



BC Métis Federation
Board Meeting

Hilton Vancouver Metrotown
6083 McKay Ave.
Burnaby, BC
Sunday, October 18th, 2020

Approved Minutes

Board members in attendance

1. Keith Henry- President
2. Rene Therrien-Vice President
3. Joe Desjarlais- Secretary
4. Betty Fisher- Treasurer
5. Angel Fisher- Board member
6. Jacquie Swaisland- Board member
7. Greg Mazur- Board member
8. Earl Belcourt- Board member
9. Cindy Wilgosh- Board member

BC Metis Federation Operational Team

1. Sherry Daniels- Office Manager
2. Drake Henry- Project Coordinator
3. Taylor McLeod- TMX Procurement Coordinator
4. Karen Andrews- TMX Employment Coordinator
5. Craig van der Merwe -Technical Support

BC Métis Federation Guests

1. Marlane Christensen
2. Janet Newberry
3. Michif Language Project Consultant

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks 11:30 AM

**Board and team members were welcomed to the meeting, prayer led by Joe Desjarlais
Board member JJ Lavalée sent his regrets. Round table introductions of Board Members and
Guests.**

2. Review/acceptance of Agenda 11:50 AM

**Motion 20201018-01 – To approve the October 18th, 2020 Agenda as amended
(Add Community Update as Item 3 and add item 8 d. TCEI Update)
Moved by- Earl Belcourt
Seconded by- Cindy Wilgosh
Carried**

3. Community Update 11:55 AM

The impact of COVID-19 within the BCMF communities was discussed. Each community leader spoke about the direct impact the pandemic has had and how the Community COVID-19 relief funds have been distributed.

President Keith Henry informed the Board that the majority of the Membership COVID-19 relief funds had been successfully distributed directly to BCMF members in the form of a \$180 cheque to those who expressed the need. There is a contingency fund remaining for those who were missed in the first disbursement.

BC Metis Federation is actively working on procuring additional COVID-19 funding from Indigenous Services Canada.

4. Review/approve July 10th Draft Minutes 12:20 PM

Motion 20201018-02 – To approve the July 10th draft minutes as amended.

Moved by- Greg Mazur

Seconded by- Earl Belcourt

Carried

5. Financial Reporting 12:45 AM
a. 2019-2020 Audit Update

Treasurer Betty Fisher provided a review of the 2019-2020 independent audit by Culver & Co. The board reviewed the Auditor Management letter and reinforced a few key points such as the recommendation from the auditor to have contracts drawn up for all independent contractors. Additionally, President Henry emphasized the importance of procuring funds from project driven contracts in the future.

Project Coordinator Drake Henry reviewed the format for the 2019-2020 Annual Report which included the Tribute to Loretta Morin, additional photographs and visuals. The 2019-2020 Annual Report will now be completed and posted on the BC Metis Federation website in the coming weeks.

Motion 20201018-03 to Approve the 2019-2020 Audit as presented

Moved by Earl Belcourt

Seconded by Jacquie Swaisland

Carried

Action #1: Management to complete and release the 2019-2020 Annual Report

- a. 2020-2021 Financial Reporting

Treasurer Betty Fisher reviewed the Financial Reporting spreadsheets from April 1st, 2020 – September 30th, 2020. All Board members present agreed the format was thorough and comprehensive. President Henry emphasized that BC Metis Federation is in a financially strong position. There is no immediate need to increase the Line of Credit at this time.

Motion 20201018-04 – To approve the 2020-2021 Financial Report as presented.

Moved b Joe Desjarlais

Seconded by Earl Belcourt

Carried

Lunch Break

1:05 PM

6. Membership Update

1:30 PM

Office Manager Sherry Daniels provided a Membership update President Henry proposed a 3-person community acceptance committee to help future members who do not have local Métis community to address this requirement for community acceptance. Board Members Greg Mazur and Earl Belcourt shared ideas about standardizing the legitimacy of all BC Metis Federation members regionally and locally. Each Director was asked to comment on the development of a new committee.

Action #2 BC Metis Federation to prepare terms of reference for the development of a Community Acceptance Committee. The Community Acceptance Committee includes Cindy Wilgosh, Taylor McLeod and Earl Belcourt.

Motion 20201018-05- To approve membership report as presented.

Moved by- Greg Mazur

Seconded by- Cindy Wilgosh

Carried

7. Indigenous Advisory and Monitoring Committee (IAMC)

1:55 PM

a. Metis Representative

Board member Earl Belcourt provided an update of the work he has done with the IAMC and subcommittees he is involved with and how best to leverage BC Metis Federation’s role. The BC Metis Federation board was provided a recent proposal by IAMC representatives. President Henry emphasized that the proposal as recommended by board member Earl Belcourt is worth pursuing. Board member Joe Desjarlais talked about the difficulty with distinction-based identity and policy and encouraged BC Metis Federation to support conciliation. Each Board member was asked to provide an opinion.

Motion 20200710-06 – To approve the IAMC involvement as proposed by Earl Belcourt

Moved by- Rene Therrien

Seconded by- Joe Desjarlais

Carried

b. Projects Emergency Response TMX Capacity

Consultant Marlane Christensen provided an update on the key points of the Emergency Response Plan (ERP) and her work with associate Steve Newton to assemble a draft plan to present to the BC Metis Federation. President Keith Henry clarified that BC Metis Federation would like a strategy in place to notify and inform members of emergency response issues that

will have direct impacts on members for any incidents on the Trans Mountain Expansion (TMX) project.

BC Metis Federation will be work with the consultants to complete the project before March 31st, 2021.

8. Trans Mountain Expansion (TMX) 2:20 PM
- a. Canada Coast Guard Update

Canadian Coast Guard Project update provided by Project lead Angel Fisher

Motion 20201018-07 -to accept the Canada Coast Guard Update
Moved by Greg Mazur
Seconded by Joe Desjarlais
Carried

- b. Ministry of Finance Project

President Keith Henry provided and summary of the Ministry of Finance and the government led process related to TMX.

- c. TMX MBA Funds
- i. TMX Procurement Coordinator
 - ii. TMC Employment Coordinator

President Henry provided update on the recent project approval from TMX to support the MBA relationship and specific work for three positions to assist members and Metis procurement efforts.

- d. Terrestrial Cumulative Effects Initiative (TCEI) Update

Board member Joe Desjarlais provided information on involvement with the Crown and Indigenous groups with the new TECI process through virtual meetings.

Joe will be working with land and life project consultant Dr. Bruce Shelvey to support our needs for the cumulative effects needs in to the future as it relates to the TMX project corridor.

9. 2020-21 BCMF – Indigenous Services Canada 2:30 PM
- a. Strategic Plan 2021-2024

Project Consultants Janet Newbury and Marlane Christensen provided an update on the exciting new 2021-2024 BC Metis Federation Strategic Plan. This strategic plan was presented as a comprehensive document which outlined BC Metis Federation’s new vision, mission and logistical roles in a clear and concise format. The new strategic plan outlines priority areas, goals, strategies and outputs for the organization for the future. It also contained thorough

methodology including interviews, over 115 membership surveys, and other primary source research to validate the plan objectives and strategies.

Conclusion: This tool will be a great asset to BC Metis Federation and in particular the organizational chart as BC Metis Federation expands and more roles are required.

Motion 20201018-08 to approve the 2021-2024 Strategic Plan

Moved by Rene Therrien

Seconded by Earl Belcourt

Carried

President Keith Henry presented drafts of an updated Board Manual and new policy manuals for Human Resources and Finance as the organization continues to grow. The board reviewed the extensive work.

Motion 20201018-08 to approve the BCMF Board Manual, Finance Manual and Human Resources Manuals

Moved by Earl Belcourt

Seconded by Betty Fisher

Carried

The manuals will be posted on the website soon.

Health Break

3:15 PM

10. Virtual AGM Review

3:25 PM

IT Consultant Craig Van der Merwe provided information on strategies and technical details on how the BC Metis Federation Annual General Meeting can take place virtually. Solutions for secure online voting were presented.

Motion 20201018-09 to approve the BC Metis Federation AGM date for Saturday, December 5th, 2020

Moved by Greg Mazur

Seconded by Earl Belcourt

Carried

Motion 20201018-10 to approve the Virtual AGM recommendations as presented

Moved by Greg Mazur

Seconded by Betty Fisher

Carried

11. TMX MBA Funds

3:40 PM

a. TMX Procurement Coordinator

TMX Procurement Consultant Taylor Mcleod presented her findings in a visual presentation on the lack of secured contracts for Metis businesses. To date, there have not been any major

contracts awarded to Metis businesses but she remained hope full of future opportunities as the project moves forward.

Revised procurement targets were supported.

b. TMX Employment Coordinator

TMX Coordinator Greg Mazur summarized his experiences and information of the TMX employment opportunities and the length of time and many tedious steps required for each individual BC Metis Federation member when applying for work in the TMX project with the spread proponents.

ITAC Employment Coordinator Karen Andrews presented the board with statistical information on the number of job applicants received to date and the results of her calls to applicants.

There were only 2 successful hires from BCMF's job procurement fairs in the early part of 2020.

12. Michif Language/Cultural Project Update

4:45 PM

Board member Rene Therrien and guest provided update on the Michif Language Project. The French/Cree curriculum is being developed to teach Michif in a systematic way. The deadline for the completion of the project is March 31, 2021.

Action item #3- The BCMF and project consultants to draft a Press Release

13. Legal Aid BC

4:55 PM

a. Proposed MOU

President Keith Henry provided a summary of the MOU between Legal Aid BC and the BC Metis Federation. Consultant Janet Newbury discussed the current work with partners such as Legal Aid BC to design a Metis justice strategy. There continues to be support by the Provincial Government to devolve justice services for Indigenous people but there is great concern as the services are being focused exclusively on First Nations while the majority of Indigenous people requesting support are Metis and non-status Indigenous clientele.

Motion 20200710-11- to approve the Proposed MOU between Legal Aid and BCMF

Moved by- Joe Desjarlais

Seconded by Greg Mazur

Carried

14. Project Coming Home

This project and agenda item is deferred at this time due to COVID-19 challenges to advance project. It was noted however that the Strategic Plan includes this cultural work.

15. Human Rights Case vs Indspire

5:09 PM

BC Metis Federation Keith Henry provided a case update and identified the advice from Clark Wilson. BC Metis Federation is preparing for trial with the firm to support our member Mr. Philips.

The BC Metis Federation board strongly agreed with the legal strategy to address the situation.

16. Metis Child and Family

5:15 PM

- a. C-92
- b. SS Case Update

President Keith Henry advised the board that the C-92 application remains in limbo. The board was reminded that BC Metis Federation was invited by the Indigenous Services Canada Minister in 2018 to apply through the process and will continue to follow up and advocate.

President Keith Henry updated the Board that BC Metis Federation has secured a legal opinion about next steps related the ongoing “SS” Case in Ontario.

17. COVID-19 Project

5:20 PM

President Keith Henry updated the board about the COVID-19 funding including a summary and review of how members have been called individually and community partners supported to support as need with PPE and financial needs during the pandemic. It was noted that there is serious mental health, elder isolation, and significant loss of jobs for members impacted as a result of COVID-19. BC Metis Federation estimates that 1 in 3 families have been severely impacted and much more needs to be done considering the growing risk as outlines, especially food security.

BC Metis Federation is in contact with Indigenous Services Canada to request a second round of funding to assist members dealing with the various issues, especially the financial hardships in the future.

18. Adjournment

5:35 PM

**Motion 20201018-12 To Adjourn Meeting
Moved by Jacquie Swaisland
Carried**

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM

Approved February 17th, 2021

**BC Metis Federation President
BC Metis Federation Secretary**

