

**NATION****ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

September 26-28, 2008

DRAFT MINUTES

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Métis Nation British Columbia, held September 26-28, 2008, in the Okanagan Ballroom, The Grand Okanagan Lakefront Resort and Conference Centre, 1310 Water Street, Kelowna, BC.

BOARD AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bruce Dumont, President
Dave Hodgson, Vice-President
Stephanie Albiston, Provincial Youth Chair
Rose Bortolon, Métis Women of British Columbia
Henry Hall, Director for Lower Mainland Region
Gerry Legare, Director for Kootenays Region
Annette Maurice, Director for North Central Region
Dan Pope, Director for Northeast Region
Lissa Smith, Director for Vancouver Island Region
Rene Therrien, Director for Northwest Region
Bob Trumbley, Director for Thompson/Okanagan Region

TOTAL ATTENDANCE:

A total of 175 MNBC registered voting delegates. (Quorum therefore being 89.)

PREPARATION OF MINUTES:

Jana Anderson, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

DAY 1 – SEPTEMBER 26, 2008**GRAND ENTRY**

Following the Grand Entry Flag Procession led by Sergeant at Arms, Bob Ducharme at approximately 1:13 p.m., the Métis National Anthem was sung.

1. Opening Prayer

Alternating between the English and Cree languages, Senate Chair Al Edkins and Senator Philip Gladue offered an Opening Prayer.

2. Inauguration Ceremony for MNBC Elected Leaders (from September 13, 2008 General Election)

Senator Al Edkins, Senate Chair, led Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Elected and acclaimed Leaders, Office of Youth Representatives, and Regional Women's Representatives, in the Oath of Office.

Bob Trumbley, Thompson/Okanagan Regional Director, spoke on the importance of being Métis and acknowledged the recent passing of his father. Stephanie Albiston, Provincial Youth Chair, acknowledged youth in attendance and thanked the leaders for their support and encouragement.

Dean Trumbley, MNBC Strategic Development Coordinator and Master of Ceremonies, welcomed and extended greetings to the leadership, youth representatives and regional women's representatives in attendance, noting that they would each receive a copy of the book titled, "Métis in BC".

3. **Greetings and Welcoming Remarks from President Elect**

Bruce Dumont, Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) President Elect, welcomed delegates to the MNBC 2008 Annual General Meeting (AGM), which would be broadcast via web cast. He thanked the Senate for their assistance with the Oath of Office.

MNBC President Dumont began by expressing appreciation to Métis citizens for their support in electing him as President of the MNBC and for providing him with the opportunity to represent Métis citizens in BC. He acknowledged his efforts in serving Métis people over the past four years and expressed his ongoing commitment to work collaboratively and diligently on their behalf. President Dumont thanked his family for their ongoing support in his continuation as MNBC President. He acknowledged the time and service extended by the MNBC staff and Board of Directors. President Dumont congratulated all elected and acclaimed leaders, adding that they would bring new ideas forward and represent their regional constituents well. It was anticipated their efforts would improve the lives, culture and language for all Métis people. He then thanked all candidates who had stood during the 2008 MNBC election process.

MNBC President Dumont extended greetings to all delegates, elders, dignitaries, government representatives in attendance and thanked corporate sponsors for assistance with the MNBC 2008 Annual General Meeting. He thanked the Senate for the opening prayer and assisting with the Oath of Office. He acknowledged the traditional territory of the Westbank and Okanagan First Nations in which the meeting was being held.

President Dumont acknowledged and expressed appreciation for the MNBC staff and their efforts in coordinating the AGM. He spoke on the accomplishments of the past year which included: assisting communities with developing and delivering culturally relevant health programs; student successes at the Métis Skills and Employment Centre; building a solid foundation for the Ministry of Veterans; and the historical Métis harvesting protocol agreement signed by MNBC and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. He noted many partnerships had been developed providing MNBC with the ability to expand on programs and services. The ongoing relationship with the Office of the Federal Interlocutor and BC government Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation were noted. MNBC President Dumont acknowledged the success of the 2008 Métis Nation BC general election and newly elected leadership, noting this was the first election which included youth and women. The President expressed that the future was based on strong foundation; and that the Board of Directors was looking forward to serving Métis citizens of BC for the next four years. MNBC would continue its efforts of increasing citizenship activity, building the central registry, supporting youth in communities, forging new partnerships to enhance success and creating innovative business development.

President Dumont wished all delegates a successful AGM and encouraged them to celebrate the legacy of Métis in BC.

4. **Greetings from Dignitaries**

Dignitaries extended their greetings to those present, noted their honour at having been asked to present, and congratulated the Métis Nation British Columbia on its 11th Anniversary. Additional subject areas discussed by each dignitary are highlighted in the paragraphs that follow:

Mayor Sharon Shepard, City of Kelowna

Mayor Shepard thanked the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) for hosting its Annual General Meeting in Kelowna for the third year in a row; and conveyed information on economic opportunities, assets, activities and events in and around the area. She noted Kelowna would continue to strive to balance sustainability with social, environmental and economic initiatives which included: the UBC Okanagan Campus, Kelowna museum (incorporating First Nation and Métis cultures); and sports and recreational facilities. Delegates were encouraged to provide input related to strengthening relationships with the MNBC and the City of Kelowna.

Kelowna-Lake Country MP Ron Cannan

MP Cannan acknowledged Senator Gerry St. Germain in attendance at the AGM. He referenced the Government of Canada's work with communities throughout the country towards achieving practical, sustainable governance arrangements. He commented on the Government's continued interest to work with the Métis to find solutions toward living in harmony and peace, and working in partnerships across the nation. Delegates were advised that on September 5, 2008, the "Metis Nation protocol" was signed; formalizing the agreement between Canadian and Métis governments to work together on Métis specific issues such as residential school survivors, Veterans' access to benefits, and education. He noted the government was committed to working with BC to find lasting resolutions on outstanding issues.

The Honourable Gerry St. Germain, The Senate of Canada

Senator Germain acknowledged veterans, elders, leaders and guests in attendance. He congratulated the new MNBC leadership on their recent election, and thanked Métis citizens for their participation. He spoke on the importance of leadership, noting that history showed the key to building a legacy for Métis would be through its leadership, and which would ensure Métis recognition in Canada. Good leaders acknowledge education would provide the tools toward building successful lives and enabling interaction with other societies. Leaders recognized their responsibility to inspire youth to take control and push for full recognition of their Métis rights and privileges. It was important to establish equal footing in Canadian society for Métis people, and the MNBC leadership would work to implement the MNBC five year plan to address health, education, housing and economic development needs. Métis citizens believed in a strong leadership and the efforts of the MNBC Executive and Board of Directors would build a stronger Métis Nation.

Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, the Honourable Mike de Jong

Minister de Jong acknowledged the newly elected leadership and the overall passion and vibrancy expressed by delegates at the Annual General Meeting. He acknowledged the long standing partnership between the Government of BC and the Métis Nation of British Columbia which was the result of leadership, vision and courage. Minister de Jong recognized the efforts and dedication of MNBC staff in scheduling the 2008 MNBC Annual General Meeting. He then presented MNBC President Bruce Dumont with a cheque for \$10,000 towards the costs of hosting the AGM.

Minister de Jong spoke on the successes of MNBC over the past year which included: the citizenship registry with over 7,000 citizens, health, education, ActNow, youth involvement and

physical fitness initiatives. Minister de Jong then presented the MNBC President with a cheque in the amount of \$50,000 towards goals in these areas.

Noting 2008 was the 150th year anniversary of the founding of British Columbia, Minister de Jong presented a cheque in the amount of \$150,000 to Provincial Youth Chair Stephanie Albiston for youth initiatives on behalf of the Ministry of Tourism, Government of BC, Premier Gordon Campbell and his colleagues.

Minister de Jong concluded by announcing that as of 1:00 p.m. September 26, 2008 BC's Coquihalla highway was toll free.

Métis Nation of Alberta President Audrey Poitras

Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) President Poitras extended greetings on behalf of MNA, their newly elected officials and staff. She acknowledged the election of the new MNBC provincial Council, and the moving Senate-led inauguration ceremony. She spoke on the importance of the Annual General Meeting, noting that while business would be conducted, it also afforded the opportunity to learn more about the ongoing initiatives of the MNBC and enabled its citizens to provide ongoing direction to their newly elected Council. She concluded by acknowledging the MNBC reputation for accountability.

Métis National Council President Clément Chartier

Métis National Council (MNC) President Chartier extended congratulations to the newly elected MNBC leaders and expressed that he was looking forward to continuing to work with the MNBC.

MNC President Chartier spoke on the importance of relationship building, adding that while the MNC had experienced setbacks over the past year, there was much progress to celebrate and Métis looked forward to the future and building on opportunities. Delegates were advised that MNC has developed good working relationships with: the Honourable Chuck Strahl, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians and MNC Governing members, and were moving forward in a positive manner. Delegates were advised that on September 5, 2008, the MNC signed the Métis Nation Protocol, formalizing the relationship between the Métis Nation and the federal government.

Referencing the upcoming federal election, MNC President Chartier advised MNC was committed to working with the elected government and would continue to develop federal, provincial and territorial relationships. He added the signed Métis Nation Protocol would continue to build on other federal initiatives, including the National Indian Residential School Apology. MNC President Chartier advised that in a letter dated June 10, 2008, Minister Strahl committed to address issues such as Métis who attended residential school, veteran rights, land and resources; and Métis economic development as formalized in the signed protocol. Delegates were also advised that at the Council of the Federation meeting held in July 2008, provincial leaders committed to scheduling a meeting with all Aboriginal leaders to address Aboriginal issues within their jurisdictions. MNC President Chartier encouraged delegates to push for federal support in these discussions.

In his further comments, the MNC President spoke of the importance of relationship building and acknowledged the recent leadership elections of the MNC, Métis Nation of Alberta, Métis Nation of Ontario and MNBC. He shared that the MNC embraced the MNBC slogan "building a legacy" and would continue to working together in a collective and collaborative manner and in the best interests of Métis citizens.

Health Break

The AGM recessed at 3:10 p.m. and resumed at 3:44 p.m.

5. Honourary Mention

Bruce Dumont, Métis Nation British Columbia President, acknowledged the newly elected MNBC Board, advising that all members would be presented an artwork print by Morris Cardinal.

Dean Trumbley, Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Strategic Development Coordinator, and Master of Ceremonies, led delegates in acknowledging: Milt Wright, Director, Negotiator of Corporate Mandates, Aboriginal Directorate, Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation; Hans von Donhoff, Office of the Federal Interlocutor; and Chief Ed Whitford, Halfway River First Nations. He thanked corporate partners, government officials and community representatives for their contributions to the 2008 Annual Meeting, and acknowledged donations provided.

6. Special Thanks to MNBC AGM Corporate Sponsors

Dean Trumbley, Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Strategic Development Coordinator, and Master of Ceremonies, thanked the following sponsors for their contributions to the MNBC 2008 Annual General Meeting (AGM): Access, RBC, Manning Elliott Chartered Accountants, ConocoPhillips, Objectified Software, BC Housing, Enbridge Northern Gateway Pipelines, EnCana; Fortis BC, Direct Energy; CLAC British Columbia Training Centres, and BC Hydro.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The Métis Nation British Columbia 2008 Annual General Meeting held September 26-28, 2008 adjourned on Day 1 – September 26, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.

DAY 2 – SEPTEMBER 27, 2008**MEETING RECONVENED**

The Métis Nation British Columbia 2008 Annual General Meeting held September 26-28, 2008 reconvened on Day 2 – September 27, 2007 at 8:55 a.m. Prior to the conduct of business, quorum was confirmed.

7. Appointment of Chair/Co-Chair

It was MOVED (Annette Maurice) and SECONDED (Henry Hall)

That the Métis Nation Columbia 2007 Annual General Meeting (AGM) appoint Don Caverley to serve as the 2008 AGM Chair and Mark Stevenson to serve as 2008 AGM Co-Chair.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-01)

8. Quorum is Announced by the MC

The Meeting was informed that there were 175 registered delegates, quorum therefore being 89.

9. Acceptance of AGM Agenda

Related materials distributed in the Métis Nation British Columbia 2008 Annual General Meeting Agenda package: Draft Agenda of the 2008 Annual General Meeting dated September 26-28, 2008.

It was MOVED (Lorne LaFleur) and SECONDED (Don Spence)

That the Agenda for the Métis Nation British Columbia 2008 Annual General Meeting scheduled September 26-28, 2008 be accepted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-02)

10. Appointment of Resolutions Committee

As no new resolutions were tabled, it was not necessary to appoint a Resolutions Committee.

11. 2007 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Related materials distributed in the Métis Nation British Columbia 2008 Annual General Meeting Agenda package: Draft Minutes of the 2007 Annual General Meeting held September 21-23, 2007.

Regarding the special presentation of the MNBC Order of the Sash at the 2007 Annual General Meeting (AGM), a delegate suggested that the word “ceremonial” be added to differentiate the presentation to government officials and that it was understood the Order of the Sash was to be presented only at Annual General Meetings.

Bruce Dumont, Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) President, clarified that the MNBC Order of the Sash had been presented to government officials and two other Métis citizens within British Columbia. He noted Métis recognized the sacred and spiritual importance of the sash and suggested further discussion related to the word “ceremonial” was required.

Point of Information

In response to a point of information raised, it was noted that the discussion related to presentation of the MNBC Order of the Sash would be deferred for consideration at the next Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA) meeting.

It was MOVED (Bruce Dumont) and SECONDED (Ken Fisher)

That the Minutes of the Métis Nation British Columbia 2007 Annual General Meeting held September 21-23, 2007 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-03)

12. Resolutions

Related materials distributed in the Métis Nation British Columbia 2008 Annual General Meeting Agenda package:

- *Métis Nation Governing Assembly draft Minutes from the meeting held December 15 and 16, 2007;*
- *Métis Nation British Columbia Constitution revised September 2007;*
- *Métis Nation British Columbia Métis Nation Governing Assembly Act revised September 2007;*
- *Métis Nation British Columbia Citizenship Act revised September 2007;*
- *Métis Nation British Columbia Electoral Act revised September 2007;*
- *Métis Nation British Columbia Senate Act revised September 2007;*
- *Métis Nation British Columbia Governance Chart; and*
- *Resolutions Submitted to Annual General Meeting Delegates for Second and Final Reading.*

12.1 Draft Resolution #1 – Constitution and all Legislative Acts

Proposed Resolution #1 was introduced.

In response to the concern raised that the term “governance chartered communities” was confusing and should be replaced with the term “locals”, a delegate noted the term “communities” had been used to meet requirements under *Powley*.

It was MOVED (Lorne LaFleur) and SECONDED (Leo Brazeau)

WHEREAS the word affiliated in reference to Governance Chartered Community/Community’s/Communities of the MNBC is no longer applicable.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the word affiliated in reference to Community/Community’s/Communities is replaced with the words Governance Chartered Community/Community’s/Communities in the MNBC Constitution and all MNBC Legislative Acts.

CARRIED (AGM08-04)

(1 delegate voting in the negative.)

12.2 Proposed Resolution #2 – MNBC Constitution

Co-Chair Stevenson introduced proposed Resolution #2.

It was MOVED (Annette Maurice) and SECONDED (Tom Spence)

WHEREAS Article 45 of the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Constitution requires implementation of an Electoral Act along with all necessary regulations and guidelines, and the MNBC Electoral Act has now been constituted by the Métis Nation Governing Assembly and Annual General Meeting as per Article 45.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 45 of the MNBC Constitution is redundant and be removed from the Métis Nation British Columbia Constitution.

CARRIED (AGM08-05)

(1 delegate voting in the negative.)

12.3 Proposed Resolution #3 – MNBC Constitution

It was MOVED (Donna Wright) and SECONDED (Daniel Pitman)

WHEREAS Article 49 of the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Constitution has established three areas of Senate responsibilities as elections, citizenship, and dispute resolutions; and

WHEREAS the Senate has further defined their responsibilities outlined in the provisions of the Senate Act specifically in Article 8;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 49 of the MNBC Constitution be amended to read:

“The Senate shall be responsible for the provisions outlined in the legislation known as the Senate Act.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-06)

12.4 Proposed Resolution #4 – MNBC Constitution

Co-Chair Stevenson introduced proposed Resolution #4.

A delegate raised concern that the word “proposed” could potentially allow seventeen different locals in the Lower Mainland area. It was suggested that the motion should be deferred for consideration and discussion at the next Métis Nation Governing Assembly meeting.

Dean Trumbley, Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Strategic Development Coordinator and Métis Nation British Columbia Annual General Meeting Clerk clarified the motion would provide authority to the regional governments.

Delegates spoke in favour of the resolution, offering that it would reduce the load from the MNBC Board, support community authority and enable communities to affect change through their local annual general meetings.

It was MOVED (Tresley Tourond-Bouvier) and SECONDED (Lorne LaFleur)

WHEREAS Article 56 of the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Constitution requires that Communities shall be the basic unit of the Métis Government; and that no community (city, town, municipality or unincorporated municipal unit) shall have more than one (1) Community, except with the written approval by the MNBC; and

WHEREAS approval should include the Regional Governance Council members;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 56 of the MNBC Constitution is amended to read:

“56. Communities shall be the basic unit of the Métis Government. No community (city, town, municipality or unincorporated municipal unit) shall have more than one (1) Community;

56.1 Communities seeking chartered designation shall require written approval by motion of seventy five (75) percent of the Applicable Regional Governance Council members submitted to the MNGA;

56.2 Geographical boundaries of Community/Communities seeking Community Governance Charter;

56.3 Ratification by seventy five (75) percent of the MNGA.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-07)

Point of Order

In response to a point of order raised that question should be called by delegates at the microphone, Co-Chair Stevenson confirmed that if there was no additional debate on a motion, he would allow question called from the assembly floor.

12.5 Proposed Resolution #5 – MNGA Act

Proposed Resolution #5 was introduced.

In response to a request for clarification, Dean Trumbley, Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Strategic Development Coordinator and Métis Nation British Columbia Annual General Meeting (AGM) Clerk advised that the motion was meant to align with resolution #4 which had just been adopted requiring written approval by motion of seventy five (75) percent of the Applicable Regional Governance Council members.

A delegate expressed concern that the term “any special circumstances” was vague and suggested that the wording should be more specific.

A delegate spoke in favour of the motion, offering the resolution would enable regional governance councils to review the charters for any new communities and provide the MNGA and councils flexibility to consider all options. Should a regional council approve or disapprove of a new community in their region, Article 12 of the MNGA Act allowed for any prospective group to bring their request forward to the MNGA for review of any special circumstances.

It was MOVED (Michael du Frane) and SECONDED (Thomas Jobin)

WHEREAS Article 12 of the Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA) Act states that the MNGA shall be authorized to receive and determine applications for affiliation by Communities and the terms of the affiliation and shall, in the exercise of its determination for the purposes of this section, consider any special circumstances that may affect the status on an existing or prospective affiliated Community; and

WHEREAS Article 56.1 of the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Constitution has been amended to include 75% support from the Applicable Regional Governance Council members;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED Article 12 of the MNGA Act be amended to read:

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-08)

12.6 Proposed Resolution #6 – MNBC Constitution

Proposed Resolution #6 was introduced.

In response to a query raised, Dean Trumbley, Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Strategic Development Coordinator and Métis Nation British Columbia Annual General Meeting (AGM) Clerk advised citizens were defined under the MNBC constitution that the motion did not pertain to existing communities; only new communities.

Delegates spoke against the motion, offering that in some areas, four families could have 50 people which could then be considered a community; and that it would be easier to accept 25 members, including citizens under the age of 18. It was suggested the motion be referred back to the Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA) for additional clarification on “Métis citizenship”. Concern was expressed the motion did not refer to the need for a Métis citizenship card.

Point of Information

A point of information was raised that the motion related to Resolution #6 had been moved and seconded and should proceed to a vote before another motion could be considered. Co-Chair Stevenson advised Resolution #6 would proceed to a vote if the motion presented to table it to further discussion by the MNGA was defeated.

It was MOVED (Bill Delorme) and SECONDED (Lisa Sheppard)

That the proposed Motion #6 as follows be tabled for further discussion by the Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA):

WHEREAS Article 57 of the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Constitution excludes citizens that are under the age of 18, and for determining who the community consists of this should reflect all Métis citizens.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED Article 57 be amended to read:

“57. All new Communities entering into a Community Governance Charter shall be made up of at least fifty (50) Members who are Métis Citizens that reside in the respective Community.”

CARRIED (AGM08-09)

It was MOVED (Donna Wright) and SECONDED (Noel Mineault)

WHEREAS Article 57 of the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Constitution excludes citizens that are under the age of 18, and for determining who the community consists of this should reflect all Métis citizens.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED Article 57 be amended to read:

“57. All new Communities entering into a Community Governance Charter shall be made up of at least fifty (50) Members who are Métis Citizens that reside in the respective Community.”

WITHDRAWN

Dean Trumbley, Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Strategic Development Coordinator and Métis Nation British Columbia Annual General Meeting (AGM) Clerk acknowledged the motion would be either amended, struck or presented again at the next MNGA meeting.

12.7 Proposed Resolution #7 – MNBC Constitution and all Governing Act

A delegate spoke in opposition of the motion, offering that the terms “encouraged” and “require” had two different meanings and the word “require” as statement did not encourage dialogue between the two parties.

Dean Trumbley, Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Strategic Development Coordinator and Métis Nation British Columbia Annual General Meeting (AGM) Clerk clarified community governance charters encompassed everyone under the MNBC Constitution and Legislation and the intent of the motion was to ensure legislative adherence.

A delegate noted that for the North Fraser Métis Association a charter agreement (not an affiliation agreement) had been signed. Respect should be mutual and using the term “are required” could be considered negative to new communities interested in joining. It was suggested the wording be changed to encourage communities to join.

It was MOVED (Tresley Tourond-Bouvier) and SECONDED (Tom Spence)

WHEREAS Article 58 All Communities shall be encouraged to enter into Community Governance Charters that define an affiliated relationship with the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) that set out requirements for financial and political accountability, mutual recognition and dispute resolution; and

WHEREAS through the Métis Nation governance and legislative processes to be recognized as a governing Community within MNBC governance and legislation a governance Charter is required to be entered into for this relationship;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 58 be amended to read:

“58. Métis Communities recognized by the MNBC Constitution and Legislation are required to enter into Community Governance Charters that define an affiliated relationship for financial and political accountability, mutual

recognition and dispute resolution. Hereinafter known as “Community Governance Charter”.

CARRIED (AGM08-10)

(6 delegates voting in the negative.)

12.8 Proposed Resolution #8 – MNGA Act

Proposed Resolution #8 was introduced.

In general discussion delegates expressed support for the proposed motion, offering that it would create a less cumbersome process.

It was MOVED (Ken Fisher) and SECONDED (Lisa Sheppard)

WHEREAS Article 4.0 to 4.2.2 speaks to the voting process of the Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA) for Constitutional amendments and Legislation the intent is not to utilize this process when housekeeping items are introduced to the assembly;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a new Article 4.2.3 is added to read:

“4.2.3 All resolutions submitted as housekeeping as determined by the MNGA shall not require the roll call voting process as described in article 4.2.1 and 4.2.2 and shall be determined by a simple majority of the Roll Call at a General Assembly.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-11)

12.9 Proposed Resolution #9 – MNGA Act

Co-Chair Stevenson introduced proposed Resolution #9.

It was MOVED (Bill Delorme) and SECONDED (Michael du Frane)

WHEREAS Article 4.5 of the Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA) Act reads: The MNGA shall prepare written guidelines for the preparation and presentation for first reading, of Legislation and amendments to Constitution for distribution to the MNGA and shall provide a copy of those guidelines to the MNBC within four (4) months of the date of the first General Assembly; and

WHEREAS Article 4.5 of the MNGA Act has been determined to be no longer applicable;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED Article 4.5 of the Métis Nation Governing Assembly Act be removed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-12)

12.10 Proposed Resolution #10 – MNBC Métis Nation Governing Assembly Act

Proposed Resolution #10 was introduced.

It was MOVED (Bruce Dumont) and SECONDED (Annette Maurice)

WHEREAS Article 11.1 of the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA) Act speaks to the presentation of constitutional amendments to the Annual General Meeting or Special Assembly, requiring five signatures of the members of the MNGA or the resolution must be signed by the Speaker and attached to the constitutional amendment, and

WHEREAS the MNBC currently presents the constitutional and legislative amendments ratified by the members of the MNGA in their original submitted format to the members of an Annual General Meeting or Special Assembly;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 11.1 of the Métis Nation Governing Assembly Act is removed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-13)

12.11 Proposed Resolution #11 – MNBC Citizenship Act

Proposed Resolution #11 was introduced.

In response to a request for clarification, Dean Trumbley, Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Strategic Development Coordinator and MNBC Annual General Meeting Clerk, advised the INAC form was required under an agreement between INAC and MNBC to ensure a person applying for citizenship had not applied for status, and was “unique” from First Nations and Inuit.

Delegates spoke in opposition of the resolution noting that some Métis people who had status under Bill C-31 were trying to get off that list in order to apply for Métis citizenship. Additionally, a person did not stop “being Métis” if they were classified as holding status under Bill C-31 or had applied for status under Bill C-31. Concern was expressed the INAC form was confusing and it was suggested that it should be rewritten for clarity.

AGM Clerk Trumbley clarified that the MNBC registry would not advise communities when people had been turned down because of their status and suggested further discussion on this issue may be required at the Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA) level.

MNBC President Dumont spoke against the motion to table it to committee, noting that the INAC form was meant to protect integrity of MNBC legislation and the Citizenship Act.

Main Motion

It was MOVED (Tom Spence) and SECONDED (Michael du Frane)

WHEREAS according to Article 6.1 the following information about a Métis Citizen will be maintained in the Central Registry:

“and further lists subsections a) to k) that describe information that will be maintained and that further information is now required such as the INAC form”;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 6.1 L) is added as a new subsection to read:

“ L) Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) form.”

Motion to Table to Committee

It was MOVED (Bill Delorme) and SECONDED (Gary Biggar)

That the following proposed resolution adding subsection 6.1(L) to the MNBC Citizenship Act be referred for further discussion to an MNBC committee to be created:

WHEREAS according to Article 6.1 the following information about a Métis Citizen will be maintained in the Central Registry:

“and further lists subsections a) to k) that describe information that will be maintained and that further information is now required such as the INAC form”;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 6.1 L) is added as a new subsection to read:

“ L) Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) form.”

DEFEATED

Question was then called on the main Motion as presented and it was

CARRIED (AGM08-14)

Health Break

The meeting recessed at 10:39 a.m. and resumed at 11:05 a.m. Prior to the conduct of business, quorum was confirmed.

It was MOVED (Rene Therrien) and SECONDED (Ken Fisher)

That the Agenda for the Métis Nation British Columbia 2008 Annual General Meeting be varied to consider item 16, Adoption Committee Interim Report after item 13, MNBC General Election Report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-15)

12. Resolutions (cont'd)

12.12 Proposed Resolution #12 – MNBC Citizenship Act

Co-Chair Stevenson introduced proposed Resolution #12.

It was MOVED (Lisa Sheppard) and SECONDED (Tom Spence)

WHEREAS Article 8.12 of the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Citizenship Act speaks to the Registrar maintaining a seal of office for the purposes of replacing the Registrar's signature on a citizenship card; and

WHEREAS the MNBC Registrar does not maintain a seal of office for the purposes of replacing a signature on an MNBC Provincial citizenship card;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 8.12 is removed from the MNBC Citizenship Act.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-16)

12.13 Proposed Resolution #13 – MNBC Citizenship Act

Proposed Resolution #13 was introduced.

It was MOVED (Lee Fraser) and SECONDED (Tom Spence)

WHEREAS Article 8.13 of the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Citizenship Act speaks to the Central Registry delivering an annual report within sixty (60) days of the end of the calendar year; and

WHEREAS the MNBC Central Registry is included in the Annual Report for the Métis Nation British Columbia that is delivered at the Annual General Meeting of the MNBC;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Article 8.13 is removed from the MNBC Citizenship Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Article 69 of the MNBC Constitution is amended to include as follows:

“69.4, Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia Secretariat Annual Report”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-17)

12.14 Proposed Resolution #14 – MNBC Senate Act

Proposed Resolution #14 was introduced.

General discussion ensued during which concern was raised that Article 4 identified senators as being non-partisan and non-political. A delegate also offered that good governance should be monitored and kept in check.

It was MOVED (Michael du Frane) and SECONDED (Tresley Tourond-Bouvier)

WHEREAS Article 4.4 states what qualifies a person to be a Senator therefore if selected the successful candidate would then have to resign from such organizations; and

WHEREAS Article 5.6 indicates that a successful candidate must resign all political involvements; and

WHEREAS Article 6.3 provides the Senate, itself, with a tool to monitor the activities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 4.4 is struck.

DEFEATED

12.15 Proposed Resolution #15 – MNBC Senate Act

Co-Chair Stevenson introduced proposed Resolution #15.

It was MOVED (Bruce Dumont) and SECONDED (Michael du Frane)

WHEREAS Article 6.1 reads; the term of office for a Senator shall be determined by the Senate but shall not be less than two (2) years; and

WHEREAS the Senate has determined in Senate policy and procedures the term shall be four (4) years;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 6.1 be amended to read:

“6.1 The term of office for a Senator shall be four (4) years.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-18)

12.16 Proposed Resolution #16 – MNBC Senate Act

Proposed Resolution #16 was introduced.

A delegate raised concern that the wording of the proposed resolution was confusing.

Main Motion

It was MOVED (Stephanie Albiston) and SECONDED (Tresley Tourond-Bouvier)

WHEREAS the existing wording does not supply a terminated Senator with an Appeal mechanism;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 6.6 is rewritten to read:

“A Senator may appeal his/her suspension and/or termination to the MNGA Clerk by written notice and the MNGA will determine at the next sitting of the MNGA.”

Amendment to the Main Motion

It was MOVED (Tresley Tourond-Bouvier) and SECONDED (Alex Norquay)

That the proposed wording of Article 6.6 referenced in the Main Motion be amended by inserting “his/her” prior to the word “termination”.

RESOLUTION NOT VOTED ON

Amendment to the Main Motion

It was MOVED (Tresley Tourond-Bouvier) and SECONDED (Alex Norquay)

That the proposed wording in Article 6.6 referenced in the Main Motion be further amended by replacing the word “sitting” with “meeting” and by adding a timeline for the written notice.

RESOLUTION NOT VOTED ON

Table the Main Motion

The mover and seconder of the Main Motion agreed this item be tabled for further clarification and consideration after Agenda Item 12.28.

12.17 Resolution #17 – MNBC Senate Act

Proposed Resolution #17 was introduced, with friendly correction of a typographical error changing the “with” to “within”.

It was MOVED (Michael du Frane) and SECONDED (Stephanie Albiston)

WHEREAS the Senate has produced a policy and procedure within four (4) of the final ratification of this Act; and

WHEREAS the Senate is responsible for its own conduct and producing its own policies and procedures; and

WHEREAS the previous titles are components of a policy and procedure;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 7.0 be and is titled and rewritten to read;

“ARTICLE SEVEN – SENATE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

7.0 The MNBC Senate is responsible to produce and maintain written guidelines setting out the protocols, code of ethics, standard of conduct pursuant to which the Senate shall carry out and administer its duties and responsibilities within the provisions of this Act.”

DEFEATED

12.18 Resolution #18 – MNBC Senate Act

It was MOVED (Bruce Dumont) and SECONDED (Michael du Frane)

WHEREAS Article 8.0 a) Mediation and Arbitration. Arbitration specifically does not apply with respect to jurisdiction or authority of the MNBC Senate, whose purpose was not intended to arbitrarily make decisions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 8.0 a) be amended to read:

“8.0 a) Mediation.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-19)

12.19 Resolution #19 – MNBC Senate Act**It was MOVED (David Carlton) and SECONDED (Tom Spence)**

WHEREAS Article 8.0 b) Citizenship, to be known as the Citizenship Appeal Committee; and

WHEREAS they are specifically known as citizenship and central registry appeals in the context of present legislation, as well as citizenship challenges;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 8.0 b) be amended to read:

“8.0 b) Citizenship and Central Registry Appeals”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-20)

12.20 Resolution #20 – MNBC Senate Act

Proposed Resolution #20 was introduced.

It was MOVED (Tom Spence) and SECONDED (Barbara Parker)

WHEREAS Article 8.0 h) describes a function that traditionally has been performed by the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) President, Board members and elders, and this section was not intended to be misinterpreted as an exclusive function of that of the MNBC Senate;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED Article 8.0 h) is amended to read:

“8.0 h) Presenting Awards and Gifts of Recognition were applicable.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-21)

12.21 Resolution #21 – MNBC Senate Act

Proposed Resolution #21 was moved and seconded.

It was MOVED (Rose Bortolon) and SECONDED (Michael du Frane)

WHEREAS natural resource offences would be the decision of the British Columbia Métis Assembly of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Senate would be the judiciary body to hear appeals on the British Columbia Métis Assembly of Natural Resources;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 8.0 j) is rewritten to say:

“j) Natural Resource Appeals.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-22)

12.22 Resolution #22 – MNBC Senate Act

Proposed Resolution #22 was introduced.

In response to clarification, Dean Trumbley, Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Strategic Development Coordinator and MNBC Annual General Meeting Clerk advised potential applicants could use the appeal mechanism to obtain a second opinion and ensure policy and procedure was followed. The “citizenship challenges” process enabled anyone to challenge the validity of a person’s citizenship card.

It was MOVED (Donna Wright) and SECONDED (Lisa Sheppard)

WHEREAS Article 8.0 there is no subsection that allows the Senate to deal with citizenship challenges only Appeals;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED Article 8.0 k) is included as a subsection to article 8.0 to read:

“8.0 k) Citizenship Challenges.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-23)

12.23 Resolution #23 – MNBC Senate Act

It was MOVED (Michael du Frane) and SECONDED (Barbara Parker)

WHEREAS strike the reference to the “Superior Court of Records in the Province of British Columbia” as the Senate cannot assume full powers and rights to this judicial level; and

WHEREAS the Senate has defined its powers, rights and privileges within their policies and procedures;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 9.0 b) is rewritten to read;

“Have such powers, rights and privilege as may be necessary in regards to attendance, swearing in and examination of witnesses, the production and inspection of documents, the enforcement of its orders and other matters necessary or proper for the due exercise of its jurisdiction.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-24)

12.24 Resolution #24 – MNBC Senate Act

Proposed Resolution #24 was introduced. In response to a request for clarification, Lorne LaFleur, Cowichan Valley Métis Association, noted that item 9c had been removed, and the existing subsections were renumbered.

Dean Trumbley, Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Strategic Development Coordinator and MNBC Annual General Meeting Clerk clarified that all details were provided in paper format to applicants and respondents.

It was MOVED (Michael du Frane) and SECONDED (Barbara Parker)

WHEREAS the Senate policies and procedures are publicly available on the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) website; and

WHEREAS the Interim Senate Clerk provides all details to the applicants and respondents;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 9.0 c) is struck and the following lettering is adjusted accordingly.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-25)

12.25 Resolution #25 – MNBC Senate Act

Proposed Resolution #25 was introduced.

It was MOVED (Tresley Tourond-Bouvier) and SECONDED (Michael Dufrane)

WHEREAS the existing wording only highlights the ability to develop tribunals and committees for two jurisdictions under Article 8.0 of the Senate Act; and

WHEREAS the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Senate has developed tribunals and committees for all jurisdictions under Article 8.0 of this Act in the Senate policies and procedures;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 9.0 d) is rewritten to read;

“The Senate shall determine the tribunal or committees required for the jurisdictions supplied under Article 8.0 of this Act.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-26)

12.26 Resolution #26 – MNBC Senate Act

It was MOVED (Tom Spence) and SECONDED (Michael du Frane)

WHEREAS the existing wording restricts decisions to only two jurisdictions of the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Senate; and

WHEREAS fourteen (14) days is too quick of a turn-around from time of the decision, to written decision, then approval of written decision by the Senate and then to public release of decision; and

WHEREAS the Senate will seal decisions on behalf of the entire Senate versus a member of the Senate;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 9.2 is rewritten to read;

“All decisions of the Senate must be in writing and sealed, then forwarded to the affected parties within thirty (30) days of its decision.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-27)

12.27 Resolution #27 – MNBC Senate Act

Proposed Resolution #27 was introduced.

In response to a request for clarification, Dean Trumbley, Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Strategic Development Coordinator and MNBC Annual General Meeting Clerk advised a person would be required to send their citizenship card back to MNBC if the Senate ruled against the citizenship application.

A member spoke in opposition of the motion suggesting that the wording was not clear and did not provide the specifics of the decisions (e.g., decisions, citizenship appeals, etc.).

A delegate clarified that a Senate was final but if there were subsequent policies and procedures in contravention to the decision, they would be reviewed by the MNBC Board of Directors and aligned if necessary. AGM Clerk Trumbley advised appeals were considered on a case by case basis.

It was MOVED (Tresley Tourond-Bouvier) and SECONDED (Michael du Frane)

WHEREAS the existing wording only includes the Registrars adherence to Senate decisions; and

WHEREAS the Senate decisions may affect multiple areas of policy, procedure, guidelines, etc...which provides precedence and requires adherence to their decisions; and

WHEREAS the decision is the Senate not the committee;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 9.3 is rewritten to read;

“The MNBC, upon receiving the written decisions of the Senate, shall take whatever steps are necessary to implement the decision”.

DEFEATED

12.28 Resolution #28 – MNBC Senate Act

Proposed Resolution #28 was introduced.

General discussion ensued during which a delegate spoke in opposition, noting that appeals were final and that there could be special situations in which decisions should not be publicized.

Clarification was offered that within current existing language, matter or material deemed confidential would not be presented in a public forum.

Dean Trumbley, Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Strategic Development Coordinator and MNBC Annual General Meeting Clerk clarified testimony would not be made public and that there were policies and procedures in place to protect personal identities.

It was MOVED (Stephanie Albiston) and SECONDED (Michael du Frane)

WHEREAS the Senate’s decision are domain of the Métis citizens in British Columbia; and

WHEREAS decisions rendered by other provincial and federal judicial bodies are always in the public domain; and

WHEREAS Article 12.2 specifies that all decisions of the Senate are to be reported at the Annual General Meeting and Métis Nation Governing Assembly, which creates a conflict;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 9.4 is struck.

CARRIED (AGM08-28)

Health Break

The meeting recessed at 12:02 p.m. and resumed at 1:19 p.m. Prior to the conduct of business, quorum was confirmed.

12. Resolutions (cont’d)

12.16 Proposed Resolution #16 – MNBC Senate Act (cont’d)

Co-Chair Stevenson introduced proposed Resolution #16.

It was MOVED (Tresley Tourond-Bouvier) and SECONDED (Stephanie Albiston)

That the main motion and amendments under Item 12.6 be referred back to the Governance Committee for research and discussion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-29)

12.29 Resolution #29 – MNBC Senate Act

Proposed Resolution #29 was introduced.

It was MOVED (Michael du Frane) and SECONDED (Tom Spence)

WHEREAS the existing wording does not specify quorum for Senate committees and tribunals;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 10.1 is rewritten to read;

“A simple majority of the Senators will constitute a quorum for a full Senate sitting and/or a simple majority of the composition of a Senate committee and/or tribunal.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-30)

12.30 Resolution #30 – MNBC Senate Act

Proposed Resolution #30 was introduced.

A delegate spoke in opposition of the motion, expressing concern that it would tie a political party to the Senate through mutual consultation.

MNBC President Dumont clarified that the Senate resources flow through Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia (MPCBC) secretariat, the administrative component of MNBC.

It was MOVED (Ken Fisher) and SECONDED (Eldon Clairmont)

WHEREAS Appeals applied for by applicants and Métis citizens are legislated; and

WHEREAS specific timelines and deadlines are required by both legislation and policy/procedure; and

WHEREAS the Senate is one of the main arms of governance in a self-governing nation; and

WHEREAS the Senate is legislated to be available for the Métis Nation Governing Assembly, Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Annual General Meeting and all elections;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that an Article 11.6 is added to read;

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

CARRIED (AGM08-31)

12.31 Resolution #31 – MNBC Senate Act

Proposed Resolution #31 was introduced.

It was MOVED (Tom Spence) and SECONDED (Michael du Frane)

WHEREAS Article 12.2 describes the reporting process of the Senate that states;

“All decisions of the Senate shall be recorded and a report provided to the Citizens at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting of the MNBC and the General Assembly of the MNGA”; and

WHEREAS the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Senate as a judiciary should not be required to deliver such reports to specific meetings or assembly’s but rather have the decisions of the Senate available to all citizens;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 12.2 is amended to read:

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-32)

12.32 Resolution #32 – MNBC Senate Act

Proposed Resolution #32 was introduced.

It was MOVED (Tom Spence) and SECONDED (Michael du Frane)

WHEREAS Article 13 describes the enactment of the Senate Act; and

WHEREAS the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) citizens have ratified the Senate Act and there is a fully established Senate.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED Article 13 be removed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-33)

12.33 Resolution #33 – MNBC Constitution and all Legislative Acts

Proposed Resolution #33 was introduced.

It was MOVED (Susie Hooper) and SECONDED (Annette Maurice)

WHEREAS the Métis Women’s Secretariat-British Columbia seeks to change their name; and

WHEREAS the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) citizens have ratified the Constitution in 2003 and subsequent legislative Acts that have continued to utilize the original name;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Métis Women’s Secretariat-British Columbia name be changed to the Métis Women of British Columbia (MWBC).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-34)

12.34 Resolution #34 – MNBC Natural Resource Act

Proposed Resolution #34 was introduced.

It was MOVED (Marilyn Taylor) and SECONDED (Donna Wright)

WHEREAS Métis people have historically managed Natural Resource activities through traditional processes such as the Buffalo Assemblies of the 1700s and 1800s; and

WHEREAS Métis people protected Métis interests in Natural Resources and was historically managed by Métis persons through the “*Law of the Prairies*” and laws incorporated by the Council of St. Laurent (as early as 1873); and

WHEREAS Métis laws have historically enforced a code of conduct that includes addressing offenders; and

WHEREAS Métis citizens and Chartered Métis Communities of the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) believe that the Métis must determine all aspects of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS Métis citizens and Chartered Métis Communities of the MNBC believe that Métis Natural Resources issues are protected by Section 35 of the Canadian Constitution Act 1982; and

WHEREAS the MNBC believes all aspects of Natural Resources must address consultation, conservation, environmental policy, public safety and public health are insured;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Draft Natural Resource Act as presented be enacted for the Métis Nation British Columbia.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-35)

Dean Trumbley, Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) Strategic Development Coordinator and MNBC Annual General Meeting Clerk acknowledged the efforts of the Captains in developing the MNBC Natural Resources Act.

CHAIR RELINQUISHED

Chair Don Caverley relinquished the Chair to Co-Chair Mark Stevenson until further notice.

13. MNBC General Election Interim Report

Dr. Natasha Caverley, Turtle Island Consulting (TIC), provided an overhead presentation titled “2008 Métis National BC General Election Interim Report update for the Chief Electoral Office”, offering information on the guiding principles used by the Chief Electoral office, electoral process used and next steps.

Dr. Caverley advised that guiding principles developed for the election included: independence, neutrality and services to voters and candidates, professionalism, transparency and accountability. Roles and responsibilities of the Chief Electoral Office during the election process included: using electronic notifications; working with the Central Registry to ensure accurate electoral lists distributed; appointing the electoral officers and reconciling all ballots. The 2008 Electoral process was based on the MNBC Electoral Act, included Métis women and youth.

The official election announcement occurred July 25, 2008, nominations closed on August 14, 2008, at which time 11 of the 25 elected offices were acclaimed with four vacant. During campaign process, Métis citizens could engage candidates and learn more about their policy platforms through all candidates meetings held throughout province and in a special edition of the Whispering Winds Magazine. Advance mail-in ballot and polling station voting was used. At the close of polls, electoral officers phoned and faxed in their unofficial tally of results which were then posted. Once all post election documents were received by the Chief Electoral Office, a due diligence process was completed to ensure the accuracy of all results. Dr. Caverley advised the official election results were posted on the MNBC website.

In an overview of next steps, Dr. Caverley reported Turtle Island Consulting would prepare a summary report for MNBC which would include breakdown/analysis of the 2008 election results and recommendations for enhancing the process. Delegates were advised that under Article 10 of the Election Act, MNBC was required to call a by-election for the current vacant positions of Youth representative for Region 6 and Women’s Representatives for Regions 1, 4 and 7. Dr. Caverley confirmed all ballots would be destroyed in accordance with the MNBC Election Act.

Dr. Caverley encouraged regions to submit suggestions for improvements on the election process to turteisland@mail.com for inclusion in the summary report which would be submitted to MNBC on October 31, 2008. Dr. Caverley clarified that strategic voting was the choice of the voter and under the current MNBC Electoral Act a citizenship card was required for proof of identity and for participating in Board of Director elections. In response to a concern raised that the ballot boxes were not secure, Dr. Caverley confirmed this issue had been addressed and in testing the boxes, they found it was impossible for a person to put their hand down into the ballot box. The current process was that returning officers and polling clerks initialed ballots to ensure ballots were not tampered with, that each of the 38 polling stations and returning officers phoned

or faxed in a tally sheet, and then submitted all post election documents (including ballots and statement of votes) to the electoral office so that a second review of votes could be completed.

Delegates offered that the summary report should include recommendations: for two people in attendance (the returning officer and polling clerk) and enhancing the orientation supply kits. It was suggested that additional advertising in local papers would improve voter turnout and that local monthly newsletters could also be used.

Dr. Caverley acknowledged the efforts of all MNBC staff and partners involved in the 2008 MNBC General Election.

CHAIR RESUMED

Don Caverley resumed the Chair.

16. Métis Nation British Columbia Adhoc Adoptions Committee Update

Sid Peltier, Chair, Métis Nation British Columbia Adhoc Adoptions Committee, provided an overview of the Adhoc Adoptions Committee, noting that two resolutions were put forward at the December, 2007 Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA) requesting additional research be completed and that the Adhoc Adoptions Committee be created. The Committee consisted of one member from each governing region as well as members from the MNBC Board of Directors. Adhoc Adoptions Committee Chair Peltier then introduced members of the Committee present to the assembly.

Adhoc Adoptions Committee Chair Peltier advised that terms of reference were established, two meetings were held and the Committee decided that it would be imperative to study the historical culture related to adoptions in the past. The Committee would consult Joe Gereluk, MNBC Legal Counsel to ensure no legal challenges would result from recommendations developed. Recommendations would be based on history, current law; and consider how an adoptee could access their genealogical background. The Committee would be seeking assistance from the MNBC Registry and consider any impacts on Citizenship Act and MNBC Constitution related to recommendations developed. Additionally, recommendations would be consensus-based and used input received from MNBC citizens

15. MNBC Annual 2006-2007 Program Reports

Related materials distributed in the Métis Nation British Columbia 2008 Annual General Meeting Agenda package:

- 2007-2008 Annual Report; and
- 2007-2012 MNBC Five Year Implementation Plan.

Ministers and/or staff responsible read portfolio reports (available on the Métis Nation British Columbia website) in the areas of: Education and Provincial Research.

During program update reports, presentations by Education Director Colleen Hodgson titled, "Métis Nation BC Ministry of Education Going Forward 2008-2009" and Dr. Mike Evans, University of British Columbia, titled, "BC Métis Research Agenda: History and Culture in Contemporary Context" were provided. Dr. Evans also presented a DVD showcasing Métis narratives on harvesting.

MNBC President Bruce Dumont thanked Education Director Hogdson and Dr. Mike Evans for their presentations.

Health Break

The meeting recessed at 3:05 p.m. and resumed at 3:30 p.m.

15. MNBC Annual 2006-2007 Program Reports (cont'd)

Ministers and/or staff responsible read portfolio reports (available on the Métis Nation British Columbia website) in the area of Sports and Culture, Heritage & Language.

During the program update report in the area of sports, a presentation by Alex Nelson, President, Aboriginal Sports and Recreation Association (ASRA) titled, "Cowichan 2008 Leaders Gathering, August 2, 2008" was provided which introduced the five pillars document developed by the Working Group in response to the BC Aboriginal Youth Declaration. The pillars included: active communities, leaders and capacity, excellence, system development, and sustainability. Next steps would include building on the momentum, contributing to the legacy of the Cowichan Games, increasing physical activity and improving health outcomes.

It was MOVED (Stephanie Albiston) and SECONDED (Donna Wright)

That the Métis Nation British Columbia 2008 Annual General Meeting supports the Five Pillars Document and BC Aboriginal Youth Declaration.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-36)

Colleen Hodgson, MNBC Director of Education, introduced the BC 150 Funding project, noting the support of George and Terry Goulet from their book titled, "History of Métis in British Columbia".

George and Terry Goulet welcomed the opportunity to introduce their book written titled, "The Métis in British Columbia, From Fur Trade Outposts to Colony". Ms. Goulet acknowledged the efforts of MNBC Director of Education Colleen Hodgson. She advised the book detailed the history of Métis in British Columbia over the past 200 years and showcased the important role Métis people played in British Columbia.

Mr. Goulet acknowledged the contributions, assistance and support of Hans von Donhoff, Office of the Federal Interlocutor for assistance in producing the book.

Mr. Goulet then provided highlights of the book, noting that Métis came to British Columbia with explorer Alexander Mackenzie and Simon Fraser. Métis forts and outputs were built throughout British Columbia and included Fort Langley, Fort George and Fort Victoria. In addition to their participation in the fur trade, Métis participated in other founding industries of BC including fishing, forestry, mining and exporting (salmon). Mr. Goulet noted the book devoted a chapter to Métis country wives and showcased their profound impact on the history of BC. The first militia police force in BC known as the Victoria Voligeurs were previous Hudson Bay employees employed as voyageurs. He concluded by quoting the May 26, 1993 Proclamation of the British Columbia Government relating to the Métis which stated: "*The Métis culture, rich in spiritual and colourful traditions is an integral part of BC's multicultural character and throughout history Métis citizens have made significant contributions to the development and success of our province*".

Consideration of this item resumed later in the meeting.

14. MNBC 2007-2008 Financial Audited Statements

Related materials distributed in the Métis Nation British Columbia 2008 Annual General Meeting Agenda package: MNBC 2007-2008 Annual Report.

Mike Corney, Manning Elliott Chartered Accountants, presented the audited Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia Statements of Financial Position for the year ended March 31, 2008, as provided in the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) 2007-2008 Annual Report.

Mr. Corney provided details relative to the MNBC Financial Statements, noting there was a surplus of \$8,639; revenue has grown, with over 53% of the budget under the Aboriginal Human Resource Development Agreement (AHRDA). The associated revenues and expenses were outlined in Schedule 2 of the detailed financial statements. Mr. Corney provided an overview of revenue broken down by AHRDA as compared to other programs, noting that approximately 47% of revenue in the past year was from other programs. Delegates were directed to pages six through eight of the detailed financial statements for more information.

Mr. Corney provided an overview of the statement of financial position, noting an accumulated deficit of approximately \$228,000. The net bank debt had climbed which was the result of cash flow owed by government agencies. The ongoing challenge of developing non-government programs to generate funding and address the deficit was noted. In an overview of revenue and administrative expenses Mr. Corney offered that MNBC operations were quite fixed, with administrative expenses being approximately 14% of the overall expenses.

In response to a query raised, Corazon David, Métis Nation British Columbia Chief Financial Officer, advised that the MNBC was in the process of developing economic initiatives and submitting proposals to the government to address the deficit.

It was MOVED (Rose Bortolon) and SECONDED (Leonard Laboucan)

That the Métis Provincial Council of British Columbia 2008 Annual General Meeting accept as presented the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2008.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-37)

MEETING ADJOURNED

The Métis Nation British Columbia 2008 Annual General Meeting held September 26-28, 2008, adjourned on Day 2 – September 27, 2008 at 4:40 p.m.

DAY 3 – SEPTEMBER 28, 2008

MEETING RECONVENED

The Métis Nation British Columbia 2008 Annual General Meeting held September 26-28, 2008, reconvened on Day 3 – September 28, 2007 at 8:48 a.m. Prior to the conduct of business, quorum was confirmed.

President Dumont welcomed and presented a gift of appreciation to Noel Mineault and Diane Ellis of Kiwetin Magazine (Whispering Winds Magazine). He acknowledged their support and effort to issue special editions of the Whispering Winds Magazine in advance of the 2008 MNBC Election. President Dumont thanked MNBC Executive Assistant Katernick and MNBC staff for their assistance with the 2008 Annual General Meeting.

Noting the importance of family, Senate Chair Al Edkins led delegates in a moment of silence for those Métis citizens who had passed on.

14. MNBC 2007-2008 Financial Audited Statements (cont'd)**It was MOVED (Dave Hodgson) and SECONDED (Leo Brazeau)**

That the Métis Nation British Columbia 2008 Annual General Meeting appoint the accounting firm of Manning Elliott as the MNBC Auditors for the fiscal year 2008-2009.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-38)

15. MNBC Annual 2007-2008 Report and Updates for Each MNBC Ministry (cont'd)

Ministers and/or staff responsible read portfolio reports (available on the Métis Nation British Columbia website) in the areas of: Métis Human Resources Development Agreement (MHRDA); Métis Child & Family Services; Natural Resources (Multilateral); and Registry. The portfolio reports for the areas of Housing and 2010 Olympic/Paralympic Games were deferred.

During the program update report in the area of Métis Human Resources Development Agreement (MHRDA), video presentations titled, “The MHRDA Bunch” and “MNBC Employment & Training” were provided showcasing MNBC employment and training programs.

During the program update report in the area of Natural Resources, a presentation by Director of Natural Resources Gary Ducommun titled, “Métis Nation BC Ministry of Natural Resources 2008 Annual General Meeting September 2008” was provided. The presentation provided an overview of the following 2007/08 achievements: the passing of the MNBC Natural Resources Act, DFO enforcement protocol, traditional land use database and mapping; research; projects with Canadian Wildlife Services and Environment Canada; as well as harvest and resource management databases. Delegates were advised BCMANR policies and procedures would be re-drafted for presentation to the MNBC Board of Directors in October, 2008. Mr. Ducommun offered that while the DFO enforcement protocol did not recognize Métis rights, it did recognize MNBC as the organization representing Métis in BC and MNBC citizenship. The traditional land use database and mapping research, a joint project with University of BC Okanagan, was valuable in supporting MNBC negotiations, consultations and potential legal challenges.

It was MOVED (Marlene Beattie) and SECONDED (Mark Carlson)

WHEREAS the MNBC *Natural Resource Act* in Section 9.0 states: BCMANR will make regulations that are consistent with *Article 3.0* and develop regulations based on the principles of existing case law; and

WHEREAS Section 9.0 b. states: harvesting regulation may be authorized where “Legislative or political direction has been provided by the Métis Nation Governing Assembly, MNBC Annual General Meeting or a ratified motion of the MNBC Board of Directors”; and

WHEREAS the *Migratory Bird Convention Act* recognizes First Nation, Inuit and Métis peoples as having constitutionally protected Aboriginal Rights; and

WHEREAS the policy of the Canadian Wildlife Service is to not charge Métis with harvesting without a licence where conservation, public safety and public health are not at risk; and

WHEREAS no Métis has been charged with a licencing offence under the *Migratory Bird Convention Act* since this policy has been adopted,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Métis Nation British Columbia will issue MNBC Harvesting Cards as authorized by Article Eight of the MNBC *Natural Resource Act* with the

expressed purpose of replacing the Government of Canada Migratory Bird Stamp (licence) and adopt the existing 2008/09 migratory bird regulations for British Columbia.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-39)

In response to requests for clarification, Natural Resources Director Ducommun advised that the BC MNR Card and Harvester Card were the same; were issued once an applicant met the requirements of a harvester under MNBC legislation and agreed to conditions of the card. For 2008, the Harvester Card only applied to migratory birds. MNBC was required to ensure harvesters had safety training and the Registry was working on a process (particularly for elders) in which a declaration could be used for this purpose. He offered that it would be beneficial to establish a process for consultations with communities and while the Natural Resources directorate planned for all Captains to be trained as trainers in core gun training, there were currently no resources available for this initiative.

A delegate noted that the Canadian Firearms Safety Course and acquisition license was required and suggested that in order to address literacy issues an applicant could contact their local police agency and request a verbal test.

During the Registry program update report, a presentation by Director of Registry Laurel Katernick titled, "MNBC Central Registry Going Forward" was provided which discussed the objectively verifiable process; citizenship application support; BC Métis mapping research project; registry growth and regional breakdowns of approved citizenship cards; and application processing time.

At the conclusion of the Ministry Reports, a delegate called attention to the issue related to children in care, the majority of whom were Aboriginal. Concern was expressed that upon adoption, Métis children's birth certificates were changed and the children were at risk of losing their citizenship, heritage and right to community and family.

MNBC President Bruce Dumont advised that on September 22, 2008, he met with the Honourable Tom Christensen, BC Minister of Children and Family Development regarding the need for legislative changes and recognition for the Métis Nation British Columbia. He confirmed that he would continue these discussions with the assistance of MNBC Minister Responsible for Métis Children and Family Services Gerry Legare. Additionally, President Dumont scheduled a meeting with British Columbia Premier Gordon Campbell in October, 2008 and would raise this issue as well.

A delegate discussed previous attempts to schedule a meeting with Minister Christensen to address issues for Métis children in care, which had not been successful. Support was expressed for pressuring governments to address the issue and the importance of educating family support workers related to Métis specific needs.

Health Break

The meeting recessed at 10:37 a.m. and resumed at 11:15 a.m. President Dumont presented AGM Chair Don Caverley and Co-Chair Mark Stevenson with gifts of appreciation. Prior to the conduct of business, quorum was confirmed.

15. MNBC Annual 2007-2008 Report and Updates for Each MNBC Ministry (cont'd)

Ministers and/or staff responsible read portfolio reports (available on the Métis Nation British Columbia website) in the areas of: Health; and Métis Women's Secretariat – BC and Elders.

During the Health program update report, Health Director Tanya Davoren displayed a DVD presentation titled, “ActNow”, and indicated each community President would receive a copy.

The Métis Women’s Secretariat – BC and Elders program update included a presentation by Victoria Pruden, MNBC Director of Women, titled, “Métis Nation British Columbia Women’s Secretariat and BC and Elders”. Delegates were thanked for passing the motion accepting the new name of the directorate, “Métis Women of BC”. An overview of the women’s programs included: the secretariat governance structure; Sihtoskatowin Symposium highlights and outcomes; Aboriginal women’s programs through Canadian Heritage; and the Elders Engagement project.

Consideration of this item resumed later in the meeting.

18. 2009 Annual General Meeting

The Board of Directors recommendation to convene the 2009 Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Penticton was introduced. It was offered that Penticton was a central and cost effective location with the Convention Centre being an adequate venue. Alternate locations put forward in discussion included Prince George.

In response to a request for clarification, MNBC Executive Assistant Brittaney Katernick advised that should it go to open tender any community could provide a proposal to host the 2009 Annual General Meeting.

It was MOVED (Daniel Pitman) and SECONDED (Trevor Murdock)

That the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) 2008 Annual General Meeting (AGM) accept the recommendation of the Board of Directors to hold the MNBC 2009 AGM in Penticton, BC.

WITHDRAWN

It was MOVED (Tom Spence) and SECONDED (Daniel Pitman)

That the Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) 2008 Annual General Meeting (AGM) direct that the location for the MNBC 2009 AGM be posted for tender.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-40)

15. MNBC Annual 2007-2008 Report and Updates for Each MNBC Ministry (cont’d)

Ministers and/or staff responsible read portfolio reports (available on the Métis Nation British Columbia website) in the areas of: Youth; Economic Development; Tripartite Self-Government Negotiations (TSN); and Justice; Métis Veteran’s Committee; and the Senate.

During the program update report in the area of Youth, a presentation by Director of Youth Megan Brown titled, “Métis Nation British Columbia, Ministry of Youth” was provided which discussed Ministry of Youth long term objectives and UMAC initiatives and projects. Delegates were advised that in 2010 UMAC would be eligible for multi-year funding and would be working closely with support of the Youth Minister to ensure continuation of the Urban Multipurpose Aboriginal Youth Centre Initiative. A grant of \$700 would be made available for communities to hold a youth specific event of their choice. Additional highlights included an overview of the learnmichif.com website; ActNow Youth project; and youth engagement.

The Economic Development program report included a presentation by Katrin Harry, Executive Director, Industry Council for Aboriginal Business titled, “Industry Council for Aboriginal Business (ICAB)” which discussed the vision and work of the Council; guiding principles; ICAB’s leadership, Board of Directors, advisors and membership; reasons First Nations and

Aboriginal organizations join ICAB; meeting and forum schedule; and programming under development.

On behalf of the MNBC Tripartite Self-Government Negotiations (TSN) Directorate, Dean Trumbley, Tripartite Coordinator, acknowledged the assistance of Milt Wright, Director, Negotiator of Corporate Mandates, Aboriginal Directorate, Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation and Hans von Donhoff, Office of the Federal Interlocutor.

In an update report of the Métis Veterans Committee, Chairperson Walter Koenders encouraged delegates to locate Métis veterans for Region seven to ensure full local representation.

The Senate program update report included a request by Senate Chair Al Edkins on behalf of the Senate to address delegates at the next Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA) meeting regarding election issues.

At the conclusion of the Ministry Reports, a delegate acknowledged community efforts to rebuild and suggested that there should not be any cutbacks for the Citizenship Registry. Concern was expressed that the provincial government had not yet responded to the recommendations by MNBC to the Commission for Children and Families. Suggestion was offered that the MNBC consider ways to engage the provincial government to address Métis children and family issues.

A delegate advised that at a recent Fraser Health Authority meeting celebrating the first year of the Aboriginal Health Plan, the need to work with and involve Métis communities was raised. It was suggested that it would be beneficial to advise the Aboriginal Health Plan (AHP) of the date of the next Métis Nation British Columbia Annual General Meeting to ensure that the AHP did not set a date for their meeting at the same time. Delegates were encouraged to work with the health authorities to improve services.

A delegate suggested that it would be important at future meetings to acknowledge all MNBC regional Presidents in attendance.

MNBC staff added that: the Citizenship Registry was funded through the Office of the Federal Interlocutor and in past years there were struggles related to accountability of funds equal to workload. MNBC made efforts to allocate funding according to this requirement and unfortunately the lower registry regions received less funding. Delegates were advised that input into improving productivity and making the registry better was needed in order to justify expenditures and need for full time registry clerks. Delegates were encouraged to raise their concerns related to housing, children and families and the Registry with the Regional Council.

2008 AGM Chair Caverley acknowledged the efforts of Brittaney Katernick, Tresley Tourond-Bouvier, Dean Trumbley, all MNBC staff and Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

Oath of Office

Senate Chair Al Edkins led MNBC Youth Representatives Bonnie Lepine, Vancouver Island Region and Laurie Brown, North Central Region in the Oath of Office.

17. Dissolve Resolutions Committee (if required)

This item was not considered at the meeting.

19. Other Business

No other business was considered.

20. Closing Remarks MNBC President Dumont

Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) President Dumont acknowledged the attendance of the Presidents of the Métis Nation of Alberta and the Métis National Council, and thanked them for their support. He acknowledged the professionalism of MNBC staff in presenting the Ministry reports which were well received.

The MNBC President also thanked MNBC citizens for their attendance, noting that he looked forward to seeing them again at the 2009 Annual General Meeting. He thanked the youth, Veterans, Senators, Local and Regional Presidents for their support and presence. The assistance of AGM Chair Don Caverley, Co-Chair Don Stevenson, the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation and Office of the Federal Interlocutor were acknowledged.

CONCLUSION AND CLOSING PRAYER

Senate Chair Al Edkins and Senator Philip Gladue then offered a Closing Prayer.

It was MOVED (Barb Hume) and SECONDED (Eldon Clairmont)

That the Métis Nation British Columbia 2008 Annual General Meeting held September 26-28, 2008 be now concluded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM08-41)

(Time: 1:38 p.m.)

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This is a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Métis Nation British Columbia 2008 Annual General Meeting held September 26-28, 2008 and incorporates any and all corrections made at the time of adoption.

Don Caverley, Meeting Chair

Mark Stevenson, Meeting Co-Chair