



MEETING MINUTES

Meeting:	BOARD MEETING		
Date of Meeting:	June 17, 2024	Time:	9:00 AM
Minutes Prepared By:	Rachel Ouellette	Location:	Microsoft Teams

Attendees:

Participating Board of Directors: President Lissa Smith, Vice-President Mineault, Ministers Kate Elliott, Shaughn Davoren, Patrick Harriott, Louis De Jaeger, Debra Fisher, Raynie Gervais, Susie Hooper, and Paulette Flamond

Staff: Colette Trudeau - Chief Executive Officer, John Bieker - Chief Governance Officer, Anna Maione - Chief Financial Officer, Brent Weberg - Chief Operating Officer, Marc Riddel - Director of Communications, Kayla Brow - Manager of Executive Operations, Kahla Bassett - Executive Assistant to the Vice-President, Barinder Lalli - Board Committee Coordinator, Rachel Ouellette - Board Secretariat Coordinator, Chris Tupy - Executive Director of Housing Strategy and Operational Integration, Darrin Brightman - Manager of Social Infrastructure Development, Crystal Egli - Administrative Coordinator, Dillon McLellan - Manager of Housing and Homeless Support Programs, Madeline Green - Education Program Manager, and Natasha Dempsey-Ceron - Child Care Spaces Planning and Development Manager

Guest: John Christian - Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP

Regrets: Minister Dean Gladue

Note: The agenda was varied by consensus throughout the meeting. The minutes are recorded in the order listed on the agenda. Items added to the agenda at the meeting are at the end of these minutes.

1. Welcome

President Smith called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and welcomed everyone. Minister De Jaeger provided an opening prayer.

1.1. Traditional Territory Acknowledgement

President Lissa Smith acknowledged the Malahat First Nation and traditional territory of the Coast Salish peoples and the home of the Métis Nation of Greater Victoria of which she was calling from.

Vice-President Mineault acknowledged the Kelly Lake Métis Society and the traditional territory of the Dunne-za of which he was calling from.

Region 1 - Minister Harriott acknowledged the Métis Nation of Greater Victoria and traditional territory of the Tsartlip and WSÁNEĆ peoples of which he was calling from.

Region 2 - Minister De Jaeger acknowledged the Chilliwack Métis Association and traditional territory of the Ts'elxweyewqw Tribe of which he was calling from.

Region 4 - Minister Fisher acknowledged the Columbia Valley Métis Association and traditional shared territory of the Ktunaxa and Secwepemc Nations of which she was calling from.



Region 5 - Minister Gervais acknowledged the traditional territory of the Lheidli T'enneh of which he was calling from.

Region 6 - Minister Hooper acknowledged the Tri-River Métis Community traditional territory of the Gidimt'en of which she was calling from.

Region 7 - Minister Flamond acknowledged the Kelly Lake Métis Society and the traditional territory of the Dunne-za of which she was calling from.

BC Women Chair - Minister Elliott acknowledged the Pacheedaht First Nation of which she was calling from.

BC Youth Chair - Minister Davoren acknowledged the Secwepemc Nation of which they are calling from.

Staff at HQ - Our work takes place on the traditional and ancestral lands of the Semiahmoo, Katzie, Kwikwetlem, Kwantlen, Qayqayt and Tsawwassen First Nations. We respectfully acknowledge their stewardship of this land since time immemorial. MNBC recognizes the 39 Métis Chartered Communities we serve across British Columbia.

1.2. Adoption of Meeting Agenda

MOTION:

MOVED: Minister Harriott

SECONDED: Minister De Jaeger

RESOLVED:

THAT the agenda of the June 17, 2024, Board of Directors meeting be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1.3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

MOTION:

MOVED: Minister De Jaeger

SECONDED: Minister Gervais

RESOLVED:

THAT the minutes of the May 23, 2024, Board of Directors meeting be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Updates on Action Items

The Board reviewed the Action Item List, updates were noted as follows:

- **ACTION ITEM: 20240212-01/20240422-01** Gender Diversity Training: 7 out of 11 Board members have completed training. Reminders will be sent out again for people who have still not completed training. (In-Progress);
- **ACTION ITEM: 20240422-02** Chief Governance Officer working with Senate on getting updates. Will bring update to the July in-person Board meeting (July 8 and 9th, 2024). (In-Progress);
- **ACTION ITEM 20240422-03** Grant Application for Back to Batoche funding – Initial application was not approved; we are following up with DCH to see why initial request was denied. (In-Progress); and



- **ACTION ITEM 20240523-01** 16-Acre Will of Land to MNBC – Minister Fisher working with family regarding potential will of land. (In-Progress).

3. Chief Governance Officer Update

The Chief Governance Officer provided an update on the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and the registration process. There were questions regarding whether registration was necessary for those participating in the election if they do not get in or if they are not running at all. It was clarified that members planning to run for election should register. Travel arrangements will be made based on the election results, with names added to our hotel block, and a registration link will be sent out this week. An inquiry was raised about whether Board Members not seeking re-election could still attend the AGM. The response was affirmative; however, it was noted that non-elected Board Members would not be sponsored by MNBC for travel expenses.

The discussion also covered the submission of final Board Reports for inclusion in the AGM booklet. A call for report submissions, along with a deadline for booklet printing, will be communicated. Additionally, a reminder for report submissions will be sent to the Board.

3.1. Elections Rules and Regulations (INFORMATION)

It was discussed that several updates have been made since this document was last brought to the Board. Some updates included removing staff involvement in campaigning and clarifying what constitutes an MNBC-led event, and where campaigning is not allowed. Community events, however, are open to campaigning. Day-to-day duties related to Ministerial portfolios remain unchanged.

It was clarified that if MNBC pays for travel, members cannot campaign at these events. It was advised to refrain from tagging MNBC employees in campaign posts and to avoid using the MNBC logo on campaign materials. There was a discussion about the proper use of email addresses, highlighting the need for consent to use emails for election purposes and providing an option to unsubscribe. Finally, the timing of Townhalls was questioned, with concerns about delays affecting the election timeline.

MOTION:

MOVED: Minister Flamond

SECONDED: Vice-President Mineault

RESOLVED:

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors endorses the election guidelines as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3.2. Corporate Subsidiary Structure – MNBC Holdco 1 (APPROVAL)

John Christian, Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP joined at 9:40 AM, and left at 10:21 AM.

John Christian provided an overview of the role of the Shareholder of MNBC Holdco 1 Inc. It was explained that day-to-day duties rest with the Director, while the Shareholder has a more limited role, primarily voting on the Director and making major decisions.



The company's structure includes only one Director, MNBC's current Chief Executive Officer, to maintain consistency in daily operations. This single Director retains the same authority under MNBC's current signing and financial policies. John Christian noted that MNBC's policies could be adopted in the company's articles.

It was emphasized that the Holdco was created to hold real estate assets separately to protect MNBC's other assets. There was a discussion about the management of these assets, the potential for contracting out management, and ensuring accountability to the Nation. John Christian explained that the shareholder has the ultimate power to manage and remove the Director if needed. Policies could be established to ensure oversight and approvals for certain actions. The importance of separating the management company from the asset/property and the accountability of the single Director was discussed.

The Chief Governance Officer reviewed the Holdco memo, specifically the "Matters for Extraordinary Approval," which require shareholder approval for asset sales. Concerns were raised about accountability and asset management, suggesting the creation of separate entities for management and assets to minimize risk. The current Holdco is specific to the 2nd stage housing property, with future considerations for other properties.

Discussions ensued regarding property taxes on transferred properties. It was noted that the Chief Governance Officer is exploring an exemption from the province before proceeding with the transfer of the property to the Holdco.

MOTION:

MOVED: Minister Harriott

SECONDED: Minister Fisher

RESOLVED:

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors approves the Articles of Métis Nation British Columbia Holdco 1 Incorporated, as presented.

AMENDMENT

MOVED: Minister Harriott

SECONDED: Minister Fisher

RESOLVED:

THAT the main motion be amended to strike "as presented" and replace with ", with amendments to refer to the MNBC Finance Policy Manual for director approvals of expenditures".

CARRIED with six in favor, one abstention, and one opposed.

Question was called on the Main Motion as Amended, and it was CARRIED with six in favor, one abstention, and one opposed.

FINAL MOTION:

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors approves the Articles of Métis Nation British Columbia Holdco 1 Incorporated, with amendments to refer to the MNBC Finance Policy Manual for director approvals of expenditures.



4. Break

Recessed for break at 10:21 AM – reconvened at 10:35 AM

5. Community Cultural Initiatives and Capacity Grant (CCICG) Funding Disbursement (APPROVAL)

Anna Maione, Chief Financial Officer joined the meeting at 10:35 AM, and Colette Trudeau, Chief Executive Officer, joined the meeting at 10:46 AM.

Discussion focused on the distribution of both waves of Community Cultural Initiatives and Capacity Grant (CCICG) funding (initial wave 4 and the additional wave 5 in the fall) through a single application process to simplify the procedure for communities. Communities could choose to receive the funding in two installments or as one lump sum, aiding in better annual planning. The Governance Committee, agreeing on the previous year's funding split, decided on a 60% base and 40% population distribution. Suggestions included a full \$780,000 distribution, either as one lump sum or in two \$390,000 installments, with notes made on Urban Programming for Indigenous Peoples (UPIP) funds being distributed in the summer.

It was emphasized that only communities in good standing should receive funding, with the Chief Financial Officer noting that only those communities with up-to-date reporting are eligible. The importance of Directors being informed and following up with communities lacking in their reporting was stressed. It was noted that MNBC's Community Services is already assisting with compliance and reporting issues within communities to ensure as many communities as possible are eligible for such funds. Regional Directors expressed a desire to be informed about the funding status of their communities.

Questions arose about the specific dates for when communities would receive funds. The Chief Financial Officer stated the application package would be finalized and sent out by the end of June, with payments expected in mid-July. The CCICG funding amounts to \$780,000 in total (two waves of \$390,000), and UPIP funding is approximately \$390,000-\$400,000.

MOTION:

MOVED: Vice-President Mineault

SECONDED: Minister De Jaeger

RESOLVED:

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors approves combining the Community Cultural Initiative and Capacity grant wave 4 and 5 funding into one disbursement to Chartered Communities, at an amount of \$780,000.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Financial Update (INFORMATION)

The Chief Financial Officer presented MNBC's Financial Update, announcing that Audited Financial Statements will be presented at the July 8th Board of Directors meeting. The current standings of MNBC's bank accounts were reviewed, and detailed information on the total funding received in April was provided.



Questions were raised about the consolidation of Ministries, particularly regarding the funding breakdown within the newly combined Ministry of Health and Wellness. The Chief Financial Officer assured updates on funding breakdowns within the consolidated Ministries would be provided. The presentation included an overview of expenditures. There were requests for a detailed breakdown of expenditures within Education and expression of interest in comprehensive financial details.

Discussion followed on categories including capacity and overhead, subsidies, supports, program expenses, and infrastructure and capital acquisitions. Clarification was sought on travel and meeting expenses, with an emphasis on obtaining a more detailed breakdown covering Board, staff, and event activities. It was confirmed that a detailed report addressing these concerns, including events such as lateral kindness training, is currently being prepared. Additional topics included an increase in invoice transactions compared to the previous April, ongoing internal audits, compliance efforts, and inquiries about audit findings. It was noted that program audits focus on administration, budgeting, and application processes, with ongoing efforts to address discrepancies and enhance procedures in collaboration with program staff.

External financial services such as Urban Programming for Indigenous Peoples (UPIP), Community Cultural Initiatives and Capacity Grant (CCICG), Family and Gathering Funding, as well as insurance policy renewals, were also reviewed. The Chief Governance Officer reported smooth progress with insurance renewals, noting increased cyber insurance costs due to transaction volumes, and affirmed that all renewals maintained consistent terms.

The Board requested a detailed breakdown of central services, which the Chief Financial Officer agreed to provide to Board members.

7. Métis Housing Typologies Report (APPROVAL)

Chris Tupy, Executive Director of Housing Strategy and Operational Integration, Brent Weberg, Chief Operating Officer, Darrin Brightman, Manager of Social Infrastructure Development, and Crystal Eggli, Administrative Coordinator joined at 11:14 AM.

The Executive Director of Housing Strategy and Operational Integration presented an overview of the report, emphasizing that it outlines designs intended for use in various projects. These designs can also be adopted by communities. It was clarified that while these designs are recommended guidelines, they do not impose any obligation to exclusively use them.

MOTION:

MOVED: Minister Fisher

SECONDED: Minister Hooper

RESOLVED:

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors, on the recommendation of the Social Infrastructure and Development Committee, approves the Métis Housing Typologies report as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



8. Poverty Reduction Strategy (APPROVAL)

Dillon McLellan, Manager of Housing and Homeless Support Programs joined at 11:17 AM.

Discussions noted that this reduction strategy could help secure more funding in the future from the province. Appreciation was also expressed for the messaging and approach in the strategy.

MOTION:

MOVED: Minister Harriott

SECONDED: Vice-President Mineault

RESOLVED:

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors approves releasing the Phase 1 results from the Poverty Reduction Recommendations Project.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. First Time Homebuyer Program – Accelerated Strategy (APPROVAL)

The Executive Director of Housing Strategy and Operational Integration reviewed the possibility of reallocating funding from future fiscal years to the current year. This was discussed with the financial department, confirming our capability to manage the adjustment. It was emphasized that this adjustment shifts funds from future allocations to the present without altering the total amount allocated.

It was noted that this adjustment could potentially double the number of people housed in the upcoming year, which was seen as a significant achievement. The Board expressed satisfaction with MNBC's ability to accelerate payments for this program.

MOTION:

MOVED: Vice-President Mineault

SECONDED: Minister De Jaeger

RESOLVED:

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors approves amending the First Time Homebuyer Program agreement with the Métis Financial Corporation of BC, to move the fiscal year 2027-28 payment of \$1,000,000 to fiscal year 2024-25, subject to confirmation of funding from CIRNAC that anticipated top-up funding for fiscal year 2024-25 can be utilized in the First Time Homebuyer Program.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. Proposal - South Okanagan Similkameen Métis Association Office Project

Discussion commenced regarding the South Okanagan Similkameen Métis Association's (SOSMA) office project proposal. It was highlighted that the first phase of the project, amounting to \$60,000, has been previously approved. Securing funding for the second phase is now critical to avoid any delays in the renovation schedule. It was noted that the contractor overseeing the renovation is scheduled for surgery. Securing the remaining funds promptly could prevent unforeseen added expenses and ensure continuity in the renovation process before the contractor's medical leave.



The Chief Operating Officer discussed that the Social Infrastructure Development Committee (SIDC) had approved funding for the initial phase. The applicant was advised to pursue the remaining funds for the second phase through the Chartered Community Project Proposal Process (CCPP). Due to the contractor's medical circumstances, the issue has been escalated to the Board level.

Discussion ensued regarding the deviation from standard protocol. It was emphasized that while the situation is exceptional, adherence to established procedures is preferred. The meeting noted the allowance for multiple community applications under the existing process.

Further clarification was provided that while SIDC initially approved the first phase, the contractor's medical situation necessitated a review by the Board for the second phase. It was confirmed that originally, this proposal was scheduled for review at the Capital Project and Assets Committee (CPAC), with Board consideration expected in July.

The discussion centered on amending the motion to accommodate the requested amount of \$77,200, considering the unforeseen medical circumstances that prompted the escalation from the regular process. It was discussed that \$60,000 would come from the CCPP funding process, and the additional funds would come out of the Board Discretionary Fund.

MOTION:

MOVED: Vice-President Mineault

SECONDED: Minister De Jaeger

RESOLUTION:

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors approves the Chartered Community Project Proposal application from South Okanagan Similkameen Métis Association, for the amount of \$60,000.

AMENDMENT

MOVED: Vice-President Mineault

SECONDED: Minister De Jaeger

RESOLVED:

THAT the main motion be amended to strike "\$60,000" and replace with "\$77,200".

CARRIED with five in favor, one abstention, and two opposed.

Question was called on the Main Motion as Amended, and it was CARRIED with five in favor, one abstention, and two opposed.

FINAL MOTION:

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors approves the Chartered Community Project Proposal application from South Okanagan Similkameen Métis Association, for the amount of \$77,200.

Colette Trudeau, Chief Executive Officer left meeting at 11:42 AM.

11. Lunch Break

Recessed for break at 11:50 AM – reconvened at 12:50 PM



12. Child Care Operational Funds Transfer – Métis Family Services (APPROVAL)

Madeline Green, Education Program Manager and Natasha Dempsey-Ceron, Child Care Spaces Planning and Development Manager joined at 12:51 PM, Minister Kate Elliott left the meeting at 1:06 PM.

The Education Program Manager provided an overview of the fund transfer, while the Chief Governance Officer confirmed the amount of \$473,900.25 as stated in the updated briefing note.

MOTION:

MOVED: Minister Fisher

SECONDED: Minister Flamond

RESOLVED:

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors approves transferring \$473,900.25 in child care operational funds to Métis Family Services, for the fiscal year 2024-25.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13. Child Care Operation – Vernon (APPROVAL)

MOTION:

MOVED: Minister Fisher

SECONDED: Minister Davoren

RESOLVED:

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors approves the Vernon School District (SD 22) as the child care operator for the Métis child care center at Silver Star Elementary School.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

14. Vernon Child Care Center – Modular Company Approval (APPROVAL)

MOTION:

MOVED: Minister Fisher

SECONDED: Minister Hooper

RESOLVED:

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors awards the contract for build and site development for the Vernon child care project to Freeport Industries LTD.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

15. Port Alberni Child Care Center – Modular Company Approval (APPROVAL)

The Child Care Spaces Planning and Development Manager noted that there are currently eleven active childcare centers operational. These centers are located in Terrace, Fort St. John, Vernon, Kelowna, Mission, City of Surrey - Chuck Bailey, City of Surrey – KPU, Port Alberni, Campbell River, and Saanich.



MOTION:

MOVED: Minister Fisher

SECONDED: Minister Harriott

RESOLVED:

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors awards the contract for build and site development for the Port Alberni child care project to Freeport Industries LTD.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

16. Actions Released from In-Camera Session

The following resolution was released from the June 17, 2024, In-Camera Board of Directors meeting:

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors approves the Fort St. John Métis Society as the tenants of the residential amenity building at 9304-99 Avenue, Fort St. John, BC, for a term of 10 years, with the addition of terms in the lease that the Fort St John Métis Society continues to be a Chartered Community with MNBC, and not affiliated with any other Métis organization or government that purports to represent the rights of Métis people in BC.

THAT this decision be made public.

17. Committee Meeting Minutes (INFORMATION)

The following Committee Minutes were circulated to the Board of Directors for information:

- Executive Committee - 2024.05.15, 2024.05.29 and 2024.06.05
- 2SLGBTQQA+ Committee - 2024.04.18
- Rights and Self-Government Committee - 2024.04-18
- Emergency Preparedness Committee – 2024.01.30
- Métis Business Advisory Committee – 2024.04.04
- Social Infrastructure Development Committee - 2024.04.11 and 2024.05.09

18. Record of Decisions (Information)

A Record of Decisions was distributed to the Board for information.



19. Meeting Moves In-Camera

MOTION:

MOVED: Minister De Jaeger

SECONDED: Minister Harriott

RESOLVED:

THAT the meeting move in-camera pursuant the following sub-section of the Board Policy Manual Policy D-1:

- I. Negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of an activity, work or facility that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the Board of Directors, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of MNBC if they were held in public.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting moved in-camera at 1:14 PM.

The meeting moved out of in-camera at 3:01 PM.

Adjournment

MOTION:

MOVED: Vice-President Mineault

SECONDED: Minister Flamond

RESOLVED:

THAT the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting adjourned at 3:01 PM.

Approval Sheet

Approved by:  President

Approved by:  Secretary

Date: July 8, 2024