

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting:	MNGA Governance Committee Meeting		
Date of Meeting:	February 20, 2025	Time:	5:30 PM PST / 6:30 PM MST
Minutes Prepared By:	Judit Nagy (<i>from recording</i>)	Location:	Microsoft Teams

ATTENDEES

Participating Members:

Caitlin Bird, Region 1 Representative, Chairperson
 Pixie Wells, Region 2 Representative
 Dave Allard, Region 3 Representative
 Travis Jobin, Region 4 Representative
 Dawn McConnell, Region 6 Representative
 Peggy Olanski, Region 7 Representative
 Patrick Harriott, Board Representative
 Mia Yule, MWBC Representative
 Jamie-Lee Keith, MYBC Representative
 Angel Robinson, M2SBC Representative

Staff and Guests:

Nicole Ludwig, Governance Manager
 Samantha Furlonger, Uvic Graduate Student

Regrets:

Marlene Swears, Region 5 Representative

1. Welcome and Good Words

Caitlin Bird, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM and welcomed everyone. Chairperson Bird provided opening Good Words.

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda

MOTION:

MOVED: Patrick Harriott

SECONDED: Travis Jobin

RESOLVED:

THAT the MNGA Governance Committee meeting agenda of Thursday, February 20, 2025 be approved with the addition of the discussion item titled "Meeting Dates."

CARRIED BY CONSENT

3. Adoption of Meeting Minutes

MOTION:

MOVED: Dawn McConnell

SECONDED: Pixie Wells

RESOLVED:

THAT the minutes of the MNGA Governance Committee meeting of Saturday, January 25, 2025 and Sunday,

January 26, 2025 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED BY CONSENT

4. Chartered Community Agreement and Act

Samantha Fulonger provided an overview of the Chartered Community Act and Agreement drafts she prepared, noting the following:

- The document was prepared based on the comments and feedback from the January in-person meeting.
- The à la carte menu options are also prepared and can be added to individual agreements, as needed.

During the review of the “Definitions” section of the draft *Act*, members noted that the definition of the *Executive* needs to be corrected, as the Secretary and the Treasurer are appointed from the Elected Representatives, not directly voted on by Citizens. Further, Section 2.9 and 2.10 should be combined as they are the same terms, and the term “organization” should be replaced to “government” as that is what MNBC is striving towards.

The term of “autonomy” may not encompass the necessary depth for the relationship between MNBC and the Charters. Further language needs to be developed and added that articulates mutual responsibility to Métis citizens. In certain cases, when it comes to engagement, MNBC would be taking the lead and the Charter would provide support, and in other instances, the Charter would take the lead and MNBC would provide support. The Committee agreed that another term should be explored.

Collective Accountability, in Article 3, needs to be worked on to better define what “meaningful consultation” and “relationship” looks like, to ensure that expectations are clear for both MNBC and Communities. To better define these terms, it would be ideal to bring the engagement staff to assist with setting the standard for consultation. Furthermore, while preparing engagement standards, MNBC is encouraged to reach out to Community leadership to gather examples of positive and negative interactions.

Further discussion pertaining to the development of the Chartered Community Act entailed the following:

- To ensure that a sustainable self-governance system is built, further work will be needed on MNBC’s judicial arm, to ensure restorative justice is incorporated.
- The Dispute Resolution section should be revisited at a later time as that is a complex element of nation building, and will require more attention to develop.
- Guiding principles should be added to the beginning of the Act to better set the tone.

Samantha Furlonger provided a general overview of the draft Chartered Community Agreement, noting that the termination section of the agreement needs to be developed, as that was not a focal point at the previous meeting. Upon review, members noted:

- For Article 1, the document name should be added in Michif in parenthesis.
- Concern was raised regarding the potential legalese for Article 3.2, which pertains to the agreements survival when Leadership rotates.
- The MNBC Data Sharing Agreement may be referenced in the Agreement, but it will be mostly a stand-alone document. The Agreement will also be used for external parties such as Fraser Health and the Province.
- The Agreement would benefit from being written in more plain language to avoid any misunderstandings.

- Regarding administrative tasks, such as delegate sponsorships and MNBC Community events, may be better served in a policy, rather than the Agreements. If specific items as the above are added to the Agreement, if anything changes, all agreements will have to be amended.
- Concern was raised regarding the extensive financial reporting expected from volunteer Board members.
- The number of Citizens required to create a Community should be revisited from twenty-five (25) to at least forty (40). However, that would impact existing Communities in rural areas.

5. Meeting Dates

Nicole Ludwig, Governance Manager, advised that the original intention was to hold the next in-person meeting in March, in Kelowna, as a number of committee members would already be present for the Children and Families Conference. However, as a few representatives cannot attend in-person and would have to call in, it may be a better financial decision to hold the in-person meeting in April instead, to better accommodate the committee's availability. As per the poll circulated to the committee, the best date would be April 11 to 13.

The committee agreed to hold the meeting on April 11 to 13, at Headquarters, in Surrey.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM PST / 8:00 PM MST by consent.

7. Next In-Person Meeting: Saturday, April 12, 2025 – Confirmed