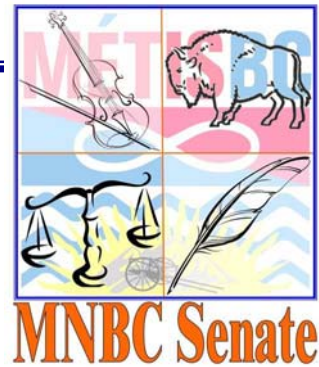


Métis Nation British Columbia's Senate

Senate Agenda (Draft only) Vancouver, November 22 – 23, 2006



1. Call to Order at 0900 hrs
2. Opening Prayer, conducted by Elder
3. Correspondence and previous minutes
An email from Turtle Island consulting requesting that we participate in an Electoral policy review questionnaire, do we participate individually, as a body or not at all?
If a request for an interpretation is delivered to the Senate we can read the correspondence here and deal with it under New Business?
Or perhaps before the Federal guests sit in on our session on day two?
4. Committee Reports:
 - a) Distribution of Senate robes and a finalization of the Committee's mandate.
 - b) A report on the progress of Business cards from Dean Trumbley COO
 - c) A report on the progress of cell phones and other communications issues to be resolved for the Senators, Dean Trumbley and Senator Edkins.
 - d) A General discussion on the budget monies remaining and the expenses of travel and accommodations for Regional Senator coverage and community servicing.
5. Discussion on the resignation of Senator Beauchesne , the requests by the Senators to have Senator Beauchesne to attend our session for us to hear the reasons first hand as to why and the failures he experienced to receive his 2 on 1 talk from the RGC rep and the Regional Director; it was also requested of the Chair of the Senate to hold the resignation in abeyance, also the controversy of the accusations of the Chair of the Senate being political in passing along the requests for holding the resignation in abeyance and asking for the ability to enquire into the reasons for the resignation and that he was accusing the Region 3 community Presidents of ???
6. Further we the Senate having a "Code of Ethics" and required Standards of Conduct do not have a set of Policies and Procedures in place to guide us in these grey areas we need to settle on a protocol for the future to remove the impression of interference from the Senate asking questions as to why a Senator is chastised without any knowledge of the issues passed on to the Senate as a whole.
7. The Chair of the Senate has a statement of how he has handled all communiqués from the beginning of the Senate to now and an exact transcript of the whole Beauchesne affair from the first mention to the present in hard copy for all to read.
8. After this discussion that the President, Vice-President, the C.O.O. and the Region 3 Director wish to talk to the Senate.

Lifestyle break. 15 minutes

Old Business.

1. Debate and initiate a motion for the election of a "screening" Senator for all disputes outside of the Citizenship and Election Act spheres of concern. These rejections of dispute submissions must be in a written form and filed for reference.

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2. Review personnel and move and create an "Elections Appeals Board of the MNBC Senate" Senators names to be entered in to the official minutes and notice sent to MNBC Offices and to the Turtle Island Consulting Group.

New Business.

1. Discuss and debate the written application to the Senator of Region 1 and thence deliberated on and referred to the full sitting of the Senate, this application is to decide on the direction and interpretation of the Citizenship Act and the impact on the voters of the Regions involved in the election of the Métis Women's Representatives in Regions 1 – 2 – and 3.
2. A motion is required to establish a "Citizenship Appeal Tribunal of the MNBC Senate"; after consultation with MNBC Staff C.O.O. Dean Trumbley it is felt that the full Senate sitting in a Committee of the whole is cumbersome, expensive and of difficulty to sit as a review Board in that 2 of our members are employed on a full time basis therefore a Tribunal is the most efficient and effective manner to proceed to look after our mandate under the Constitution.
3. Discussion on leaving the "Dispute Resolution Board" of the MNBC Senate as Senators Adams and Senator Edkins with the 3rd Senator to be from the Region where the dispute originated , if it is from the Regions of Senators Adams and Edkins then would or could we use the Screening Senator as the 3rd party ?
4. Discussion on how to approach MNBC and funding agencies in request for financial aid in establishing a Clerk of the Senate based in Vancouver and handling all of the administrative and confidential files of the MNBC Senate with particular attention paid to satisfying the "Privacy Policy " requirements of personal privacy as is enshrined under law.

Lunch from 12 noon until 13:30 hours.

1. Training session, citizenship appeals.
 - a. Senators Edkins and Snider report on the committee work done in October in reviewing the procedure and appeals documentation for Citizenship Appeals.
 - b. We are recommending that we adopt the process and documents as we observed with the presentation from Laurel Katernick, Provincial Registrar.
 - c. We believe that the full Senate sitting should see the process and hear Laurel's presentation.
 - d. Introduce Laurel and have her go through the process as was given to us.
2. Training session, time allowing from Joe Gereluk MNBC Legal Counsel on the combined generation of the necessary documents for appeals of all nature and in specific to the process need and necessity to guard against creating liability issues for the MNBC through Senate decisions.

End Day 1

Day 2 November 23, 2006

1. Introduce the federal government guests from the OFI office.
2. Joe Gereluk to continue with a lesson and example period of the rules and application of "natural Justice" as is required for the Senate to operate under.

Lunch from 12 noon to 13:30 hours

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3. Introduce the provincial government representative from the MoARR and then proceed with the presentation of the Senate's role to date and the plans for the future; its challenges and needs, Dean Trumbley and Interim Chair Senator Edkins to facilitate.
4. Question and answer period to follow.

New Business continued from Day 1

5. Conduct a review of the "Elections Act" as the Elections Committee has constructed to date and to seek if the Senate has any concerns or issues they wish to see addressed in the final package that is to be tabled to the MNGA in February for first reading.
6. A motion if required by the Senate to adopt the numbering system as is presently used by the Citizenship Registrar with addition of a letter to denote "Senate" files and accept the numbering system for Regions as present in the Citizenship files.
7. In conjunction with input from the C.O.O. Dean Trumbley we agree on the first date of the Citizenship Appeal Boards first sitting and that on this inaugural session that the Registrar and any others as she should deem necessary be with us for the establishment of a routine system of deliberation and debate, and to be the resource for the Tribunals questions.
8. From the deliberations of the Appeals documents Committee we were asked to devise an Oath to be sworn which is reflective of the Métis culture , to this end we bring this to you for your deliberation and acceptance :

I swear by the ancestors who went before me the children who come after me, and the God who made me; to speak the truth on matters and questions placed before me, so help me God."

The applicant/ witness shall hold the Bible in their right hand whilst holding the left hand palm out at shoulder level during the oath swearing.

Lifestyle break 15 minutes

9. New Business from the floor of the Senate
10. Policy and procedure additions to the present Senate Protocol and internal procedures debate and adopt a draft copy to be finalized in the next two-months before the next MNGA sitting.

Submitted by

Alan Edkins, Senator Region 1, Vancouver Island
Speaker/Chairman of the MNBC Senate (Interim)