the Board of Directors and, unless otherwise specified, shall be held in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting of the MNBC. The agenda for each AGM shall be provided to the Members no less than fourteen (14) days before the date of the AGM.
- 3.4 Special or Extraordinary General meetings (“SGM”) shall be held when circumstances deemed required by the Board of Directors on seven (7) days’ notice to the Members.
- 3.5 Notice of an AGM or SGM shall be provided to Members by facsimile, email or post at the last known facsimile number, email contact or address and must state the nature of any business, other than ordinary business, to be transacted at the meeting in sufficient detail to permit a member receiving the notice to form a reasoned judgment concerning that business.
- 3.6 Only Members shall be entitled to participate at an AGM or SGM. Only those Members who are 18 years of age or older on the date of the AGM or SGM; who have been a resident of British Columbia for at least 12 months prior to the date of the AGM or SGM; will be entitled to vote at a AGM or SGM.
- 3.7 Except for Annual General Meetings that are held in conjunction with the MNBC AGM the Chair for a general meeting shall be the President of the MNBC. If the President is unavailable the Vice-President shall act as Chair and in the event the President and Vice-President are unavailable the voting Members in attendance at the meeting shall elect an individual from the Members present at the meeting.
- 3.8 The quorum for the transaction of business at a general meeting is thirty-six (36) of the voting members.

- 3.9 If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes of the time set for the meeting, the meeting shall be adjourned to a date to be set by the Board of Directors and if a quorum is not present at that meeting within 30 minutes of the time set for that meeting, the Members who are present for that meeting constitute a quorum.
- 3.10 Voting at a general meeting shall be by voting cards or in the absence of such by a show of hands unless a secret ballot vote is requested by a majority of the members in attendance.
- 3.11 Voting by proxy is not permitted.
- 3.12 All matters to be decided at a general meeting are decided by ordinary resolution and adopted by simple majority unless the matter is required, by these Bylaws to be decided by a special resolution or another resolution with a higher voting threshold.

4. Directors

- 4.1 A Directors' meeting may be called by the President or by two (2) other Directors on seven (7) days' notice unless that notice period is waived by the Directors.
- 4.2 50% of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.
- 4.3 The President of the Society and in their absence, the Vice-President shall be the Chairperson for meetings of the Board of Directors. In the event the President or Vice-President is not available or does not attend at a meeting of the Board of Directors, the Directors in attendance at the meeting shall, upon confirming quorum, appoint a Director from among them to be the chairperson for the meeting.
- 4.4 The Board of Directors may exercise all the powers and do all the acts and things that the Society may do and may, in the exercise of their duties and on behalf of and in the name of the Society, raise or secure funds and the payment or repayment of money in the manner they decide.
- 4.5 The Board of Directors may institute annual Membership fees and such other fees or charges as are reasonable and necessary for application for membership or for the provision of services by the Society.
- 4.6 An officer who has been appointed to hold an office as set out in Sub-Article 3.2 may be suspended or removed from office by a majority vote of the Board of Directors at attendance at a meeting of the Board called for that purpose. The suspension or removal of a Director from a position as an officer does not suspend or remove that Director from his or her position as a director.
- 4.7 A Director may be removed from office:
 - a) when the Director is disqualified;

- b) when the Director is convicted of a criminal offence carrying a penalty of two years or greater; or
- c) when the Director has been removed by a majority vote of the Members in attendance and entitled to vote at an AGM or an SGM when notice of that Director's removal has been provided to the Director prior to the AGM or SGM.

A Director so removed may appeal the removal to the Senate whose decision shall be final and binding.

4.8 A Director ceases to be a Director when that Director

- a) dies;
- b) resigns by written instrument delivered to the Society;
- c) ceases to be the President of the MNBC, or is no longer the Vice-President of the MNBC, or is no longer a Regional Director of the MNBC, or is no longer the Chairperson of the Métis Women of British Columbia, or is no longer the Chairperson of the Métis Youth of British Columbia.;
- d) ceases to be a Citizen;
- e) is convicted of a criminal offence carrying a penalty of two years or greater; or
- f) is removed as a Director in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws.

4.9 A Director may be suspended by a vote of the majority of the Members of the Board of Directors. A Director so suspended may appeal the suspension to the Senate whose decision shall be final and binding. A suspension may be with or without pay at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

4.10 A Director shall be given notice of any proposed resolution to remove or suspend that Director and he or she shall be given an opportunity to speak to the Board of Directors or to the Society Members in attendance at an AGM or SGM where the removal or suspension will be subject to discussion and/or vote.

4.11 In the event of a vacancy in the Board of Directors and subject to available financial resources, a by-election shall be held within one hundred and twenty (120) days of the date of vacancy except in the case of the office of President. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President and financial resources are unavailable, the sitting Vice-President will fill the office of President and the Board of Directors will appoint, from among them, a person to fill the office of Vice-President until a by-election or election is held for that purpose. In the case of any other vacancy on the Board of Directors, the Board of Directors will request the assistance of the MNGA who, in consultation with the relevant Regional Governance Council where appropriate, appoint a Director to fill the vacancy for such term and with such rights of participation in all of the governance processes as may be determined by the MNGA.

4.12 A Director may be remunerated for performing their duties as a director.

5.0 Relationship with MNBC

- 5.1 The Society acknowledges that the MNBC is the governing Provincial body of the Métis Citizens in British Columbia and in the geographical Area of the Society and shall, as the Administrative arm and secretariat of the MNBC, provide such support and assistance to the MNBC to fulfill its governance role as may be appropriate or required.
- 5.2 Any provisions of these Bylaws that are inconsistent with the MNBC Constitution shall be null and void as it relates to that matter. The Society acknowledges that the governance of the Society is intended to be consistent with the provisions of the MNBC Constitution and Legislated Acts.

6.0 Financial

- 6.1 The Society shall be the subject of an Audit each year by an auditor in good standing in the Province of British Columbia.

7.0 Dissolution

- 7.1 On the winding up or dissolution of the Society any and all assets remaining after all the just debts of the Society have been paid shall be transferred to a society having a charitable purpose similar to that of the Society. Any transfer of assets to such society shall be sufficient to discharge any and all obligations and responsibilities of the Society in relation to those assets.

8.0 Amendment

- 8.1 Subject to the amendment by the MNBC Board of Directors of matters that are “Housekeeping Matters” as defined in the *Métis Nation Governing Assembly Act*, these Bylaws shall only be amended by a Special Resolution requiring the approval of at least 75% of the Society Members in attendance at a AGM or SGM where no less than fifteen (15) days notice of the proposed amendment has been given.
- 8.2 Amendments to Bylaws 1, Definition of Constituent; 2.3; 2.4; and 3.6 shall only be amended by a Special Resolution requiring the approval of at least 85% of the Members in attendance at an AGM or SGM where no less than thirty (30) days notice of the proposed amendment has been provided to the Members.
- 8.3 Except as provided elsewhere in these Bylaws, all proposed amendments to the Bylaws must be registered with the Board of Directors no less than ten (10) days prior to the date of the AGM or SGM and if approved, shall come into effect on the later of the date at which it is filed with the registrar of Societies or the date specified in the special resolution.
- 8.4 All approved amendments to the Bylaws shall be appended to the Bylaws.

