



BC Métis Federation  
Board Meeting  
Skeena River Metis Community Association Office  
Terrace, BC  
Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Draft Minutes**

Board of Directors -

Keith Henry - President  
Earl Belcourt - Vice President  
Cindy Wilgosh - Treasurer  
Rosanne Forget- Board Member  
Robin McLay - Board Member  
Jordan Therrien - Board Member - Youth Representative  
Elizabeth Pearce – Board Member

Operational Team -

Gib van Ert – Legal Counsel  
Kevin Henry – Community Health Coordinator  
Joe Desjarlais – Director of Research  
Jeanie Cardinal – Director of Culture and Language  
Brad Giroux – Manager of Industry Engagement  
Jennifer Percival – Industry Employment Coordinator  
Partick Brennan – Senior Advisor, Industry and Government Relations  
Angel Fisher – Director of Conservation  
Drake Henry – Health Project Coordinator

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks 9:00 AM
  - a. Moment of Silence Dale Haggerty – Michif Historic and Cultural Preservation Society

The board opened with an opening prayer and reflection of Mr. Dale Haggerty. The funeral will be August 23<sup>rd</sup> in Kamloops and some of the board will attend.

2. Review and Acceptance of Agenda 9:10 AM

**Motion 20250815-01 – To approve the agenda as presented**

**Moved by – Rosanne Forget**

**Seconded by – Robin McLay**

**Carried**

3. BC Metis Federation Leadership Update 9:15 AM
  - a. BC Metis Federation Board Members
  - i. Youth

Metis Youth representative Jordan Therrien provided an update and is still working with the action plan from the prior meeting which carries forward as follows:

***Action Item #1 – BC Metis Federation youth rep will create a new youth cultural workshop with Louis Jr. for the K-12 schools. The youth workshop will be developed with the Director of Michif language and produce a one-page overview for teachers to consider throughout BC.***

ii. Women

1. June 17<sup>th</sup> Notes
2. Updates Strategic Plan
3. Updated Names Concept

Metis Women's representative Cindy Wilgosh advised that there has been progress and the name for the women's committee is:

**Li Femmes di Coeur (The Women of Heart):** This name speaks to the compassion, strength, and central role Métis women play in their families and communities. "Coeur" is a widely understood word for heart, making it accessible while retaining the Michif "Li."

The board reviewed the updates strategic plan and recent committee notes from June and July.

iii. Elders

1. Terms of Reference – Draft

The Elders Coordinator presented the final draft Elders Terms of Reference.

**Motion 20250815-02 – To approve the Elders Terms of Reference as amended**

**Moved by – Cindy Wilgosh**

**Seconded by – Earl Belcourt**

**Carried**

***Action Item #2 - The Elders Terms of Reference will be posted on the BC Metis Federation website.***

iv. ISC Confirmation of Funding August 11<sup>th</sup>

The board was advised about the new funding confirmed with Indigenous Services Canada for the Youth Women, and Elders. There was an outstanding action item from June that will now proceed once the new agreement terms and conditions are signed:

***Action Item #3 – BC Metis Federation Women, Youth and Elders reps will create a budget of priorities for 2025-2026 to submit to Director of Finance Betty Fisher***

b. 2025 Annual General Meeting – Kelowna

i. Draft Agenda

1. October 3-5<sup>th</sup> or



2. October 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>
3. Sponsorship Draft Document

**Motion 20250815-03 – To approve the dates of October 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> as follows:**

- **October 24<sup>th</sup> Travel Day**
- **October 25<sup>th</sup> Committee Meetings**
- **October 26<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting**

**Moved by – Robin McLay**

**Seconded by – Rosanne Forget**

**Carried**

***Action Item #4 – BC Metis Federation will update the AGM sponsorship package as presented and send to all partners. The board and operational team will be asked to assist in the promotion and distribution.***

**c. Future Board Appointments**

The board is reviewing 2 potential board appointments which will be completed immediately following the Annual General Meeting October 26<sup>th</sup>.

4. Review and Approve Minutes 10:15 AM
  - a. Draft June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Motion 20250815-04 – To approve the June 6<sup>th</sup> minutes as presented**

**Moved by – Cindy Wilgosh**

**Seconded by – Earl Belcourt**

**Carried**

5. BC Metis Federation Reporting 10:20 AM
  - a. 2025-2026 Action Plan – Update
  - b. Finance – Update

**Motion 20250815-05 – To approve the Action Plan and Finance Update as presented**

**Moved by – Cindy Wilgosh**

**Seconded by – Elizabeth Pearce**

**Carried**

**Motion 20250815-06 – To approve the Vice President and Treasurer sign KPMG Report regarding expenditures to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025**

**Moved by – Jordan Therrien**

**Seconded by – Rosanne Forget**

**Carried**

**Motion 20250815-07 – The BC Metis Federation board have approved an annual wage for the role of the President on all political and advocacy matters.**

**The BC Metis Federation have provided additional consultation funding support for operational needs of our Metis community as needed on key issues of economic development negotiations, consultation and regulatory oversight, and other operational needs through President Keith Henry and his company KCD Consulting Incorporated since 2011**

**Whereas:**

- 1. The Canada Energy Regulator (CER) has several active and pending regulatory review, and funding-related projects for the fiscal years April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 – March 31<sup>st</sup> 2026: these include but are not limited to:**
  - **NEB Connector**
  - **Northriver Midstream**
  - **Onshore Pipeline Regulations & Filing Manual Review**
  - **Rules of Principle**
  - **Pouce Coupe Pipeline Ltd Taylor to Gordondale Project**
  - **West Coast Energy Inc. sunrise Expansion Project**
- 2. The Province of British Columbia has proposed new Metis and Child legislation in 2025**
  - a. Lead the strategy and development of the submission as it relates to the Metis Nation Engagement Process led by the Ministry of Child and Family Development**
- 3. Recognition of the work on behalf of the BC Metis Federation as it relates to the Passion Project Foundation and investments future project investments**

**Therefore be it resolved that the Board of Directors BC Métis Federation Society ratifies and affirms the authority for the organization designate KCD Consulting Incorporated to act on and participate in all CER related applications, consultations, regulatory filings, hearings and grant/funding programs and invoicing for duties performed related to the CER projects and The Passions Fund Project retroactively effective as of the fiscal year (April 1,2024-March 31, 2025) ending March 31, 2025**

**The Board authorizes:**

- **Execution and submission of all necessary documentation, funding applications, interventions, participation agreements, and responses required for these CER processes.**
- **Engagement with CER, Crown Consolation Coordinators, and relevant Indigenous, governmental and stakeholder groups.**
- **Acceptance and administration of any CER grants, contributions, or participant funding related to these projects.**



Therefore, be it further resolved that the Board further delegates authority to KCD Consulting Incorporated to manage, negotiate, and finalize all matters arising from these projects-including any modifications, expansions (such as future-regulated projects), or related initiatives. Therefore, the board request quarterly updates and reporting on each active project including the status of regulatory requirements, and environmental/Metis engagement plans.

Moved by – Cindy Wilgosh  
Seconded by – Earl Belcourt  
Carried

*Break 10:30– 10:45 AM*

6. Legal

11:15 AM

- a. BCHRT Update
- b. Legal Case vs Canada
- c. Law Society re Clark Wilson

Legal counsel advised the board about the current steps and information preparing for document disclosure and in the case against Canada. The case is proceeding and expecting more progress in September.

The board reviewed and discussed the case with BCHRT.

**Motion 20250815-08 – To approve the letter to the Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs, First Nations Summit, and BC Assembly of First Nations**

Moved by – Earl Belcourt  
Seconded by – Elizabeth Pearce  
Carried

*Lunch Break 12:00 – 1:00 PM  
(lunch provided)*

7. Key Department Updates

1:00 PM

- a. Health
  - i. Emergency Assistance Program (EAP) Applications May 2025

**Motion 20250815-09 – To approve EAP Applicants #1 and #3 as presented**

Moved by – Rosanne Forget  
Seconded by – Elizabeth Pearce  
Carried

**Action Item #5 – EAP applicants #2 and #4 will be presented at the next board meeting in September.**

- b. Industry
  - i. Regulatory Updates



## ii. CER Audit

1. NEB Connector
2. NorthRiver Midstream
3. Onshore Pipeline Regulations & Filing Manual Review
4. Rules of Principle
5. Pouce Coupe Pipeline Ltd Taylor to Gordondale Project
6. Westcoast Energy Inc Sunrise Expansion Project

The industry team provided updates on all areas and shared key insights on the updated progress and reorganization of the team. There was a thorough briefing note discussed as it related to the regulatory process and status with Canadian Energy Regulator.

## c. Housing Project Victoria Update – Sooke

The board was provided an update on the ongoing strategy and work towards partners with the project. There are important meetings soon to explore a key new partnership.

## d. Conservation

Conservation initiatives were shared and updated for the board. There was strong acknowledgment of the work achieved to date by the operational team.

## e. Research

i. Wildfire Research Project Announcement August 12<sup>th</sup>

The Director of Research highlighted the recent success of the media coverage of the new research project and reviewed national CBC information.

## f. Michif

Director of Culture and Language shared key progress on several initiatives.

## g. Education

i. Provincial Response to Concerns July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

The board and team reviewed the Provincial Minister of Education's response to our concerns about the lack of Metis cultural information, inclusion, and education for our members and families. There remain strong concerns about the lack of Metis inclusion throughout BC on the Indigenous Education Committees. There is also the need to address the way BC has created education legislation that removes the role of our local Metis partner communities.

***Action Item #6 – Prepare a BC Metis Federation response to the Minister's letter. The draft will be shared internally prior to submission.***



**Motion 20250815-10 – To accept the information and briefing notes as presented**

**Moved by – Rosanne Forget**

**Seconded by – Jordan Therrien**

**Carried**

*Break 2:30 PM - 2:45 PM*

8. Other

2:45 PM

- a. Artificial Intelligence (AI) Symposium
  - i. Review Draft Agenda
  - ii. Review Strategy

The board agreed in the importance of understanding AI and the need for the proposed symposium and the strategy as presented.

The board will reschedule the proposed AI symposium for September 27<sup>th</sup> in Vancouver.

- b. Skeena Valley Country Music Festival August 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>
  - i. Event Overview
  - ii. Mr. Rene Therrien Recognition

The board reviewed/discussed the upcoming event and items to honour former Vice President and Board Member Rene Therrien on August 16<sup>th</sup>.

- c. Book Donation from Mr. Don Woodcock -August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025

The board was advised that the books would be delivered on August 30<sup>th</sup> to the office and all final arrangement have been made.

- d. Dale Haggerty Funeral August 23
  - i. Review BC Metis Federation Draft Letter

The board reviewed and agreed to the letter for the family regarding the passing of Mr. Dale Haggerty. A copy was printed and will be added the card being sent to the family by the board.

- e. Bill C-5 – Government of Canada Metis Engagement Ottawa

The board reviewed the recent media and position by Canada as it relates to Metis and the C-5 consultation. It was noted how important the current legal work is in light of Canada's position as only allowing another BC Metis organization to attend as observers only.

- f. Letters to Indigenous Services Canada
  - i. ISC Minister dated August 11<sup>th</sup>
  - ii. Crown indigenous Relations dated August 11<sup>th</sup>

Draft letters were presented to the board and the board agreed to the proposed next steps



***Action Item #7 – Send the letters in the coming weeks after confirming dates in Ottawa for meetings. The President, Vice President and possible key team members will be asked to join these meetings.***

9. Next Board Meeting

4:15 PM

The board set the next meeting for Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup> in Vancouver at the office.

The board also discussed the importance to have leadership and staff travel to Batoche and visit the Parks Canada site to learn more about some of our key history and why Metis governance was created in our Metis Communities.

***Action Item #8 – Prepare a budget and outline for the board to review and approve prior to all final details. Ensure budget accuracy and participation list. This will include the board, staff, and consideration of Women, Youth, Elders Counsels as well as Partner Communities.***

10. Adjournment

4:20 PM

**Motion 20250815-11 – To adjourn the meeting at 3:40 PM**

**Moved by – Cindy Wilgosh**

**Carried**