

DRAFT MINUTES

Minutes of the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) 2025 Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA), held May 30–June 1, 2025, at the Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel, 7551 Westminster Hwy, Richmond, British Columbia.

OFFICIAL DELEGATES IN ATTENDANCE:

Board of Directors

Walter Mineault, President
Melanie Allard, Vice President
Carmen Carriere, Chair, Métis Women of BC
Danielle Bergevin, Chair, Métis Youth of BC
Louis De Jaeger, Chair, Métis 2SLGBTQQIA+ of BC
Patrick Harriott, Director, Region 1 (Vancouver Island and Powell River)
Allan Lavallee, Director, Region 2 (Lower Mainland)
Dean Gladue, Director, Region 3 (Thompson Okanagan)
Debra Fisher, Director, Region 4 (Kootenays)
Raynie Gervais, Director, Region 5 (North Central)
Susan Hooper, Director, Region 6 (Northwest)
Paulette Flamond, Director, Region 7 (Northeast)

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES:

Region 1 – Vancouver Island

Caitlin Bird, The Métis Nation of Greater Victoria Association
Zevier Brewer, Métis Nation Powell River
Joy Bremner, Mid Island Métis Nation
June Graham, Alberni Clayoquot Métis Association
Richard Lewis, Cowichan Valley Métis Association
Tyler Massee, North Island Métis Association
Chrys Sample, MIKI'SIW Métis Association

Region 2 – Lower Mainland

Katie Aldred, Fraser Valley Métis Society
Rob Anderson, Vancouver Sea to Sky Métis Association
Lee Fraser, Surrey Delta Métis Association
Zelda Hunt, North Fraser Métis Association
Bryanna Pelletier, Chilliwack Métis Association
Lisa Shepherd, Golden Ears Métis Society
Anthony Wingham, Waceya Métis Society

Region 3 – Thompson Okanagan

David Allard, Salmon Arm Métis Association
Ron Caron, Vernon and District Métis Association

Cheryl Dodman, Kelowna Métis Association
Marc Dubord, Two Rivers Métis Society
Jamie-Lee Keith, South Okanagan Similkameen Métis Association
Betty Ann McDonnell, Nicola Valley and District Métis Society
Natasha Smith, Vermillion Forks Métis Society

Region 4 – Kootenays

Nicole Courson, West Kootenay Métis Society
Jeff Crozier, Rocky Mountain Métis Association
Pheb Goulet, Columbia Valley Métis Association
Travis Jobin, Métis Nation Columbia River Society
Myrtle Servatius, Kootenay South Métis Society

Region 5 – North Central

Tony Goulet, North Cariboo Métis Association
Thomas Spence, Prince George Métis Community Association
Marlene Swears, The Cariboo Chilcotin Métis Association
Heather Weaver, Métis Nation New Caledonia Society

Region 6 – Northwest

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

Region 7 – Northeast

Kyle Belcourt-Gladu, Kelly Lake Métis Settlement Society
Alana Copeland, Fort St. John Métis Society
Betty Deck, Moccasin Flat Métis Society
Brenda House, North East Métis Society

ALSO PRESENT:

Katy Carson, MNGA Co-Speaker
Dave Peltier, MNGA Co-Speaker
Nicole Ludwig, MNGA Clerk
Judit Nagy, MNGA Deputy Clerk
Colette Trudeau, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Jordan Waunch, Master of Ceremonies (MC)

MINUTES PREPARED BY:

Diane Parsons, Recording Secretary

DAY ONE – May 30, 2025

OPENING CEREMONIES

The MNBC 2025 MNGA commenced with the Grand Entry procession, led by musicians, Métis Veterans, flag bearers, and other dignitaries. Jordan Waunch, MC, welcomed Delegates.

Anthems

Tricia Tucker performed “O Canada” and the “Métis Ballad”.

GREETINGS AND OPENING REMARKS

Alec Dan, x̣ẉṃə̣θ̣ḳẉə̣ỵ ə̣ṃ (Musqueam)

Alec Dan presented a Drum Song and welcomed attendees to the x̣ẉṃə̣θ̣ḳẉə̣ỵ ə̣ṃ territory.

OPENING PRAYER

Senator Gladue provided an Opening Prayer.

OPENING REMARKS

The Honourable Christine Boyer, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, acknowledged:

- The Province’s commitment to reconciliation and to meeting regularly with MNBC, to support a collaborative relationship
- Formalizing structures to advance joint priorities and address systemic racism in BC.

Walter Mineault, MNBC President, welcomed attendees and offered comments on:

- Gratitude for attendees’ continued work on behalf of Métis citizens
- The MNGA’s significance as a foundation for progress
- Advancing MNBC’s Section 35 rights through collaboration with the federal government
- Priorities including housing, child and family well-being, education, and childcare.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS OF THE 2025 MNGA

AGENDA VARIED

The order of the agenda varied during the MNGA. Items are presented in these minutes in the order they were considered and are numbered in the order reflected in the approved agenda.

ROLL CALL - QUORUM CONFIRMED

Nicole Ludwig, MNGA Clerk, confirmed that quorum was achieved with 49 official voting delegates in attendance.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The May 30–June 1, 2025, MNGA was called to order on May 30, 2025, at approximately 1:50 p.m.

2. NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT OF CO-SPEAKER

Dave Peltier, MNGA Speaker, called for nominations for Co-Speaker of the 2025 MNGA. Katy Carson was nominated and consented. With no further nominations after three calls, it was declared that nominations were closed, and Katy Carson was acclaimed as Co-Speaker of the 2025 MNGA.

3. ADOPTION OF THE 2025 MNGA DRAFT AGENDA

Related information (distributed in the Agenda package): Draft Agenda for the MNBC, 2025 MNGA, scheduled May 30–June 1, 2025.

Main Resolution

It was MOVED (Tyler Massee) and SECONDED (Lisa Shepherd)

That the Agenda for the Métis Nation British Columbia, 2025 Métis Nation Governing Assembly, scheduled May 30–June 1, 2025, be approved as presented.

Amendment to the Main Resolution

It was MOVED (Paulette Flamond) and SECONDED (Danielle Bergevin)

That the Agenda be amended to include consideration of a “Resolution for Acceptance of the Region 7 Youth Representative” after Item UB-1, before the meeting adjourned on May 31, 2025.

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (MNGA2502-01)

Question on the Main Resolution as Amended

The question was called on the main resolution as amended, and it was

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (MNGA2502-02)

4. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1 Draft Minutes of the Spring 2025 MNGA

Related information (distributed in the Agenda package): Draft Minutes of the Métis Nation British Columbia Spring 2025 Métis Nation Governing Assembly, held March 1-2, 2025

It was MOVED (Tyler Massee) and SECONDED (Jeff Crozier)

That the Minutes of the Métis Nation British Columbia, 2025 Métis Nation Governing Assembly held March 1-2, 2025, be adopted as amended, with the addition of Travis Jobin (Métis Nation Columbia River Society) and Madeleine Crozier (Rocky Mountain Métis Association) to the list of attendees.

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (MNGA2502-03)

5. ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS

Related information (provided with the Agenda): “Secretary’s Report” and “Treasurer’s Report”

It was MOVED (Tyler Massee) and SECONDED (Richard Lewis)

That the Métis Nation British Columbia, 2025 Métis Nation Governing Assembly accepts the Secretary’s Report and the Treasurer’s Report, for information.

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (MNGA2502-04)

6. CEO/SENIOR LEADERSHIP UPDATE

Colette Trudeau, CEO, provided updates on the following:

- Integrity of Citizen and Systems Data
 - Regular reviews of MNBC data systems to maintain and enhance security
 - Structural and functional improvements by the IT team, including an assessment of data systems by an independent contractor

- A commitment to addressing IT issues directly and transparently
- Navigating a New Environment
 - Recognition of global, national, and local changes prompting MNBC to:
 - Enhance operational efficiency
 - Accelerate partnership development
 - Expedite key projects to benefit citizens
 - Renaming the “Ministry of Community Services” to the “Department of Community Engagement”, and an appointment of a Director of Community Engagement
 - An emphasis on meaningful community consultation and improved engagement, supported thorough documentation to track and improve future interactions
- Operational Efficiency
 - A centralized model to support financial management and streamline operations
 - Supporting communities in grant writing, event coordination and engagement activities
- Partnerships
 - MNBC’s departure from the Métis National Council (MNC)
 - A Cooperation Agreement signed with the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S) on April 8, 2025
 - Advocating for Section 35 rights with the federal government
 - Co-development of a Métis Justice Strategy with the Province of BC, and collaboration on its implementation
- Programming
 - Ongoing food security initiatives, including the home garden program
 - Men’s healing initiatives, reinforcing the belief that addressing gender-based violence requires reciprocal effort, healing and care
 - Development of an MNBC College to deliver accredited, Métis-specific courses transferable across BC’s post-secondary institutions
 - Opening of an MNBC Child Care Centre, with funding secured for five additional centres
 - Implementing a strategy to reduce Métis core housing needs in BC by 50% over five years
- Launch of the new MNBC Citizenship Card.

In response to questions, the following clarifications were offered:

- The MNBC had not experienced a data breach
- The Department of Community Engagement was organizing townhall events to gather community feedback on effective governance and financial management.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7.1 UB1 – *Citizenship Act* Amendments: Adoption Clause

Related information (displayed and provided with the Agenda): “Citizenship Act Amendments: Adoption Clause” submitted by the MNBC Board of Directors and dated December 9, 2024

The MNGA Clerk read aloud the displayed resolution, which was moved, seconded and subsequently postponed at the Spring 2025 MNGA. At least 75% of the eligible voting delegates were required to vote in favour, for the resolution to be duly ratified.

Carly Teillet, Executive Legal Counsel, provided a legal review of Article 12 of the *Métis Nation Citizenship Act* (the “*Citizenship Act*”) in relation to the *Constitution of the Métis Nation British Columbia* (the “*Constitution*”) and broader legal framework, and commented on:

- Instances where Article 12 of the *Citizenship Act* was not aligned with the *Constitution*

- MNBC's definition of "Métis", which aligned with Supreme Court of Canada jurisprudence
- Recognizing that different terms in legislation implied different meanings, which was relevant to interpreting "accepting" vs. "approving" citizenship applications
- Inconsistencies in current legislative language, reinforcing the need for legal clarity
- A suggestion to withdraw the current resolution to allow time to:
 - Align the *Citizenship Act* with the *Constitution*
 - Ensure consistency and legal harmony across MNBC's laws
 - Consult with community leaders and legal experts
- Confirmation that withdrawing the resolution would leave Article 12 intact.

In response to a question, the Executive Director, Children and Families, confirmed that 11 individuals had been accepted as MNBC citizens under Article 12 of the *Citizenship Act*.

Main Resolution (*duly moved, seconded and postponed at the Spring 2025 MNGA*)

WHEREAS:

1. MNBC has agreed to follow the "National Definition" of Métis, which states:
"Métis" means a person who self-identifies as Métis, is distinct from other Aboriginal peoples, is of historic Métis Nation Ancestry and is accepted by the Métis Nation";
2. Article 12 of the *Citizenship Act* permits individuals adopted by Métis Citizens to apply for – and receive – Métis Citizenship, regardless if they meet the "National Definition" requirement "is of historic Métis Nation Ancestry" or not; and
3. People who are not adopted and apply for MNBC Citizenship are required to demonstrate that they are "of historic Métis Nation Ancestry" in order to become Citizens, and as a matter of practice this requirement must be the same for all people applying for Citizenship;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. Article 12 be struck in its entirety from the *Citizenship Act*.

Motion to Withdraw

It was MOVED (Walter Mineault) and SECONDED (Tony Goulet)

That resolution on "*Citizenship Act* Amendments: Adoption Clause", be withdrawn.

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (MNGA2502-05)

During further discussion, comments were offered on:

- A resolution proposed, but not seconded, to establish a committee with regional representation to initiate a review and consultation process on Article 12 of the *Citizenship Act*
- A suggestion to refer the initiative to Legal Counsel and Senior Registry staff for further analysis, input from leadership, and potential development of a resolution for a future MNGA.

Request for Action (RFA-MNGA2502-01) *It was requested that MNBC's Legal Counsel and Senior Registry staff review Article 12 of the Métis Nation Citizenship Act, in consultation with Regional Presidents and leadership, and prepare a proposed resolution for consideration at a future Métis Nation Governing Assembly.*

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Resolution for Acceptance of the Region 7 Youth Representative

Related information (displayed at the Assembly): "Resolution – Interim Appointments for Region 7 Youth Representatives" submitted by the Region 7 Director, in consultation with the Region 7 Regional Governance Council and the Métis Youth British Columbia Chairperson, to the MNGA Clerk and dated May 30, 2025

The MNGA Clerk read aloud the displayed resolution. A majority of the eligible voting delegates was required to vote in favour, for the resolution to be duly ratified.

It was MOVED (Paulette Flamond) and SECONDED (Danielle Bergevin)

WHEREAS:

1. The Métis Nation British Columbia General Elections conducted in 2024 and the By-Elections in 2025 did not yield any candidates for the Region 7 Youth Representative position;
2. The Métis Youth British Columbia Chair and Region 7 Community Leaders engaged in community consultation and recruitment to fill the Regional Women's and Youth Representative positions;
3. In accordance with Article 13.2 of the *Métis Nation Governing Assembly Act* and Article 47.4 of the *Constitution of the Métis Nation British Columbia*, the Regional Governance Councils (RGCs) may recommend candidates to the Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA) to fill the vacancies of regional representatives; and
4. On May 29, 2025, the Region 7 RGC met and approved a recommendation for the Regional Youth position;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The MNGA appoints Claire Turner as the Region 7 Youth Representative, as per the Region 7 RGC's recommendation.

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (MNGA2502-06)

Health Break

The Assembly recessed at 3:05 p.m. and reconvened at 3:25 p.m.

ROLL CALL - QUORUM CONFIRMED

The MNGA Clerk confirmed that quorum was achieved with 49 official voting delegates in attendance.

8.2 MOTION 1: 2025-2026 MNGA Meetings

Related information (displayed and provided with the Agenda): "Motion 1 – 2025-2026 MNGA Meetings" submitted by the MNGA Clerk and dated April 25, 2025

The MNGA Clerk read aloud the displayed motion. A majority of the eligible voting delegates was required to vote in favour, for the motion to be duly ratified.

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- Funding to support Regions showcasing their local communities, when hosting an MNGA
- A minimum one-year lead time required to effectively plan an in-person MNGA.

Main Motion

It was MOVED (Cheryl Dodman) and SECONDED (June Graham)

WHEREAS:

1. The *Constitution of the Métis Nation British Columbia* (the “*Constitution*”) requires that the Métis Nation Governing Assembly (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:

Date	Meeting Method
December 6-7, 2025	Virtual
March 7-8, 2026	Virtual
June 5-7, 2026	In Person

Amendment to the Main Motion

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

That the main motion be amended by adding the following:

- B. The Summer 2027 in-person MNGA be held in Region 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7, where operationally feasible.

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (MNGA2502-07)

Amendment to the Main Motion (Withdrawn)

It was MOVED (Betty Ann McDonnell) and SECONDED (Jeff Crozier)

That the main motion be amended by changing “June 5-7, 2026” to “May 28-31, 2026”.

WITHDRAWN

Amendment to the Main Motion

It was MOVED (Lisa Shepherd) and SECONDED (Zelda Hunt)

That the main motion be amended by changing “March 7-8, 2026” to “February 28-March 1, 2026”.

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (MNGA2502-08)

Amendment to the Main Motion (Withdrawn)

It was MOVED (Caitlin Bird) and SECONDED (Richard Lewis)

That the main motion be amended by changing the February 28-March 1, 2026 meeting to “in-person” and the June 5-7, 2026 meeting to “virtual”.

WITHDRAWN

Question on the Main Motion as Amended

The question was called on the main motion as amended, and it was

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (MNGA2502-09)

The “Be it Resolved” section of the motion as amended, now reads:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

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

Date	Meeting Method
December 6-7, 2025	Virtual
February 28-March 1, 2026	Virtual
June 5-7, 2026	In Person

B. The Summer 2027 in-person MNGA be held in Region 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7, where operationally feasible.”

ASSEMBLY ADJOURNED

The May 30–June 1, 2025 MNBC MNGA adjourned on May 30, 2025, at approximately 4:00 p.m.

DAY TWO – May 31, 2025

ASSEMBLY RECONVENED

The May 30–June 1, 2025 MNBC MNGA reconvened on May 31, 2025, at 9:05 a.m.

ROLL CALL - QUORUM CONFIRMED

The MNGA Clerk confirmed that quorum was achieved with 46 official voting delegates in attendance.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.3 RESOLUTION 1: Update to Strategic Partnerships and Synchronization of Métis Women, 2SLGBTQQIA+, and Youth Legislation

Related information (displayed and provided with the Agenda): “Resolution 1 – Update to Strategic Partnerships and Synchronization of Métis Women, 2SLGBTQQIA+, and Youth Legislation” submitted by the Métis Women British Columbia Chairperson, in consultation with MWBC, Métis 2SLGBTQQIA+ British Columbia Chairperson, in consultation with the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council, Métis Youth British Columbia Chairperson, in consultation with MYBC and dated March 17, 2025

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

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- Updating governance language to reflect MNBC’s current relationships with the Métis National Council (MNC) and Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak (LFMO)
- Strengthening the voices of Youth, Women and 2SLGBTQQIA+ citizens at the national level
- Confirmation that adoption of the resolution would have no financial impacts.

It was MOVED (Carmen Carriere) and SECONDED (Louis De Jaeger)

WHEREAS:

1. Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) is the recognized provincial body to represent the interests of Métis people living in British Columbia;
2. MNBC has undergone significant changes in strategic partnership in 2024;
3. On November 30, 2024, the Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA) voted to depart the Métis National Council (MNC) due to concerns pertaining to inequitable voting structures impacting non-founding members;
4. On December 5, 2024, the MNBC Board of Directors released a statement outlining concerns over the conduct and operations of Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak (LFMO) in British Columbia, with ceasing further support of LFMO until remedying actions are taken;
5. Legacy language pertaining to the MNC and LFMO remains in the legislations for the *Youth, Women, and 2SLGBTQIA+ Acts*, which are now outdated; and
6. The Métis Councils for Women, 2SLGBTQIA+, and Youth in BC look towards building a Nation that has a strong presence both on a national and international level, ensuring the well-being and vibrance of the BC Métis Community;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. The *Métis Nation Women's Act* (the "*Women's Act*") be amended by removing the struck-out words and inserting the underlined words, in Articles 4.4 and 5.4:
 - 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, international organizations and associations through the ~~MWBC Committee~~ Provincial Governance Council.
 - 5.4 The Provincial Women's Chairperson shall provide Provincial, ~~and~~ Federal, and international representation for Métis Women, and be accountable to the Provincial Governance Council and the MNBC Board of Directors
- B. The following be added as a sub-Article to Article 6 of the *Women's Act*:

"In the event a vacancy in the MWBC Provincial Governance Council arises due to the resignation, removal, suspension or otherwise of an MWBC Member, the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with MNBC legislation."
- C. The *2SLGBTQIA+ Act* be amended by removing the struck-out words and inserting the underlined words, in Articles 2.3 and 5.3 as set out below:
 - 2.3 The voice of Métis 2SLGBTQIA+ 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, international organizations and associations through the 2SLGBTQIA+ Provincial Governance Council.
 - 5.3 The Provincial 2SLGBTQIA+ Chairperson shall provide Provincial, ~~and~~ Federal, and international representation for 2SLGBTQIA+ Métis Citizens and be accountable to the Provincial Governance Council and the MNBC Board of Directors.

- D. Article 6.3 of the *2SLGBTQIA+ Act* be amended by removing the struck-out words and inserting the underlined words:

In the event a vacancy in the 2SLGBTQIA+ Provincial Governance Council ~~shall~~ arises due to the resignation, removal, suspension or otherwise of a 2SLGBTQIA+ Provincial Governance Council member, the position shall be filled ~~the 2SLGBTQIA+ Provincial Governance Council shall hold a by-election~~ in accordance with the MNBC Legislation, as amended from time to time. ~~Electoral Act.~~

- E. Article 4.4 of the *Métis Nation Youth Act* (the “Youth Act”) be amended by removing the struck-through words and inserting the underlined terms, as set out below:

4.4 The voice of the Métis Youth in British Columbia shall be brought to the MNBC, ~~Métis National Council~~, Federal and Provincial Governments, international organizations and associations through the MYBC ~~Committee~~ Provincial Governance Council.

- F. Article 6.3 of the *Youth Act* be amended by removing the struck-out words and inserting the underlined words:

In the event a vacancy in the MYBC ~~Committee~~ Provincial Governance Council ~~shall~~ arises due to the resignation, removal, suspension or otherwise of a MYBC ~~Committee~~ Member, the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with MNBC legislation. ~~MYBC Committee shall hold a by-election in accordance with the MNBC Electoral Act.~~

- G. The *Youth Act* be amended by striking all instances of “MYBC Committee” and replacing it with “MYBC Provincial Governance Council.”

Point of Order

In response to a Point of Order requesting further review, the Co-Chair confirmed that the vote had already been called and would now proceed. It was noted that additional review could occur prior to consideration of the resolution at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Question on the Main Resolution

The question was called on the main resolution, and it was

ADOPTED (MNGA2502-10)

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

8.4 RESOLUTION 2 – Constitutional Updates for Clarity of Equality Rights

Related information (displayed and provided with the Agenda): “Resolution 2 – Constitutional Updates for Clarity of Equality Rights” submitted by the Métis Nation of Greater Victoria and dated April 20, 2025

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

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- Aligning with national and international guidelines and best practices
- Ensuring that citizens were not subject to discrimination based on employment situations that may be perceived unfavourably by others.

It was MOVED (Caitlin Bird) and SECONDED (Tyler Masee)

WHEREAS:

1. The *Constitution of the Métis Nation British Columbia* (the “*Constitution*”) serves as the foundational piece of governing legislation for Métis citizens;
2. All Métis citizens are valued members of our Nation;
3. The wording of the equality rights provisions in the current *Constitution* are not consistent with modern forms of equality rights provisions in other jurisdictions;
4. Due, in part, to the impact of colonization, the rights and dignity of individuals are more likely to be infringed upon on the basis of any of the characteristics listed in the proposed amendment to Article 5;
5. It is important to uphold the spirit of *Wâhkôhtowin* by affirming the rights and dignity of individuals and the protection of the characteristics listed in the proposed amendment to Article 5 in a time of heightened discriminatory rhetoric across Turtle Island;
6. It is necessary to clarify that the Nation may act in an ameliorative way that could otherwise be considered to discriminate on the basis of a protected characteristic;
7. It is necessary to enshrine the rights of all citizens in the *Constitution*; and
8. The proposed amendment to Article 6 seeks to prevent an interpretation that may exclude children and gender-diverse individuals from the fundamental right of equal enjoyment of civil and political rights within the *Constitution*;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. Article 5 of the *Constitution* be amended by deleting the struck-through words and inserting the underlined words, as set out below:
 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.~~ discrimination of any kind on the basis of:
 - 5.1 Race, including perceived race and colour;
 - 5.2 Ethnic background, origin or expression, including language and Métis identity;
 - 5.3 Religion or creed, religious belief, religious association, or religious activity;
 - 5.4 Political or other views, including political association or activity;
 - 5.5 Spousal or family status;
 - 5.6 Age;
 - 5.7 Genetic characteristics;
 - 5.8 Physical or mental disability or related characteristics or circumstances, including reliance on a service animal, a wheelchair, or any other remedial appliance or device;
 - 5.9 Sex, including sex-determined characteristics or circumstances, such as pregnancy, the possibility of pregnancy, or circumstances related to pregnancy;
 - 5.10 Gender identity or expression;
 - 5.11 Sexual orientation; and
 - 5.12 Social condition, including income, source of income, occupation, and education.

It is not discrimination or contrary to this Article for the Métis Nation to carry out a program or activity, including employment equity, that has as its object the amelioration of conditions of Métis citizens who are disadvantaged due to one or more of the protected characteristics.

- B. Article 6 of the *Constitution* be amended by deleting the struck-through words and inserting the underlined words, as set out below:

6. ~~Métis men and Métis women~~ All Métis Citizens equally enjoy all civil and political rights set forth in these Articles.

ADOPTED (MNGA2502-11)

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

8.5 RESOLUTION 3: Enhancing Métis Veterans BC Committee (MVBC) Representation at the MNGA and Clarifying the Relationship with MNBC Board of Directors

Related information (displayed and provided with the Agenda): “Resolution 3 – Enhancing MVBC Representation at the MNGA and Clarifying the Relationship with MNBC Board of Directors” submitted by the Region 1 Director and dated April 20, 2025

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

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- The MVBC maintaining a non-political presence within MNBC
- Clarification that national-level veterans’ advocacy remained focused on veterans’ issues and was not aligned with any political agenda.

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

WHEREAS:

1. The Métis Veterans BC (MVBC) Committee works with the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Board of Directors and within the MNBC Governance structure to support Métis Veterans in BC;
2. Veterans do not have direct access to the MNBC governance structure and rely on other members of the Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA) to propose any changes to the *Métis Nation Veterans Act* (the “*Veterans Act*”), or to act in their stead; and
3. MVBC Members are Veterans and are uniquely positioned to ascertain the wants and needs of Veterans and their families, which can be inadvertently missed by people who do not have military or RCMP experience;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

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

“29.4 The Chairperson of the Métis Veterans BC (MVBC) shall be a non-voting member of the MNGA for the purposes of:

- a. Submitting resolutions to enact new or change existing Legislation or the *Constitution* regarding matters that directly impact Veterans on behalf of MVBC;
- b. Participating in discussion and providing information on the above-noted matters.”

- B. The following be added as a sub-article to Article 4.2 of the *Veterans Act*:

“The Chairperson of the Métis Veterans BC (MVBC) shall be a non-voting member of the MNGA, for the purposes of:

- a. Submitting resolutions to enact new or change existing Legislation or the *Constitution* regarding matters that directly impact Veterans on behalf of MVBC;
- b. Participating in discussion and providing information on the above-noted matters.”

- C. The following be added as a sub-article to Article 3.1 of the *MNGA Act*:

“The Chairperson of the Métis Veterans BC (MVBC) shall be a non-voting member of the MNGA, for the purposes of:

- a. Submitting resolutions to enact new or change existing Legislation or the *Constitution* regarding matters that directly impact Veterans on behalf of MVBC;
- b. Participating in discussion and debate on the above-noted matters.”

- D. The following underlined text be added as a sub-article to Articles 12.1(a), 12.2(a), and 12.3(a) of the *MNGA Act*:

i. Despite Article 12.1(a), the Métis Veterans BC (MVBC) Committee may, through the MVBC Chair, submit resolutions to the MNGA on matters that directly affect Métis Veterans.

- E. Insert the following as a new Article to the end of *Veterans Act*:

“ARTICLE # - NATIONAL REPRESENTATION AND RELATIONSHIP WITH THE MNBC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#.1 The MVBC Chair (or designate) shall be a non-voting liaison for the MVBC to the MNBC Board of Directors.

#.2 Despite any changes to MNBC’s relationships with other levels of government or other Métis organizations, MVBC will continue to work for MNBC Veterans at a national level, particularly with regard to:

- Providing necessary opportunities for MVBC to participate on Veterans Affairs Canada Advisory Committees;
- Working with the Canadian Armed Forces;
- Working with other appropriate partners, such as Library and Archives Canada.

(a) Nothing should preclude MVBC from receiving funding from other governments, organizations, or agencies.

#.3 MVBC will provide written reports of activities and partnerships to the Board of Directors at the MNBC Annual General Meeting and the in-person MNGA.”

- F. Renumber all Articles in the *Constitution*, the *MNGA Act*, and the *Veterans Act*, as necessary.

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (MNGA2502-12)

8.6 RESOLUTION 4: Amendments to the Métis Nation Veterans Act (the “Veterans Act”)

Related information (displayed and provided with the Agenda): “Resolution 4 – Amendments to the Veterans Act” submitted by the Region 1 Director and dated April 29, 2025

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

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- Updating the *Veterans Act* to reflect current practices and improve flexibility in support
- Expanding support capacity for Veterans at the community level
- Strengthening outreach efforts to identify and connect previously unrecognized Veterans with available services
- Addressing the historical injustices of the 1970s-1980s Canadian Forces purge, during which 2SLGBTQQIA+ members were unjustly and dishonourably discharged
- Support from the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Council for including a 2SLGBTQQIA+ representative on the MVBC Committee.

Main Resolution

It was MOVED (Patrick Harriott) and SECONDED (Melanie Allard)

WHEREAS:

1. Métis Veterans BC (MVBC) wishes to substantially revise the *Métis Nation Veterans Act* (the “*Veterans Act*”) to provide greater clarity around MVBC membership and MVBC Committee Membership; and
2. MVBC has reviewed the resolution below and approves of the changes;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A.** A section “**DEFINITIONS**” be added prior to Article One of the *Veterans Act*, and the following definitions inserted:

“**Chief Service Officer**” or “**CSO**” is the MVBC Committee member appointed to assist Métis Veterans in accessing Veterans’ benefits (e.g. through Veterans Affairs Canada) and connecting Métis Veterans with other supports through their local Legion.

“**Métis Veteran**” is a person who:

- Has received an MNBC Citizenship Card in accordance with the *Métis Nation Citizenship Act*, and
- Meets the Department of Veterans Affairs Canada definition for Veteran, as amended from time to time, or
- Is a current member of the Canadian Armed Forces (Regular or Reserve Forces), or
- Is a serving or retired Regular RCMP Member; and
- Has submitted an application form, proof of service, proof of MNBC Citizenship, and has been approved by the MVBC.

“**MNBC**” means Métis Nation British Columbia.

“**MVBC Executive Committee**” is a Standing Committee of the MVBC Committee as defined in this Act.”

“**MVBC**” means Métis Veterans British Columbia.

“**MVBC Representative**” means the seven members elected to the MVBC Committee to represent Métis Veterans across BC.

“**MVBC Committee**” means Métis Veterans BC Committee”

B. The following changes be made to Article Three of the *Veterans Act*:

i. Strike Article 3.1 and insert the following in its place:

“Métis Veterans are the Members of the MVBC.”

ii. Strike Articles 3.2, 3.3, and 3.4 entirely.

iii. Delete the words struck through in Article 3.2, as set out below:

3.2 A Member ~~or Associate Member~~ may resign their membership in MVBC, through a written request submitted to the MVBC Committee.

iv. Insert the following after Article 3.2:

“A member may be removed from the organization by a 2/3 vote of the MVBC Committee, for conduct deemed detrimental to the integrity, mission, or reputation of the organization. This includes, but is not limited to, behavior unbecoming of a member, harassment, violation of the organization's code of conduct, inability to complete their duties and responsibilities, or actions contrary to the best interests of the organization.”

v. An MVBC Member, while conducting their duties of the MVBC, shall not be subject to any civil action, lawsuit, or prosecution, because of anything done or not done in relation to their duties.

C. Strike all of Article Four except for the title, and insert the following in its place:

“4.1 Métis Veterans BC Committee (“MVBC Committee”) shall consist of 10 members, all being MVBC Members, as follows:

- Seven (7) MVBC Representatives who represent Veterans across the province of British Columbia;
- An MVBC Chairperson;
- An MVBC Women’s Representative;
- An MVBC Chief Service Officer (CSO)

At least one of whom is a retired or current regular member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).

4.2 The MVBC Representatives will be elected by MVBC Members for four-year terms, aligned with the MNBC Election Cycle.

a. In the event of a mid-term vacancy for an MVBC Representative, the Veteran Chairperson will seek applications for interested parties, in consultation with the relevant Regional Governance Council (RGC).

4.3 The Veteran Chairperson shall be elected by MVBC Members for a four-year term aligned with the MNBC Election Cycle.

4.4 The Women’s Veteran Representative and Chief Service Officer shall be appointed by the MVBC Committee, either from among themselves or from outside the MVBC Committee so long as the persons appointed are Métis Veterans.

4.5 The MVBC Committee shall appoint from among themselves a Treasurer and a Membership Clerk.

- 4.6 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;
 - b) Maintenance of a list of all Métis Veterans in British Columbia as defined by Article Three (3);
 - c) Provide an annual report at the MNBC Annual General Meeting and March MNGA;
 - d) Provide written documentation regarding Veteran input to MNBC Board of Directors as required;
 - e) Serve as Gabriel Dumont Scouts as may be requested by MNBC from time to time;
 - f) Co-ordinate and organize flag processions and flag placement as requested from time to time; and other duties as required;
 - g) Advocate to enhance the status of Métis Veterans;
 - h) Provide service and support to Métis Veterans in British Columbia;
 - i) Represent themselves as Métis Veterans at advisory tables and initiatives across municipal, provincial, federal and international levels; and commemorative events as requested.
- 4.7 Meetings of the MVBC Committee shall be called by the Chairperson. If the Chairperson is unwilling or unable to call a meeting, three MVBC Committee members may call a meeting.
- 4.8 No less than seven (7) days' notice of an MVBC Committee meeting will be provided to all MVBC Committee members."

D. Strike Article 5 and insert the following in its place:

"ARTICLE 5 – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 5.1 The Executive Committee consists of the members MVBC Committee appointed or elected as MVBC Chairperson, MVBC Women's Representative, Chief Service Officer, Treasurer and Membership Clerk.
- 5.2 The Executive Committee shall meet on a regular basis, the schedule to be determined by the members of the Executive Committee.
- 5.3 The Executive Committee is responsible for dealing with duties or matters delegated to it by the MVBC Committee.
- 5.4 Between MVBC Committee Meetings, the Executive Committee is authorized by the MVBC Committee to make decisions on behalf of the MVBC Committee, and to make decisions regarding any urgent circumstances.
- 5.4 The Executive Committee is required to report to the MVBC Committee, at the earliest opportunity, any decisions made by the Executive Committee
- 5.5 The MVBC Chairperson, or two members of the Executive Committee, may call a meeting. Notice of an Executive Committee meeting must be provided 24 hours before

the meeting, but can be waived by unanimous consent of Executive Committee members.”

Amendment to the Main Resolution

It was MOVED (Anthony Wingham) and SECONDED (Caitlin Bird)

That Article 4.1 in the main resolution be amended to read:

“4.1 Métis Veterans BC Committee (“MVBC Committee”) shall consist of **11** members, all being MVBC Members, as follows:

- Seven (7) MVBC Representatives who represent Veterans across the province of British Columbia;
- An MVBC Chairperson;
- **An MVBC 2SLGBTQQIA+ Representative**
- An MVBC Women’s Representative;
- An MVBC Chief Service Officer (CSO)

At least one of whom is a retired or current Regular member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).”

Health Break

The Assembly recessed at 10:35 a.m. and reconvened at 11:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL - QUORUM CONFIRMED

The MNGA Clerk confirmed that quorum was achieved with 48 official voting delegates in attendance.

8.6 RESOLUTION 4: Amendments to the *Veterans Act* (Continued)

Question on the Amendment to the Main Resolution

The question was called on the amendment to the main resolution, and it was

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (MNGA2502-13)

Question on the Main Resolution as Amended

The question was called on the main resolution as amended, and it was

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (MNGA2502-14)

8.7 RESOLUTION 5: Support of Governance Succession Planning

Related information (displayed and provided with the Agenda): “Resolution 5 – Support of Governance Succession Planning” submitted by the Cowichan Valley Métis Nation and dated April 22, 2025

The MNGA Clerk read aloud the displayed resolution. A majority of the eligible voting delegates were required to vote in favour, for the resolution to be duly ratified.

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- Supporting mentorship and leadership development by enabling additional representatives to attend and gain experience
- Clarification of current rules regarding additional attendees at MNGAs

- The impact of increased MNGA attendance, including the need for larger venues
- Using existing online broadcast access and exploring virtual participation options
- Allowing communities the option to send three delegates to either the MNGA or AGM
- Considering extra attendees based on community need, such as leadership succession.

Main Resolution

It was MOVED (Richard Lewis) and SECONDED (Jamie-Lee Keith)

WHEREAS:

1. In any good governance, it is imperative to have a mechanism in place that allows for succession;
2. Elected persons who sit on Councils need to feel confident that if they are not able to attend, their alternate is able to carry on with the governance and business of the day;
3. It is important that when the alternate sits on Council that they can provide good governance decisions that represents and support their Communities' values and views;
4. The alternates need to be funded so they can attend in person Métis Nation Governing Assemblies (MNGAs) and in person Regional Governance Councils to gain experience and become familiar with what is required when they sit in the chair representing their Community; and
5. Currently, the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) provides funding for travel and accommodation only for the President or Vice-President of each Community to attend the MNGA and related events;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. The MNGA requests that the MNBC Board of Directors approve the MNBC covering the cost of supporting a second member of each Chartered Community to attend in-person MNGAs and related events, to assist with succession planning.

Amendment to the Main Resolution

It was MOVED (David Allard) and SECONDED (Jamie-Lee Keith)

That the "Be it Resolved" section of the main resolution be amended to read:

- "A. The MNGA requests that **in due time the** MNBC Board of Directors approve the MNBC covering the cost of supporting a second member of each Chartered Community to attend in-person MNGAs and related events, to assist with succession planning."

DEFEATED

(vote count not announced)

Amendment to the Main Resolution

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

That the “Be it Resolved” section of the main resolution be amended to read:

“A. The MNGA requests that the MNBC Board of Directors **explore new ways and means for** MNBC to cover the cost of supporting a second member of each Chartered Community to attend in-person MNGAs and related events, to assist with succession planning.”

ADOPTED (MNGA2502-15)

(34 delegates voted in favour, 15 opposed and 0 abstained)

Meal Break

The Assembly recessed at 12:15 p.m. and reconvened at 1:25 p.m.

ROLL CALL - QUORUM CONFIRMED

The MNGA Clerk confirmed that quorum was achieved with 46 official voting delegates in attendance.

8.7 RESOLUTION 5: Support of Governance Succession Planning (Continued)

Question on the Main Resolution as Amended

The question was called on the main resolution as amended, and it was

ADOPTED (MNGA2502-16)

(27 delegates voted in favour, 22 opposed and 0 abstained)

8.8 RESOLUTION 6: Honorarium for Community Representatives at MNBC Meetings

Related information (displayed and provided with the Agenda): “Resolution 6 – Honorarium for Community Representatives at MNBC Meetings” submitted by the Cowichan Valley Métis Nation and dated April 22, 2025

The MNGA Clerk read aloud the displayed resolution. A majority of the eligible voting delegates were required to vote in favour, for the resolution to be duly ratified.

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- Recognizing the work of local Presidents
- Clarification that the proposed honorarium would apply to one representative per community
- Efforts to secure external funding and grants, from government and industry partners, particularly for Youth, Women, Elders, and 2SLGBTQIA+ communities
- Support for a coordinated letter campaign to address challenges faced at the community level
- The MNBC Board of Directors discussing appropriate recognition of elected officials.

Main Resolution

It was MOVED (Richard Lewis) and SECONDED (Jamie-Lee Keith)

WHEREAS:

1. Most elected Community Presidents and Vice-Presidents are volunteers and do not receive compensation for their hours;

2. Some Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Presidents and Vice-Presidents have full time jobs, and to attend Governance meetings on behalf of their Community, many must take a leave without pay;
3. The customary practice of presenting an honorarium is typically presented to Elders, Cultural Leaders, or Knowledge Keepers, as a form of recognition and appreciation for their contributions, such as sharing traditional knowledge or conducting ceremonies. These payments are not intended as compensation but rather as a gesture of respect and gratitude;
4. Government of Canada "Overview of Honorariums and Gifts for First Nations, Inuit or Métis Recipients", Clause 4.1 states:

"The Directive on Payments defines an honorarium for First Nations, Inuit or Métis recipients as follows:

A benevolent payment made by the Crown to First Nations, Inuit, or Métis recipients used only when there is no other statutory, regulatory or policy vehicle to make such a payment. The payment is made to a First Nations, Inuit or Métis recipient, who is not a government employee, to recognize or honour the collaborative efforts made by the recipient with respect to Indigenous ceremonies and other collaborative events or activities with the Government of Canada. The Payment can only be made where the Crown has no obligation of any kind, no legal liability, and where the recipient has no right of payment and is not entitled to compensation in any form."
5. Other MNBC elected persons receive recognition funding for various roles supporting Communities;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. The Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA) requests that the MNBC Board of Directors approve a daily honorarium for an MNBC Community President, Vice-President or Representative, when they attend an in-person MNBC MNGA or Annual General Meeting , or Regional Governance Council, on behalf of their Community, based on the MNBC Honorarium Guidelines.

Amendment to the Main Resolution

It was MOVED (Marc Dubord) and SECONDED (Cheryl Dodman)

That the "BE IT RESOLVED" section of the main resolution be amended to read:

- "A.** The Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA) requests that the MNBC Board of Directors approve a daily honorarium of **\$50** for an MNBC Community President, Vice-President or Representative, when they attend an in-person MNBC MNGA, on behalf of their Community."

Meal Break

The Assembly recessed at 12:15 p.m. and reconvened at 1:25 p.m.

ROLL CALL - QUORUM CONFIRMED

The MNGA Clerk confirmed that quorum was achieved with 48 official voting delegates in attendance.

8.8 **RESOLUTION 6: Honorarium for Community Representatives at MNBC Meetings** *(Continued)*

Question on the Amendment to the Main Resolution

The question was called on the amendment to the main resolution, and it was

DEFEATED

(0 delegates voted in favour, 49 opposed and 0 abstained)

Question on the Main Resolution

The question was called on the main resolution, and it was

DEFEATED

(9 delegates voted in favour, 40 opposed and 0 abstained)

8.9 **RESOLUTION 7: Role of President and Vice-President in Citizen Representation**

Related information (displayed and provided with the Agenda): "Resolution 7 – Role of President and Vice-President in Citizen Representation" submitted by the South Okanagan Similkameen Métis Association and dated April 25, 2025

The MNGA Clerk read aloud the displayed resolution. A majority of the eligible voting delegates were required to vote in favour, for the resolution to be duly ratified.

During discussion, comments were offered on:

- Concerns regarding bypassing established systems, potentially impacting workflow, accountability, and the role of Regional Directors
- Recognition that, in some circumstances, elected representatives may prefer to communicate directly with executive leadership.

It was MOVED (Jamie-Lee Keith) and SECONDED (Katie Aldred)

WHEREAS:

1. Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Citizens directly elect the President, Vice-President, and Regional Director to the MNBC Board of Directors;
2. The President and Vice-President represent all Métis Citizens across the Province of British Columbia, and the Regional Director represents their Region at the MNBC Board of Directors (the "Board");
3. It is the responsibility of the Regional Director to ensure community requests are communicated to the Board, in those areas where the Board has some influence or capacity;
4. Regional Directors are busy, and from time to time, may be unable or unwilling to provide requested information or take the requested action;
5. Community Board Members may have a closer relationship to the Vice-President or President; and
6. It is important to preserve peace within the Nation;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. The position of the Métis Nation Governing Assembly is that Community Board Members may direct Community inquiries to the MNBC President or Vice-President, as appropriate, if:

- A Regional Director is unwilling or unable to address Community inquiries at the Board level; or
- The Community Board Member has an uncomfortable relationship with their Regional Director and seeks to use the Vice-President or President as an alternative representative; and
- The President or Vice-President is willing to stand in as an alternative representative for the Community Board Member.

DEFEATED

(4 delegates voted in favour, 39 opposed and 5 abstained)

8.10 RESOLUTION 8: Reinstatement of MNBC Citizenship for Individuals Previously Removed for Not Meeting Métis Homeland Criteria under the *Citizenship Act*

Related information (displayed and provided with the Agenda): "Resolution 8 – Reinstatement of MNBC Citizenship for Individuals Previously Removed for Not Meeting Métis Homeland Criteria under the Citizenship Act" submitted by the Cowichan Valley Métis Association and dated April 20, 2025

The Assembly was informed that this Resolution had been duly withdrawn.

ASSEMBLY ADJOURNED

The May 30–June 1, 2025 MNBC MNGA adjourned on May 31, 2025, at approximately 4:15 p.m.

DAY THREE – June 1, 2025

ASSEMBLY RECONVENED

The May 30–June 1, 2025 MNBC MNGA reconvened on June 1, 2025, at 9:10 a.m.

ROLL CALL - QUORUM CONFIRMED

The MNGA Clerk confirmed that quorum was achieved with 46 official voting delegates in attendance.

Agenda Varied

It was MOVED (Richard Lewis) and SECONDED (Walter Mineault)

That the Agenda for the May 30-June 1, 2025, Métis Nation British Columbia, Métis Nation Governing Assembly be amended to now discuss the Métis National Council Expert Panel Report findings.

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (MNGA2502-17)

Livestream Suspended

It was MOVED (Jamie-Lee Keith) and SECONDED (Lisa Shepherd)

That the Métis Nation British Columbia, Métis Nation Governing Assembly approve temporarily suspending the livestream during discussion on the Métis National Council Expert Panel Report findings.

ADOPTED (MNGA2502-18)

(20 delegates voted in favour, 18 opposed and 11 abstained)

The livestream of the MNGA was suspended at 9:45 a.m.

9. MÉTIS NATIONAL COUNCIL (MNC) EXPERT PANEL REPORT

During discussion on the Expert Panel Report findings, comments were offered on:

- Concerns regarding the report's findings and a lack of endorsement by other Métis Nations
- Alternative relevant resources, reports and interviews to review for context
- The importance of a clear, consistent definition of Métis identity to protect Section 35 rights
- The MNBC Registry's adherence to a multi-layered review process, duly aligned with the National Definition, which included an appeal mechanism.

Health Break / Livestream Resumed

The Assembly recessed at 10:45 a.m. and reconvened at 10:55 a.m. The livestream of the MNGA resumed.

ROLL CALL - QUORUM CONFIRMED

The MNGA Clerk confirmed that quorum was achieved with 42 official voting delegates in attendance.

10. MNBC BOARD OF DIRECTORS – Question and Answer Session

The MNGA Chair invited members of the MNBC Board of Directors to respond to delegates' questions. Their categorized responses are summarized below:

Financials

- The term "Social Investment" in the 2024–25 Financial Summary refers to all subsidy programs, including Skills Training, Employment and Post-Secondary Education programs, and social sector supports
- The Chief Financial Officer agreed to provide a breakdown of:
 - The \$16.3 million spent on "Social Investment" in the Lower Mainland Region in 2024-25
 - The "Social Investment" spending in Region 5 (to be circulated to Presidents in Region 5)

MNBC Senate

- The Senate currently operates within its mandate as an advisory body, providing recommendations without enforcement authority
- The Board of Directors affirmed its support for the Senate as the Nation's judicial body and recognized the importance of strengthening its role
- Senate reform was being explored with the goal of enhancing its authority and ensuring its decisions carried greater weight; any proposed reforms would be presented to the MNGA at an AGM, for consultation and approval
- MNBC established a Métis Justice Strategy and was developing a Justice Ministry; there was a strong commitment to advancing a Métis justice system, and to developing effective dispute resolution mechanisms
- The MNGA's role was to provide direction, not to act as a sentencing body; focus remained on supporting the Senate and building appropriate tools to resolve differences
- The rationale behind Senate decisions was often kept confidential to protect the privacy and well-being of those involved
- The Senate is an apolitical body and operates independently of the MNBC Board of Directors, and includes a legal professional as one of its members
- A commitment was made to include a future MNGA discussion with Senate representatives to inform and educate members

Community Engagement and Supports

- The MNGA Governance Committee has been developing Charter Agreements focused on identifying specific community support needs
- Friction can stem from a lack of clarity; the relationship between the MNBC and communities must focus on citizens; a commitment was made to establishing a clear and shared standard of care and excellence
- The CEO committed to circulating a list from the governance and finance teams outlining the current MNBC supports available to communities
- Veterans could provide security at meetings, but travel costs would need to be considered
- Communities could be encouraged to invite a Veteran, their Regional Director, and representatives from the Women's and 2SLGBTQQIA+ Councils to attend their AGMs
- Organizing a tour of the MNBC offices for community presidents, including meetings with senior staff and Presidents, would be beneficial

Out-of-Province Citizenship

- Updates would be provided when available, on MNBC citizenship eligibility for out-of-province Veterans.

11. CLOSING PRAYER AND CONCLUSION

A Closing Prayer was offered.

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

That the Métis Nation British Columbia, 2025 Métis Nation Governing Assembly held May 30–June 1, 2025, now conclude.

ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (MNGA2502-19)

(Time: June 1, 2025, at 12:00 p.m.)

* * *

This is a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the MNBC 2025 MNGA held May 30–June 1, 2025, and incorporates any and all corrections made at the time of adoption.

Dave Peltier, MNGA Co-Speaker

Katy Carson, MNGA Co-Speaker

Nicole Ludwig, MNGA Clerk