



MEETING MINUTES

Meeting:	BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING		
Date of Meeting:	January 22, 2021	Time:	9:00am
Minutes Prepared By:	Derek Robitaille	Location:	Microsoft Teams Video Conference

Attendees

Participating Board: Acting President Lissa Smith, Directors Dr. Kate Elliott, Paulette Flamond, Debra Fisher, Dean Gladue, Patrick Harriott, Louis De Jaeger, Susie Hooper, Raynie Gervais

Regrets: Shaughn Davoren (joined at 3:25pm)

Staff: Daniel Fontaine – CEO/Deputy Minister, Chris Gall – Chief Public Affairs Officer, Derek Robitaille – Executive Assistant to the President/Cabinet Secretariat, Lydia Stefan – Executive Assistant to the CEO

1. Welcome and opening comments by Acting President Lissa Smith

At 9:00am, Acting President Lissa Smith stated the meeting will be recorded for minute taking purposes. Opening prayer was conducted by Director Gladue.

After opening prayer, the Board of Directors acknowledged their local territories.

1.1. Meeting Agenda

It was MOVED by (Director De Jaeger) and SECONDED by (Director Elliott) THAT the meeting agenda be approved as amended.

The following items were added to the agenda:

- 1.2. Response Letter to MNC
- 16. Board Portfolio Reassignment
- 17. First Nations Concerns
- 18. Public Relations Firm

1.2. Response Letter to MNC

It was MOVED by (Director Fisher) and SECONDED by (Director De Jaeger) THAT the response letter regarding the suspension of President Morin Dal Col be approved for distribution to MNC.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

- Director Harriott – yes
- Director De Jaeger – yes
- Director Gladue – yes
- Director Fisher – yes
- Director Gervais – yes
- Director Hooper – abstain
- Director Flamond – yes
- Director Elliott – yes



CARRIED by a vote of seven in favour and one abstention.

After reading the draft letter, it was **MOVED** by (Director De Jaeger) and **SECONDED** by (Director Gladue) **THAT** the Board of Directors go in camera at 9:28am to discuss related matters.

it was **MOVED** by (Director Fisher) and **SECONDED** by (Director Gervais) **THAT** the Board of Directors go out of camera at 10:04am.

1.3. Meeting Minutes

It was **MOVED** by (Director De Jaeger) and **SECONDED** by (Director Fisher) **THAT** the minutes of the November 23, 2020 Cabinet meeting be approved as presented.

It was then moved by (Director De Jaeger) and **SECONDED** by (Director Fisher) to redact a portion of the November 23, 2020 Cabinet meeting minutes for publication. The below is what was requested to be redacted:

“Amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by (Minister Hooper) and **SECONDED** by (President Dal Col) **to allow debate of the motion as there was no support for it.**

THAT the entire motion be struck and replaced with:

WHEREAS

- A. COVID has negatively impacted the lives and businesses of so many of our citizens including their ability to pay rent and buy food;**
- B. The current Board of Directors recently ran in the election knowing what the compensation and time commitment was for this role over the next 4 years;**
- C. The current Board of Directors approved an increase to their salaries in October;**
- D. Nobody from the current Board of Directors ran on a platform to dramatically increase the base salaries of elected politicians;**
- E. Any increase to the base pay of politicians should be done in public view to ensure it is open and transparent;**
- F. Any salary increase provided to elected officials will have to be taken out of funds from another citizen program or service;**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT base salaries for elected officials remain frozen for a period of no less than one year and;

Further Resolved, THAT any future changes to base salary be done through an independent citizen panel review process supported by MNBC staff and that the terms of reference for the panel be brought to the Cabinet for approval.

DEFEATED by a vote of nine against to one in favour”

After discussion, a roll call vote was ordered, and the vote on the amendment was as follows:

Director Harriott – no
Director De Jaeger – yes
Director Gladue – no
Director Fisher – no
Director Gervais – abstain
Director Hooper – no
Director Flamond – abstain

DEFEATED by a vote of four against, one in favour, and two abstentions.

(Director Elliott absent for the vote) Stepped out at 9:38am



A roll call vote was then ordered to approve the November 23, 2020 Cabinet meeting minutes as presented, and the vote was as follows:

Director Harriott – yes
Director De Jaeger – no
Director Gladue – yes
Director Fisher – no
Director Gervais – abstain
Director Hooper – yes
Director Flamond – no
Director Elliott – absent for the vote

CARRIED by a vote of four in favour, three against, and one abstention.

(Acting President Smith voted yes to break the tie)

(Director Elliott absent for the vote) Stepped out at 9:38am

Due to time, the remaining meeting minutes for approval were tabled to be revisited after Item 3 – Board Salaries.

After guest speaker Mike McKay left the meeting, it was **MOVED** by (Director De Jaeger) and **SECONDED** by (Director Elliott) **THAT** the minutes of the December 14, 2020 Cabinet meeting be approved as presented.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Director Harriott – yes
Director De Jaeger – yes
Director Gladue – yes
Director Fisher – yes
Director Gervais – yes
Director Hooper – yes
Director Flamond – yes
Director Elliott – yes

CARRIED

It was **MOVED** by (Director Fisher) and **SECONDED** by (Director Gladue) **THAT** the minutes of the December 15, 2020 Cabinet meeting be approved as presented.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Director Harriott – yes
Director De Jaeger – yes
Director Gladue – yes
Director Fisher – yes
Director Gervais – yes
Director Hooper – yes
Director Flamond – yes
Director Elliott – yes

CARRIED



2. Board Salaries

PRESENTATION

Board Salaries

Mike McKay joined the meeting to present on 'MNBC Board Compensation: Considerations in Context', along with a report that was sent to the Board of Directors. The presentation included community expectations regarding elected office/public service vs. salaried employment, processes & transparency, factors to consider when establishing compensation guidelines and levels, what other organizations should be referenced for fair and reasonable comparisons, long-term impact, next steps, timelines and desired outcomes.

It was MOVED by (Director De Jaeger) and SECONDED by (Director Gervais) THAT the Board of Directors defers the conversation of board salaries until Spring, 2021.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Director Harriott – yes
Director De Jaeger – yes
Director Gladue – yes
Director Fisher – yes
Director Gervais – yes
Director Hooper – yes
Director Flamond – yes
Director Elliott – yes

CARRIED

Given the lack of clarity around salary recommendations surrounding the report, it was decided by the Board of Directors to defer making a decision on board salaries until Spring, 2021, pending further investigation.

3. Action Items

Acting President Smith provided a general update on the action items and requested follow up if needed. Acting President Smith is to assign another board member the duties of reading out the action items for future board meetings.

Recessed at 12:00pm and reconvened at 12:51pm

4. Regional Director Reports

It was MOVED by (Director) and SECONDED by (Director) THAT the Regional Director reports be received for informational purposes.

Regional Director Reports

- Director De Jaeger
- Director Elliott
- Director Gervais
- Director Flamond
- Director Fisher



5. CEO's Report

PRESENTATION

CEO Report

CEO Daniel Fontaine updated the Board of Directors on what is currently happening at the MNBC office, the progression of the business architecture review, key meetings, and the progression of all ministries, Human Resources, Central Registry, Administration, and Public Affairs. A detailed ministry report will be provided on a monthly basis and the questions that some board directors asked are to be answered as soon as staff can gather the information required.

Furthermore, the CEO report is to be shared with the nation upon approval of the minutes, along with the Regional Director reports.

After discussion and questions, it was **MOVED** by (Director Hooper) and **SECONDED** by (Director Gladue) THAT the CEO report be received for informational purposes.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Director Harriott – yes
Director De Jaeger – yes
Director Gladue – yes
Director Fisher – yes
Director Gervais – yes
Director Hooper – yes
Director Flamond – yes
Director Elliott – yes

CARRIED

6. January 2021 COVID Response Plan Update

The January 2021 COVID Response Plan Update was received for informational purposes and the Senior Director of Environmental Protection & Métis Rights will be regularly issuing updates.

Recessed at 2:45pm and reconvened at 2:50pm

7. Terms of Reference Committees

It was **MOVED** by (Director Harriott) and **SECONDED** by (Director Hooper) THAT the terms of reference and membership for the Board and Advisory Committees be approved as amended.

In the Métis Rights and Self-Government Committee (MRS GC) – Purpose #6, the word “potion” was changed to “position.”

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Director Harriott – yes
Director De Jaeger – yes
Director Gladue – yes
Director Fisher – yes
Director Gervais – yes
Director Hooper – yes
Director Flamond – yes
Director Elliott – yes

CARRIED



8. Draft 2021/2022 Operational Budget

The Senior Director of Finance went over the Operating Budget expenditures along with the Central Service Budget with the Board of Directors which explained the allocation of funds for each department and ministry, Senate, committees, and potential initiatives.

Acting President Smith reminded the Board of Directors that the 2021/2022 Draft Operational Budget will be finalized by March 2021.

9. Director of Finance Report

It was MOVED by (Director Harriott) and SECONDED by (Director Gervais)

WHEREAS

- A. The RBC Commercial Expense Card Program is available to eligible corporate clients;
- B. MNBC is currently an RBC business client with existing RBC business visa cards administered by RBC;
- C. MNBC is eligible to participate in the commercial program. Participation would enable MNBC to be able to self administer MNBC's credit cards ensuring greater flexibility, control and efficiency;
- D. Per the terms of the agreement, the card cost would be related to annual fees dependant on the card chosen and the market interest rate of 19.99% outstanding balances. No change from the existing card agreement.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors affirms their support for MNBC to participate in the RBC Commercial Card Program.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Director Harriott – yes
Director De Jaeger – yes
Director Gladue – yes
Director Fisher – yes
Director Gervais – yes
Director Flamond – yes
Director Hooper - yes
Director Elliott – yes
Director Davoren - yes

CARRIED

It was then MOVED by (Director Harriott) and SECONDED by (Director Fisher) THAT the December 2020 financial statement be received for informational purposes.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Director Harriott – yes
Director De Jaeger – yes
Director Gladue – yes
Director Fisher – yes
Director Gervais – yes
Director Hooper – yes
Director Flamond – yes
Director Elliott – yes
Director Davoren – yes

CARRIED



10. Canada Infrastructure Program

It was MOVED by (Director Harriott) and SECONDED by (Director Flamond)

WHEREAS

- A. The Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program, through the Provincial and Federal Government of Canada, has made funding available for the retrofit, repairs and upgrades for Indigenous government buildings;
- B. The proposed project for the Métis Nation BC Headquarters office in Surrey, BC will be beneficial to assisting MNBC in achieving their long term goals;
- C. A proposal for this project will be submitted to the Canada Infrastructure Program on or before January 27th 2021;
- D. Per the terms of the grant, MNBC would be liable for any associated ineligible costs and cost overruns if the full grant amount is approved.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors affirms their support for this application to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program for the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream;

Further Resolved THAT the Board of Directors agrees that MNBC would be liable for any associated ineligible costs and cost overruns.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Director Harriott – yes

Director De Jaeger – yes

Director Gladue – yes

Director Fisher – yes

Director Gervais – yes

Director Hooper – yes

Director Flamond – yes

Director Elliott – yes

CARRIED

11. Live-Streaming

It was MOVED by (Director De Jaeger) and SECONDED by (Director Gladue) to postpone Live-Streaming to June 2021.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Director Harriott – yes

Director De Jaeger – yes

Director Gladue – yes

Director Fisher – yes

Director Gervais – yes

Director Hooper – yes

Director Flamond – yes

Director Davoren - yes

CARRIED

(Director Elliott absent for the vote) Stepped out at 4:01pm

One board member did not feel the need to rush into live-streaming the board meetings due to ongoing training in governance and recommended that everyone reads memo that was provided in the meeting package before going into discussion at a future meeting.



Another board member was in support of meetings being held live, but recommended the recordings be posted online for viewing as a first step.

12. Fort St. John

Director Flamond updated the Board of Directors on the meeting held with the Mayor of Fort. St. John, Lori Ackerman on January 13, 2021 about a potential new housing project to be built for the Métis citizens in the Northeast region. MNBC is currently in early negotiations with the city and proposals are to be brought back to the Board of Directors for future discussion and approval.

13. Senate Travel

The Board of Directors is to come up with a motion consistent with other MNBC policies that will be presented to the finance department. This motion would be to allow the Senate to have full control over their own budget and travel without MNBC staff being required to provide pre-approval for items such as travel expenditures.

14. MNGA Dates

MNBC is currently in the process of looking into recommended dates for the upcoming MNGA. Once dates are confirmed, the Board of Directors will receive a follow up from Chief Public Affairs Officer, Chris Gall.

15. Final Strategic Planning Session

The planned 2021-2023 Strategic Planning session date of February 1, 2021 was bumped to February 8, 2021. An external facilitator is to be hired to run the session.

16. Board Portfolio Reassignment

It was **MOVED** by (Director De Jaeger) and **SECONDED** by (Director Fisher) THAT Director Gladue take over the Housing and Homelessness portfolio.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Director Harriott – yes

Director De Jaeger – yes

Director Fisher – yes

Director Gervais – yes

Director Hooper - abstain

Director Flamond – yes

Director Elliott – yes

Director Davoren – yes

CARRIED by a vote of seven in favour and one abstention.

(Director Gladue could not vote due to conflict of interest)

It was then **MOVED** by (Director Gladue) and **SECONDED** by (Director Flamond) THAT Director Fisher take over the Early Learning and K-12 Education portfolio.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Director Harriott – yes

Director De Jaeger – yes

Director Gladue – yes



Director Gervais – yes
Director Hooper – abstain
Director Flamond – yes
Director Elliott – yes
Director Davoren – yes

CARRIED by a vote of seven in favour and one abstention.
(Director Fisher could not vote due to conflict of interest)

17. First Nations Concerns

Director Fisher indicated that she had spent some time on January 21, 2021 trying to regain trust with the Ktunaxa First Nation and Secwepemc First Nation about a supposed sign in Golden, BC reading “Welcome to the traditional territory of the Métis.” This was brought forward to the Presidents of Métis Nation Columbia River Society and Columbia Valley Métis Association who were unaware of the sign. Chief Nicholas of the Ktunaxa Nation and Chief Cody of the Secwepemc First Nation are to apprise fellow Chiefs and Councils of the matter and advise them that the local Presidents are Métis citizens of BC and the Regional Directors are “as much in the dark as they are.” The President of Métis Nation Columbia River Society reported that he could not find any signs so it was requested that MNBC provide some more information if any signs were or were not put up in order to communicate back to local First Nations and Region.

Chief Public Affairs Officer, Chris Gall confirmed that MNBC has not created a sign; however, when there was a road show in that vicinity, there could have been a sign created, but the words and characterization would not have matched.

18. Public Relations Firm

It was **MOVED** by (Director Flamond) and **SECONDED** by (Director Harriott) THAT the Board of Directors hires a Public Relations firm to assist with communications over the next eight weeks to a maximum of \$20,000.

A roll call vote was ordered, and the vote was as follows:

Director Harriott – yes
Director De Jaeger – yes
Director Gladue – yes
Director Fisher – yes
Director Gervais – yes
Director Hooper – yes
Director Flamond – yes
Director Elliott – yes
Director Davoren - yes

Given the high amount of correspondence and media being released in recent weeks, it was felt that a public relations firm could assist the MNBC Communications department over the next four to eight weeks.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:06pm

Director Gladue conducted the closing prayer and it was **MOVED** by (Director Harriott) and **SECONDED** by (Director De Jaeger) to adjourn the meeting.



Action Items		
1	Have Governance Committee meet as soon as possible and elect a chair.	Person Responsible:
2	Develop process around Minutes/Policies of what goes IN CAMERA.	Person Responsible: Chris Gall
3	Develop Recruitment Strategy for the Northeast region by no later than March 15, 2021.	Person Responsible: Pending
4	Prepare a document regarding the establishment of a housing society.	Person Responsible: Bailey Mumford
5	Follow up on development of LGBTQ+ Committee from previous MNGA.	Person Responsible: Chris Gall
6	Come up with motion for Senate Travel.	Person Responsible: Board of Directors
7	Follow up on dates for MNGA.	Person Responsible: Chris Gall
8	Hire an external facilitator to run the Strategic Planning session on February 8, 2021.	Person Responsible: Daniel Fontaine
9	Provide the Board of Directors with a record of motions document.	Person Responsible: Derek Robitaille

Parked Items		
1	Board Salaries	Person Responsible:
2	Live-Streaming	Person Responsible:
3	Senate Travel	Person Responsible:



Approval Sheet

Minutes prepared by: _____ Recording Secretary

Approved by: _____ Acting President

Approved by: _____ Secretary

Date: **February 1, 2021**