

BC Métis Federation (BCMF)
Board of Directors
Conference Call Meeting

Minutes

Sunday, January 20, 2013 7:30PM – 9:30 PM

Attendance -

Daryl Piper
Joe Desjarlais
Beverly Lambert
Tim St. Denis
Keith Henry
Maxine Lavallee
Lyle Letendre
Richard Lucier Larson
Gloria Rendell
Earlene Bitterman

Regrets –

Patrick Pocha
Wayne Lucier
Rene Therrien

Technical Support –

Cynthia Kolada
Bud Massey

Guests –

George and Terry Goulet

1. Opening Remarks

7:40 pm

Apologies for the short notice for this Board meeting however it is necessary to hold this call in a timely manner in order to review recent developments and seek direction from the Board.

*Motion 2013-01/209/01 – To approve wave official notification for this Board meeting.
Moved by Richard Lucier Larsen and seconded by Gloria Rendell. Carried*

2. Métis Nation of Canada Discussion

7: 45 PM

BCMF needs to communicate and coordinate responses with regard to how we represent BCMF and that our position has been firm regarding alignment with Métis Nation of Canada and/or any other “representative” Métis organizations. Keith will respond to Richard Blackwolf regarding use of our mailing lists etc and it is recommended that the Board members communicate with each other to ensure that other organizations do not affiliate themselves with BCMF without our permission.

3. Métis Children and Family Services**7:55 pm**

There are five Métis service delivery organizations in British Columbia and BCMF members have worked diligently to develop a closer relationship with the Métis Commission. The Métis Commission is ready to sign an MOU with BCMF, it is anticipated that this MOU will be followed by at least two others from Métis Service Delivery organizations.

4. Meeting with Provincial Government Staff**8:10 PM**

ADM Peter Cunningham has been assigned to work with BCMF. Conference calls have been held with the Province last week (as follow up to the last face to face meeting) however there seems to be no progress and/or a change in commitment to helping further the goals of BCMF. At this point it appears that BCMF should no longer be utilizing its resources in this realm and perhaps it should be revisited after the election. However, a further call will take place this week for final follow up on the next course of action.

5. Human Rights Discrimination Filing**8: 40 PM**

Overall the Board is in agreement that one last discussion needs to be held with the Provincial Government (please see #4 above). Tuesday evening a call will be held at 8:00 PM to provide any new information/commitment from MARR, at this time the Board will provide firm feedback as to whether or not to proceed with the Human Rights Discrimination Filing.

6. Identity Summit**8:50 PM**

Update from Gloria and some questions regarding timing and Summit follow up.

7. Closing Remarks**8:55 PM**

Each of the board members gave closing remarks and quick updates regarding what is going on in their communities and/or province as a whole. Keith gave updates on the constant growth that BCMF is experiencing and how the proof is on the website/facebook etc.

NEXT CONFERENCE CALL: Tuesday, January 22nd, 2013 @ 8PM

Meeting recessed @ 9:20 pm.

Meeting reconvened on Tuesday, January 22, 2013 8:00PM – 9:30 PM

Board members previously absent now in attendance:

Tim St. Denis
Patrick Pocha
Rene Therrien

Technical Support previously absent now in attendance:

Sherri Daniels
Michael Morgan
Bud Massey (unavailable)

8. Opening remarks and updates**8:07 pm**

- Update from Patrick regarding upcoming Rally for Idle no More.
- Bev is working on January 28th Rally (national call to action) and will finalize details in the next couple of days.

- Coffee Talk – Thursday @ 7:30 should be an interesting session with Rafe Mair.
- Bill Good Show CKNW – discussion of racist attitudes/comments. A letter has been sent to the station offering an open dialogue with Bill Good to educate both him and the public on Idle no More and aboriginal people in general. Michael commented on the rationale behind these “racist” broadcasts. Keith encourages Board members to ensure that we show leadership in these situations and always respond and offer to hold discussions with those who have negative opinions regarding who we are and what we stand for.
- Terrace will be forming a new Society that will focus on culture and heritage. The Society is currently formalizing bylaws and Constitution. Future Plans include moving membership forward and possible affiliation with BCMF. Rene will keep us posted of future events.

9. Honorary Membership

8:25 pm

Joyce Fisher – honorary membership to be presented to her for all of her work for BCMF and the Métis people as a whole.

Motion 2013-01/22/01 – To make Joyce Fisher an honorary member of the BCMF. Moved by Richard Lucier Larsen and seconded by Tim St. Denis. Carried

10. Update and Direction on Human Rights Filing

8:45 pm

Conference Call with Peter Cunningham (MARR) today went as expected. Today’s conversation was candid and BCMF’s issues and concerns were raised regarding a lack of action and commitment. Keith expressed the Province’s clear disregard and exclusion on the Action Plan and lack of consultation with BCMF before the release of the Action Plan. Keith expressed BCMF’s interest in holding the Province accountable through a Human Rights Discrimination filing. At this point, the Province has asked BCMF to wait until Monday and BCMF will be given a response either on or before then.

Discussion amongst the board is varied regarding timing however the Board is very clear on filing federally and filing provincially whether it be on Friday or Monday. The message needs to be delivered to the Province that BCMF is no longer waiting nor accommodating the timelines given by the Province, therefore Friday at 1pm will be the deadline.

The Board agreed that the Federal and Provincial filings should be filed simultaneously.

Motion 2013-01/22/02 – To file a human rights claim on behalf of BCMF to both federal and provincial Human Rights Commissions subject to final considerations by Friday, January 25th, 2013. Moved by Daryl Piper and seconded by Patrick Pocha. Carried unanimously.

Motion to adjourn @ 9:30 pm

Approved by:

BCMF Chairperson
BCMF Secretary

Dated: July 2nd, 2013