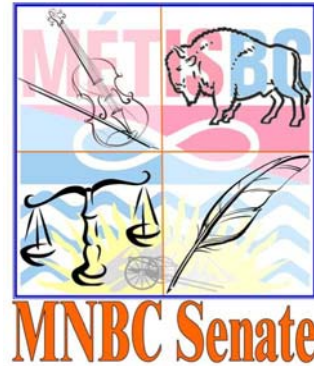


Senate Meeting Minutes

Richmond, B.C., March 04-08, 2008
Delta Vancouver Airport Hotel

Senators Present: Al Edkins, Ron Snider, Philip Gladue, Gerald Pope (March 06-08, 2008 only), Bob Adams, Bill Thibeault and Margaret Penner

Administrative Assistance: Dean Trumbley, Interim Senate Clerk



March 04, 2008

1. Call to order, March 04, at 17:40 hr
2. Opening prayer – Senator Snider
3. Review and Approval of Agenda

Amendments:

- Add
- 7) Discussion on the standardized logo
 - 9) Update on Dahl case
 - 10) Development of additional policy – Conflict of Interest, Meeting attendance

Motion: *That the agenda be approved as modified.*

Moved by: Senator Adams

Seconded by: Senator Penner

Carried

4. Minutes of December 14 – 16, 2007

Motion: *That the minutes of the December 14-16, 2007 meeting be approved as circulated.*

Moved by: Senator Snider

Seconded by: Senator Gladue

Carried

5. Budget

Same funding levels for 2008/09, the multilateral agreement (MLA) funding is secure for two more years. MNBC is looking for sources of additional funds for the Senate for citizenship appeal process. Senate business is increasing and MNBC is looking to OFI for possible funding for training for Senate.

Other items:

- Need a laptop, for Senator Gladue at least, preferably for each Senator, will put in an equipment budget for \$5,000.00. Laptops would be more environmentally friendly and ecologically sound for the Senate, and allow for faster and easier review of case files for the Senate.
- Need to increase legal counsel budget, double for next year to \$10,000

6. Community/Restorative Justice

Preference is for a multi-jurisdictional program, including areas such as Children and Families, along with natural resource issues. There is concern on the workload for the Senate if we move in that direction. Senate has to have a role, need to set up what our role is – i.e. is there a mediation aspect to the work we would take on. Senator Alternates – more discussion. Could the community justice be a training opportunity if we moved towards the presence of alternates? Alternates could be “Councilors”, not Senators. Senator Edkins to meet with Ministry of Environment and MNBC staff on March 12 to discuss the development of the restorative justice model.

ROD – 001 – *Rationale to be developed by Senator Edkins for the March 12 meeting, on the model for restorative justice implementation by the Senate.*

7. Standardized Logo

There is some confusion on the recent memo from MNBC office. Interim Senate Clerk discussed with CEO, the office is not pushing the logo on the Senate, understands the need to have some separation from MNBC political aspects.

ROD – 002 – *Will have fuller discussion on standardized logo at a future meeting.*

ROD – 003 – *Senator Edkins to continue investigation into development of a seal for the Senate.*

8. 2008/09 Spring Case Load

Two confirmed citizenship appeals for spring hearing. One potential case where forms were sent to the appellant, have not received completed forms yet. This case was to request to use their non-legal name on a citizenship card. The Senate is not aware of any legislative authority to address this request.

ROD – 004 – *Interim Senate Clerk to advise appellant that the Senate does not have any legislative authority on the issue of name on citizenship card. Appellant can use process of modification of legislation to pursue this aspect.*

9. Update on Regional Director/Board of Directors Case

Issue came up on introduction of new evidence. We cannot allow new evidence; have to look only at evidence that was available at the time of decision. Clerk removed items from case package before passing to Senate. On phone calls with case, need to ensure we do not have new evidence introduced, want clarification only of evidence that is in the submissions or case packages.

10. Policy Development

Concerns on roles at Regional Governance Council and Community elections, there is an apparent need to develop policy for guidance in these areas. Need a policy in regards to attendance at various meetings and role of Senators. Need policy on conflict of interest, real or perceived, and methodology for Senate to apply when situations arise.

ROD – 005 – *Interim Senate Clerk and Senator Edkins to draft a policy on meeting attendance and conflict of interest to bring to Senate at a future meeting.*

11. Adjourn at 19:00 hours.

March 05-08, 2008

12. Resume March 05, 2008 at 09:00 hours

IN CAMERA

13. Citizenship Appeals and Mediation/Dispute Hearing

14. Meeting adjourned, March 08, 2008 at the hour of 16:00.

Approved: _____
Bill Thibeault, *Senate Secretary*