



MEETING MINUTES

Meeting:	BOARD MEETING		
Date of Meeting:	February 12, 2024	Time:	9:00 am
Minutes Prepared By:	Susan Gillette	Location:	Microsoft Teams

Attendees

Participating Board of Directors: President Lissa Smith, Vice-President Mineault, Ministers Patrick Harriott, Louis De Jaeger, Susie Hooper, Paulette Flamond, Debra Fisher, Kate Elliott, Shaughn Davoren and Raynie Gervais

Staff: Colette Trudeau – Chief Executive Officer; John Bieker – Chief Governance Officer; Barinder Lalli – Board Committee Coordinator; Marc Riddell – Director of Communications; Kayla Brow – Manager of Executive Operations; Leona Shaw – Senior Director of Environmental Protection, Agriculture, and Food Sovereignty; Shawna Savoie – Administrative Assistant, Executive Committee; Chris Tupy - Senior Director of Operations and Administration and Acting Senior Director of the Ministry of Housing and Homelessness; Brent Weberg – Chief Operating Officer; Susan Gillette – Board Secretariat Coordinator; Crystal Egli – Administrative Coordinator, Ministry of Housing and Homelessness; Dillon McLellan – Manager of Housing and Homeless Support Programs; Tanya Davoren – Executive Director of Health, Mental Health and Harm Reduction and Sharlene Wedel – Senior Director, Ministry of Education – Early Learning | K-12

1. Welcome

At 9:01 AM, President Lissa Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting. Minister Fisher conducted an opening prayer.

1.1. Traditional Territory Acknowledgement

President Lissa Smith acknowledged the Malahat First Nation and traditional territory of the Coast Salish peoples and the home of the Métis Nation of Greater Victoria of which she was calling from.

Vice President Mineault acknowledged the Kelly Lake Métis Society and the traditional territory of the Dunne-za of which he was calling from.

Region 1 - Minister Harriott acknowledged the Métis Nation of Greater Victoria and traditional territory of the Tsartlip and WSÁNEĆ peoples of which he was calling from.

Region 2 - Minister De Jaeger acknowledged the Chilliwack Métis Association and traditional territory of the Sto:lo people of which he was calling from.

Region 4 - Minister Fisher acknowledged the traditional territory of the Māori people of New Zealand of which she was calling from.

Region 5 - Minister Gervais acknowledged the traditional territory of the Lheidli T'enneh of which he was calling from.

Region 6 - Minister Hooper acknowledged the traditional territory of the Huichol peoples of she was calling from.



Region 7 - Minister Flamond acknowledged the Kelly Lake Métis Society and the traditional territory of the Dunne-za of which she was calling from.

BC Women Chair – Minister Elliott acknowledged the Pacheedaht First Nation of which she was called from.

BC Youth Chair - Minister Davoren acknowledged the Secwepemc Nation of which they were calling from.

Staff at HQ - Our work takes place on the traditional and ancestral lands of the Semiahmoo, Katzie, Kwikwetlem, Kwantlen, Qayqayt and Tsawwassen First Nations. We respectfully acknowledge their stewardship of this land since time immemorial. MNBC recognizes the 40 Métis Chartered Communities we serve across British Columbia.

1.2. Adoption of Meeting Agenda

MOTION:

MOVED: Minister De Jaeger

SECONDED: Minister Harriott

RESOLVED:

THAT the Board meeting agenda of February 12, 2024 be approved with the following additions:

- Bill C-92
- LFMO Committee – Update

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1.3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

MOTION:

MOVED: Minister De Jaeger

SECONDED: Minister Harriott

RESOLVED:

THAT the minutes of the January 16, 17 and 29, 2024 Board Meetings be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1.4 Updates on Action Items

December 18, 2023 – Housing Update Presentation – Set up a technical briefing for the Board of Directors to review housing updates. **(IN PROGRESS)**

January 16, 2024 – Cowichan Valley Métis Proposal – The Cowichan Valley Métis Proposal will be referred to the Social Infrastructure and Development Committee meeting agenda of February 20, 2024, for further discussion and consideration. **(IN PROGRESS)**

2. President's Update

President Smith provided an update on the National Métis Health Policy Forum she attended with Ministers De Jaeger, Hooper and Davoren on February 7-9, 2024 in Ottawa.



3. LMO Grants Modification (APPROVAL)

The Senior Director of the Ministry of Education – Early Learning | K-12 provided an overview of a briefing note modifying the existing agreement with Lii Michif Otipemisiwak Family and Community Services.

The recommendation was that the Board approves the transfer of additional funds to LMO of \$1,648,876.37, which will be released once both parties have duly executed the modification agreement.

Discussion ensued regarding eligibility requirements, funding stages of the agreement and the urgency to move forward with the transfer of funds.

Eligibility as per the MOU:

For tenancy:

- Métis families receiving services from LMO, and at risk of child protection interventions
- Families in which one or more family member is a citizen of MNBC, confirmed by providing a copy of their citizenship card as part of their housing application
- Families in which one or more family member self-identifies as Métis
- Families in which one or more family member self-identifies as First Nations or Inuit

For childcare:

- Métis children receiving services from LMO and at risk of child protection interventions
- Children of families in which one or more family member is a citizen of MNBC, confirmed by providing a copy of their citizenship card as part of their housing application
- Children of families in which one or more family member self-identifies as Métis
- Children of families in which one or more family member self-identifies as First Nations or Inuit

MOTION:

MOVED: Minister Harriott

SECONDED: Minister Gervais

RESOLVED:

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors approves modifying the existing agreement with Lii Michif Otipemisiwak Family and Community Services, to allow for the transfer of childcare services funds on the following schedule:

- \$1,648,876.37, within 30 days of execution of the modification agreement;
- \$3,561,095.46, within 30 days of confirmed project lockup stage; and
- \$712,219,09, within 30 days of completion of the project.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



4. Provincial Elders Gathering (APPROVAL)

The Executive Director of Health, Mental Health and Harm Reduction, provided an overview of a briefing note requesting the Board's direction on the location and date of the Provincial Elders Gathering, with confirmation of budget amount up to \$175,000.

The original event, scheduled for the Summer of 2023 in 108 Mile, was led by an independent Elders committee and the Director of Health, which involved multiple budgets. Planning for the event was canceled due to a declared provincial emergency to reduce travel on highways, poor air quality index, and imminent wildfire risk.

Three options are being considered for the Elders Gathering:

Option One – Saskatoon to Back to Batoche – July 18-21, 2024

Option Two – Métis Crossing, Alberta – June 2024 (dates to be determined)

Option Three – Vancouver Island Rendezvous, Cowichan Exhibition Centre, Duncan, BC – June 10, 2024

Discussions ensued regarding the alternate sources of funding and the importance of holding this event in BC.

Minister Harriott will discuss the possibility of holding the Elders event at the Vancouver Island Rendezvous with the Rendezvous Planning Committee on February 13, 2024.

MOTION:

MOVED: Minister De Jaeger

SECONDED: Minister Fisher

RESOLVED:

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors approves the 2024 Vancouver Island Rendezvous in Duncan, BC, for the MNBC Provincial Elders Gathering, and authorizes a Not to Exceed expenditure amount of \$175,000 for this gathering; and THAT the Elders, MYBC members, and MNBC Staff members invited to the cancelled 2023 Elders Gathering be invited to the 2024 event.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. LivingWorks Invoice – FY 2023-24 (APPROVAL)

The Executive Director of Health, Mental Health and Harm Reduction, provided an overview of a briefing note requesting board approval of invoice payment to LivingWorks.

In alignment with the \$2.25 million received from the Public Health Agency of Canada, approval is needed to process payment for phase two of the *Kaa-wiichihitoyaahk (We Take Care of Each Other): Comprehensive Métis Mental Wellness Community Capacity Building Implementation* grant funding.

The recommendation is that MNBC provides approval to process the second LivingWorks invoice, in alignment with funding received from the Public Health Agency of Canada and contract signed with LivingWorks.



MOTION:

MOVED: Minister Hooper

SECONDED: Minister Fisher

RESOLVED:

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors approves a \$522,179.00 invoice payment to LivingWorks.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Break

Recessed for break at 10:31 am – reconvened at 10:46 am

7. Proposed Reallocations of ISC/Covid Carry-Forward Funds (APPROVAL)

The Senior Director of Environmental Protection, Agriculture, and Food Sovereignty provided an overview of a briefing note proposing reallocations of ISC/COVID carry-forward funds.

The recommendation is that the Board approve the proposed reallocations.

MNBC has received over \$15 million through the Indigenous Community Support Fund (ISCF), to support COVID related community responses over the past 4 years. The goal was to support Chartered Communities directly and to provide programs that were effective in helping Métis people throughout BC to alleviate some of the pressures and challenges faced during the pandemic.

The final wave of funding was received in the 22/23 fiscal. Ministries were encouraged to use the funds by March 31, 2023, but there was the ability to carry forward some funds into the 23/24 fiscal. As of March 31, 2024, all funds must be spent.

Although most of the remaining funds are on track to be used by March 31, 2024, approximately \$345,000 has been identified for possible reallocation.

MOTION:

MOVED: Minister Hooper

SECONDED: Minister De Jaeger

RESOLVED:

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors approves the reallocation of \$350,000 from the ISC COVID carry-over funds to Community Services, for distribution to the MNBC Chartered Communities.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



8. Rent Supplement Expanded Program (APPROVAL)

The Senior Director of Operations and Acting Senior Director of the Ministry of Housing and Homelessness provided an overview of a briefing note informing the Board of plans for an expanded rent supplement program for citizens living in MNBC-owned housing.

The recommendation is that the MNBC Board of Directors support the implementation of an Expanded Rent Supplement Program for Métis citizens living in MNBC owned housing.

Discussions ensued regarding the ability to guarantee the subsidies, whether subsidies should be provided to the tenant or directly to MNBC, and the overall sustainability of the program.

MOTION:

MOVED: Minister Fisher

SECONDED: Minister Davoren

RESOLVED:

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors approves implementation of the Expanded Rent Supplement Program for Métis citizens living at Crosstown Apartments in Fort St. John, as presented.

AMENDMENT:

MOVED: Minister Flamond

SECONDED: Minister De Jeager

RESOLVED:

THAT the Main Motion to be amended to add the following after “as presented”:

for the period between February 2024 to February 2025; and

THAT this Expanded Rent Supplement Program be reviewed by the MNBC Board of Directors before February 2025, with a developed business plan on the long-term sustainability of the Program.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Question was called on the Main Motion as Amended and it was CARRIED with one OPPOSED and one ABSTENTION.

9. Preferred Pronouns

Minister Davoren noted the harmful effects of misgendering someone using incorrect pronouns. They recommended that Board members take a “Introduction to Gender Diversity” course.

MOTION:

MOVED: Minister Davoren

SECONDED: Minister Hooper

RESOLVED:

THAT the MNBC Board of Directors takes the TransCare “Introduction to Gender Diversity - Expanded” Course.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



10. LFMO Committee - Update

Minister Hooper provided an update on the LFMO Committee:

- Ministers Hooper and Elliott met with the Regional Women's Committee to address their concerns
- How can MNBC help stabilize the committee
- Request for Financials and the clarification of the role of the MWBC council and MOWGE

The CEO advised that the CFO is developing a financial presentation for the LFMO Committee.

11. Bill C-92

Discussions ensued regarding the recent decision of the Supreme Court of Canada to uphold *Bill C-92: an Act representing First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families*. It affirms that Indigenous nations have jurisdiction over child and family services and outlines national minimum standards of care.

This item will be moved to the in-camera agenda of February 12, 2024.

12. Committee Meeting Minutes (Information)

The following committee meeting minutes were received for information:

- 2SLGBTQQIA+ Advisory Committee: 2024-02-01
- Social Infrastructure Development Committee: 2024-01-25
- Governance and Policy Committee: 2024-01-23
- Emergency Preparedness Committee: 2024-01-30
- Finance and Audit Committee: 2024-02-01
- Rights and Self-Government Committee: 2024-01-23

13. Record of Decisions (Information)

A Record of Decisions was received for information.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:08 pm

MOTION:

MOVED: Minister Fisher

SECONDED: Minister De Jaeger

RESOLVED:

THAT the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Approval Sheet

Approved by:  President

Approved by:  Secretary

Date: February 28, 2024