

Métis Nation of Ontario

AUGUST 23-25, 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY List of Decisions and Actions

Updated September 27, 2020

Completed decisions and actions are shaded **grey**. The **STATUS** of each decision and action is **italicized**.
For ease of reference, decisions and actions are shown below in the order they appear in the draft minutes.

Decisions and Actions of the August 23-25, 2019 Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly | STATUS Updates

Establishment of Annual General Assembly Quorum and Adoption of Standing Rules of Order (Resolution #AGA190823-01):

That the 26th Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly accept the Standing Rules, as amended.

✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED*

Review and Adoption of the Agenda (Resolution #AGA190823-02):

That the Agenda for the 26th Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly scheduled August 23-25, 2019 be adopted, as amended.

✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED*

Appointment of the Resolutions Committee (Resolution #AGA190823-03):

That the 26th Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly agree that if an individual is the mover or seconder of a Special or Ordinary Resolution, they are not able to sit on the Resolutions Committee.

✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED*

Appointment of the Resolutions Committee (Resolution #AGA190823-04):

That the Resolutions Committee for the 26th Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly consist of the following individuals who have agreed to stand and have no conflict, recognizing that there are more than three: Pearl Gabona, Joseph Poitras, Luke Thompson, Russell Green, Hank Rowlinson, Rene Gravelle, Ron LePage and Rick Paquette.

✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED*

Approval of 2018-2019 Audited Financial Statements (Resolution #AGA190823-05):

That the 26th Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly accept as presented the Métis Nation of Ontario Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2019.

✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED*

Decisions and Actions of the August 23-25, 2019 Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly | STATUS Updates

Appointment of Auditor (Resolution #AGA190823-06):

That the 26th Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly appoint Baker Tilly, Ottawa LLP, as the MNO's auditors for year ending March 31, 2020.

✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED*

Adoption of Draft 2018 AGA Minutes (Resolution #AGA190823-07):

That the Minutes of the 25th Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly held August 17-19, 2018, be approved, as amended.

✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED*

Special Business Resolution #2 – Recommending Changes to Section 1 of the MNO Bylaws (Resolution #AGA190824-01):

WHEREAS the PCMNO reviewed several proposed revisions to the MNO Bylaws on June 26, 2019, and provided approval to proceed with making recommended revisions to the MNO Bylaws by way of Special Resolution as per Section 59 of the MNO Bylaws;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2019 MNO AGA approves the recommended revision to the MNO Bylaws:

1. In Section 1 in reference to the Women's Secretariat, remove "Secretariat" and replace with "Council."

✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED*

Special Business Resolution #3 – Recommending Changes to Section 28 of the MNO Bylaws (Resolution #AGA190824-02):

WHEREAS the PCMNO reviewed several proposed revisions to the MNO Bylaws on June 26, 2019, and provided approval to proceed with making recommended revisions to the MNO Bylaws by way of Special Resolution as per Section 59 of the MNO Bylaws;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2019 MNO AGA approves the recommended revision to the MNO Bylaws:

1. In Section 28 on "Compensation for Councilors – PCMNO Councilors not MNO Employees or Community Councilors" remove:

"A councilor may be remunerated or paid reasonable expenses incurred by him or her in the performance of his or her duties. A councilor may, provide services to the MNO under a term contract for services.

- a. A councilor may not, during his or her term of office as councilor, concurrently be an employee of MNO.
- b. A councilor may not, during his or her term of office as councilor, concurrently serve as an elected community council member."

And replace with the following:

"A councilor may be remunerated or paid reasonable expenses incurred by him or her in the performance of his or her duties.

- a. A councilor may not, during his or her term of office as councilor, concurrently receive compensation from the MNO in excess of (i) the compensation payable by MNO to the councilor on account of his or her position as councilor and (ii) such additional compensation as is reported to the PCMNO by the councilor for other duties performed or services provided by such councilor.

**Decisions and Actions of the August 23-25, 2019 Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly
| STATUS Updates**

- b. A councilor may not, during his or her term of office as councilor, concurrently serve as an elected community council member.”

✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED*

Special Business Resolution #4 – To Delete Section 10 of the MNO Registry Policy Guidelines (August 2015) (Resolution #AGA190824-03):

WHEREAS the MNO Bylaws set out the MNO’s definition of Métis, which is further explained and implemented through the MNO Registry Policy; and

WHEREAS section 10 of the current MNO Registry Policy Guidelines (August 2015) sets out that “Each applicant must provide proof that he or she is ordinary resident in Ontario”; and

WHEREAS the MNO Annual General Assembly aims to remove the requirement that applicants applying for MNO citizenship be ordinarily resident in Ontario;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2019 MNO AGA approves the recommended deletion of section 10 of the MNO Registry Policy Guidelines (August 2015).

✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED*

Special Business Resolution #5 – To Delete Section 11 of the MNO Registry Policy Guidelines (August 2015 Version) which Requires that Applicants for MNO Citizenship Provide Proof of Canadian Citizenship (Resolution #AGA190824-04):

WHEREAS the MNO Bylaws set out the MNO’s definition of Métis, which is further explained and implemented through the MNO Registry Policy;

WHEREAS section 11 of the current MNO Registry Policy Guidelines (August 2015 Version) sets out that “Each applicant must provide proof of Canadian citizenship”; and

WHEREAS the MNO Annual General Assembly desires to remove the requirement that applicants for MNO citizenship hold Canadian citizenship;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that section 11 of the MNO Registry Policy Guidelines (August 2015 Version) be deleted.

✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED*

Special Business Resolution #6 – To Hire an Independent, Non-Partisan Entity to Facilitate Elections and Investigate and Implement Electronic Voting (Resolution #AGA190824-05):

WHEREAS past elections have been organized and processed “in house” by Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) staff through the MNO head office in Ottawa;

WHEREAS MNO staff provides the manpower to organized mail-out materials for upcoming elections and counts & records returning ballots; and

WHEREAS transparency is a fundamental principle in democratic, electoral processes;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PCMNO be directed to research and source an independent, non-partisan entity to facilitate all future elections, and investigate and implement an electronic voting system, while allowing for consideration to accommodate areas where this electronic voting may not be feasible due to limitations in technology; and

Decisions and Actions of the August 23-25, 2019 Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly | STATUS Updates

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following sections of the MNO Electoral Code: Part A be changed to accommodate an independent, non-partisan entity to facilitate elections and accommodate electronic voting be changed to read as follows:

- Article 2: Definitions, part (d) to read as follows: “Chief Electoral Officer” means an independent, non-partisan entity selected by the PCMNO through a vetting process, pursuant to this Code who is charged with operating Elections for the MNO.”
- Article 8: List of Electors, 8.6 to read as follows: “Electors shall vote at the Polling Station closest to where they are Ordinary Resident or register to vote electronically. In the event of any discrepancy, the Chief Electoral Officer shall make the determination as to which Polling Station is closest. Before March 8th Electors may request of the Chief Electoral Officer that they be placed on the list of another Polling Station and such determinations shall be at the discretion of the Chief Electoral Officer.”
- Article 12.2 (b) and Article 13: Death of Candidate, section 13.1(b) to read as follows: “by placing a notice in the package containing the mail-in ballots, and/or on the secure, electronic voting portal, or by any other means that, in the opinion of the Chief Electoral Officer, is a cost effective and efficient way of informing the mail-in ballot recipients, if the withdrawal occurred prior to posting the mail-in ballots.”
- Article 12.2(c) and Article 13: Death of Candidate, section 13.1(c) to read as follows: “by any other means that, in the opinion of the Chief Electoral Officer, is a cost-effective and efficient way of informing the mail-in ballot recipients and electronic voters, if the withdrawal occurred after posting the mail-in ballots.”
- Article 16: Voting Locations & Mail-In Ballots, section 16.1 to read as follows: “Polling Station locations, electronic voting capability and any use of mail-in ballots for specific areas or communities shall be determined by the Chief Electoral Officer, taking into consideration convenience for the Electors, cost, proximity, population and participation levels.”
- Article 16: Voting Locations & Mail-In Ballots, section 16.2 to read as follows: “Locations of Polling Stations, secure voters web portal and specific areas or communities that are going to vote by means of mail-in ballots will be listed on or before April 1st in the year of the Election.”
- Article 20: Polling Booths, section 20.1 to read as follows: “Each Polling Station shall contain one or more polling booths arranged so that when a voter is in the polling booth he or she is screened from observation and may mark his or her ballot or electronically vote without interference.”
- Article 20: Polling Booths, section 20.2 to read as follows: “In each polling booth there shall be provided for the use of voters marking their ballots a suitable table, desk or shelf and a suitable marking instrument or laptop/electronic device, which shall be properly maintained during polling hours.”
- Article 21: Material at Polling Station, section 21.1, section (e) to read as follows: “A sufficient number of ballot papers and/or laptops/electronic devices.”
- Article 23: Secrecy of Voting and Secret Ballot, section 23.3, to read as follows: “Voting in the Elections shall be by secret ballot, whether by mail-in ballot or electronic device. Electronic voting will be via a secure web portal with a unique, on-time use log in key for each voter registered for electronic voting. These unique keys will become invalid after the first successful log in.”.

✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED*

Decisions and Actions of the August 23-25, 2019 Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly | STATUS Updates

Special Business Resolution #7 – To Adopt Electronic and Telephone Voting and Make Consequential Amendments to the MNO Electoral Code: Part A (Resolution #AGA190824-06):

WHEREAS the MNO wishes to modernize the MNO Electoral Code: Part A in accordance with the recommendations of the June 2018 Report on Modernizing the MNO Electoral Codes A & B (“June 2018 Report”);

WHEREAS the MNO wishes to encourage greater participation and turnout for MNO Elections; and

WHEREAS the June 2018 Report recommending implementing electronic and telephone voting in MNO Elections;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2019 MNO AGA:

1. Approves the addition of Article 43 to the MNO Electoral Code: Part A:

"ARTICLE 43. ADOPTION OF NEW VOTING METHODS

43.1 Policies may be adopted by the Annual General Assembly under this Code to enable the use of new voting methodologies in Elections.”

2. Adopts the attached MNO Policy #2019-003: Policy on Electronic and Telephone Voting.
3. Directs the following deletions and amendments be made to the MNO Electoral Code: Part A:

The following articles are deleted:

- Article 12.2 (b) – “Withdrawal of Candidates”: “by placing a notice in the package containing the mail-in ballots, if the withdrawal occurred prior to posting the mail-in ballots, or”
- Article 12.2 (c) – “Withdrawal of Candidates”: “by any other means that, in the opinion of the Chief Electoral Officer, is a cost effective and efficient way of informing the mail-in ballot recipients, if the withdrawal occurred after the posting of the mail-in ballots”
- Article 13.1 (b) – “Death of a Candidate”: “by placing a notice in the package containing the mail-in ballots, if the death occurred prior to posting the mail-in ballots, or”
- Article 31.1 (c) – “Death of a Candidate”: “by any other means that, in the opinion of the Chief Electoral Officer, is a cost-effective and efficient way of informing the mail-in ballot recipients, if the death occurs after posting the mail-in ballots.”

The following articles are revised:

- The title of Article 16 is amended to delete “MAIL-IN BALLOTS”.
- In Article 16.1 – “Polling Station Locations”, delete “and any use of mail in ballots for specific areas or communities” after “Polling Station locations”. The revised Article 16.1 now reads as follows: “Polling Station locations shall be determined by the Chief Electoral Officer, taking into consideration convenience for the Electors, cost, proximity, population and participation levels.”
- In Article 16.2 – “Polling Station Locations”, delete “any specific areas or communities that are going to vote by means of mail-in ballots” after “Locations of Polling Stations.” The revised Article 16.2 now reads as follows: “Locations of Polling Stations will be listed on or before April 1st in the year of the Election.”

4. Directs that the following definitions are added to Article 2.1 – “Definitions”:

(a) “Ballot” means a Paper Ballot, an Electronic Ballot, and a Telephone Ballot;

(j) “Electronic Ballot” means an image of a ballot on a computer screen prepared in accordance with a policy adopted pursuant to Article 43 of this Code;

(k) “Electronic Voting” means voting via the internet in accordance with a policy adopted pursuant to

**Decisions and Actions of the August 23-25, 2019 Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly
| STATUS Updates**

Article 43 of this Code;

(t) "Paper Ballot" means a Ballot on a piece of paper prepared in accordance with Article 19 of this Code;

(u) "Paper Ballot Box" means a box that meets the requirements of Article 18.1 of this Code to hold Paper Ballots';

(ff) "Telephone Ballot" means an audio set of instructions which describe the choices available to the Elector and instructions to mark the Elector's selection of an affirmative or negative response by depressing the numbered telephone keypad of a telephone or wireless phone;

(gg) "Telephone Voting" means voting via a telephone or wireless phone in accordance with a policy adopted pursuant to Article 43 of this Code.

5. Directs that, in Article 2.1(w) – "Definitions", the definition of "Poll Book" is amended to replace "ballots" with "Paper Ballots".
6. Directs that the following consequential amendments are made to use the amended or added defined terms set out above, throughout the MNO Electoral Code: Part A as necessary for consistency and clarity:
 - In Article 18 – "Ballot Boxes", add "Paper" in front of "Ballot Boxes" in the title of this Article.
 - In Article 18.1 – "Ballot Boxes", replace "ballot boxes" with "Paper Ballot Boxes" and "ballot" with "Paper Ballot".
 - In Article 19.1 – "Contents of Ballots", replace "ballots" with "Ballots".
 - In Article 19.2 – "Contents of Ballots", replace "ballot" with "Ballot".
 - In Article 19.3 – "Contents of Ballots", replace "ballot" with "Ballot".
 - In Article 19.4 – "Contents of Ballots", replace "ballot" with "Ballot".
 - In Article 20.1 – "Polling Booths", replace "ballot" with "Paper Ballot".
 - In Article 20.2 – "Polling Stations", replace "ballots" with "Paper Ballots".
 - In Article 21.1 (e) and (f) – "Material at Polling Station", replace "ballot papers" with "Paper Ballots".
 - In Article 23.1 – "Secrecy of Voting", replace "ballot" with "Ballot".
 - In Article 23.2 – "Secrecy of Voting", replace "ballot" with "Paper Ballot".
 - In Article 23.3 – "Secrecy of Voting", replace "ballot" with "Ballot".
 - In Article 24.2 – "Display of Ballot Box", replace "ballot box" with "Paper Ballot Box".
 - In Article 24.3 – "Display of Ballot Box", replace "ballot box" with "Paper Ballot Box" and "ballots" with "Paper Ballots".
 - In Article 25.6 (a) and (b) – "Advance Polls", replace "ballots" with "Paper Ballots".
 - In Article 27.1 (e) (formerly (d)) – "Only Listed Electors Vote", add "Scrutineer" after "Any Candidate and his or her", and replace "ballot" and "ballot paper" with "Paper Ballot", and replace the second "ballot" with "vote". The amended Article 27.1(e) reads as follows: "Any Candidate or his or her Scrutineer may object to the eligibility of any MNO citizen requesting a Paper Ballot. If in the opinion of the Returning Officer such objection is reasonable, it shall be noted in the Poll Book and shall include the reason for the objection along with the name of the Candidate on whose behalf the objection is being made. The Returning Officer may then give the Elector a Paper Ballot so that the Elector may cast his or her vote. In the event of an objection to the Elector, the Returning Officer shall follow the procedure under Article 34.7 of this Code."
 - In Article 30.1 – "Ballots Not Removed", replace "ballot paper" with "Paper Ballot".
 - In Article 31.1 – "Forfeiture of Voting Rights", replace "ballot paper" with "Paper Ballot".
 - In Article 31.2 – "Declining to Vote", replace "ballot paper" with "Paper Ballot".
 - In Article 33.1 (a) – "Assistance for Disabled", replace "ballot" and "ballot paper" with "Paper Ballot" and "ballot box" with "Paper Ballot Box".
 - In Article 33.1 (b) – "Assistance for Disabled", replace "ballot paper" with "Paper Ballot".
 - In Article 33.3 – "Assistance for Disabled", replace "ballot" with "Paper Ballot".
 - In Article 34.1 – "Counting Spoiled & Declined Ballots", replace "ballots" with "Paper Ballots".

**Decisions and Actions of the August 23-25, 2019 Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly
| STATUS Updates**

- In Article 34.3 – “Counting to Vote”, replace “ballot box” with “Paper Ballot Box”.
- In Article 34.4 – “Counting the Vote”, replace “ballot paper” and “ballot” with “Paper Ballot”.
- In Article 34.5 – “Ballots to be Rejected”, replace “ballot” with “Paper Ballot”.
- In Article 34.6 and Article 34.6 (b) – “Ballots Not to be Rejected”, replace “ballot” with “Paper Ballot”.
- In Article 34.7 (a) – “Procedure for Disputed Ballots”, replace “ballot” with “Paper Ballot”.
- In Article 34.8 – “Statement of Poll”, insert “cast by Paper Ballot” after “The Returning Officer at the conclusion of the count shall complete a statement of poll, indicating the number of votes for each Candidate”, and replace “ballots” with “Paper Ballots”.
- In Article 34.10 (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h) – “Statement of Poll”, replace “ballots” with “Paper Ballots” and in Article 34.10 (n) (formerly (m)), replace “ballot papers” with “Paper Ballots” and “ballot box” with “Paper Ballot Box”.
- In Article 35.1 – “Announcing Results”, add “through combining the results of the counts of all valid Ballots” after “The Chief Electoral Officer shall publicly announce the results of the Election and declare elected the Candidates who received the largest numbers of votes”.
- In Article 37.3 – “Recount Procedure”, replace “ballots” with “Paper Ballots”.
- In Article 39.1 and Article 39.1 (c) and (d) – “Ballots to be destroyed”, replace “ballots” with “Ballots”.

7. That Article 3.1 (a) – “Date of Election” is removed:

- (a) “A timetable for the Elections that sets out many of the scheduled deadlines is attached, for convenience, as Appendix A. In the event of any conflict between the timetable and a written article in this Electoral Code, the written article shall prevail.”

And is replaced with the following:

- (a) “A timetable for the Elections that sets out many of the scheduled deadlines is attached, for convenience, as Appendix A. In the event of any conflict between the timetable and a written article in this Electoral Code or a policy made pursuant to Article 43, the written article of the Electoral Code or the policy shall prevail.”

8. That Article 4.1(e) – “Chief Electoral Officer” is amended to add “or any policies adopted under it” after “perform all duties assigned pursuant to this Code.”.

✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED*

Special Business Resolution #8 – To Amend the MNO Electoral Code: Part A to Allow for the Use of Features of New MNO Citizenship Cards (Resolution #AGA190824-07):

WHEREAS the MNO wishes to modernize the MNO Electoral Code: Part A and enable the use of modern features of MNO citizenship cards in the future;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2019 MNO AGA approves the following addition to the MNO Electoral Code: Part A:

6. Article 43.2 is added to read as follows:

“43.2 Policies may be adopted by PCMNO to facilitate the use of features of MNO citizenship cards such as magnetic strip.”

✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED*

Special Business Resolution #9 - To Lengthen Certain Time Periods in MNO Electoral Code: Part A (Resolution #AGA190824-08):

WHEREAS the MNO wishes to modernize the MNO Electoral Code: Part A in accordance with the

Decisions and Actions of the August 23-25, 2019 Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly | STATUS Updates

recommendations of the June 2018 Report on Modernizing the MNO Electoral Codes A & B ("June 2018 Report");

WHEREAS the June 2018 Report recommended that the MNO provide more time for MNO citizens to review the preliminary List of Electors to ensure that it is as complete and accurate as possible;

WHEREAS the June 2018 Report recommended the MNO provide four, rather than two, weeks for MNO citizens to complete the nomination process;

WHEREAS the June 2018 Report recommended that the MNO provide additional time for Candidates to campaign; and

WHEREAS this additional time for campaigning will also provide additional time for Advance Polls and Telephone and Electronic Voting (if adopted) to occur in advance of the date of the Election;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2019 MNO AGA approves the following recommended amendments to the MNO Electoral Code: Part A:

1. In Article 8.3, replace "March 1st" with "February 10th", with the corresponding change to Appendix A;
2. In Article 6.1, replace "March 15th" with "March 1st", with the corresponding change to Appendix A; and
3. In Article 11.1, replace "three weeks" with "four weeks" with the corresponding change to Appendix A.

✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED*

Special Business Resolution #10 – To Provide the Chief Electoral Officer with Options to Enforce the MNO Electoral Code: Part A (Resolution #AGA190824-09):

WHEREAS the MNO Electoral Code: Part A's definition of "List of Electors" does not include protection for confidential information such as the telephone numbers and addresses of MNO citizens; and

WHEREAS the MNO Electoral Code: Part A currently does not include clarity on who is responsible for posting the preliminary and final List of Electors;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2019 MNO AGA approves the following amendments to the MNO Electoral Code: Part A:

1. Article 2.1(l) – "Definitions" is amended to add:
"Any publicly posted versions of the List of Electors or preliminary List of Electors must not include the addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses, or other contact information of any Elector."
After:
"List of Electors" means a list made pursuant to this Code of persons entitled to vote at an Election."
2. Article 8.3 – "Preliminary List" is amended to replace "each Métis community council office" with "each Community Council president for posting"; and
3. Article 8.4 – "Posting Final List" is amended to replace "each Métis community council office" with "each Community Council president for posting".

✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED*

Special Business Resolution #13 – To Amend Definition of "Executive" in the MNO Electoral Code: Part A for Consistency with MNO Bylaws (Resolution #AGA190824-10):

WHEREAS the definition of "Executive" and "Executive Council" contained in Article 2.1 of the MNO Electoral

**Decisions and Actions of the August 23-25, 2019 Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly
| STATUS Updates**

Code: Part A currently refers to the “Co-Chair”;

WHEREAS the MNO Bylaws use the language of “Vice-Chair”, as do other articles of the MNO Electoral Code; and

WHEREAS the MNO desires consistency and clarity within its governing documents;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2019 MNO AGA approves amending Article 2.1(I) to remove reference to “Co-Chair” and replace it with “Vice-Chair”.

✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED*

Special Business Resolution #14 – To Clarify Article 24.4 of the MNO Electoral Code: Part A (Resolution #AGA190824-11):

WHEREAS Article 34.4 of the MNO Electoral Code: Part A currently reads as follows: “The Returning Officer shall endorse with the words “not initialed” any ballot paper that does not have his or her initials or the initials of such person acting on his or her behalf on the back thereof and any such Paper ballot shall be counted with the other ballots but immediately upon the conclusion of the count, the Returning Officer shall:”; and

WHEREAS Article 34.4 is incomplete, as it does not provide direction as to what the Returning Officer shall do with “not initialed” ballots;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2019 MNO AGA approves the following addition to Article 34.4 to align the current version of the MNO Electoral Code: Part A with versions previously adopted by the MNO AGA:

“(a) count the number of “not initialed” Paper Ballots; and

(b) record the total on the outside of the envelope containing these Paper Ballots and seal it;”.

✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED*

Special Business Resolution #17 – To Allow Chief Electoral Officer to Adapt the MNO Electoral Code: Part A in an Emergency or Unforeseen Circumstance (Resolution #AGA190824-12):

WHEREAS the MNO wishes to modernize the MNO Electoral Code: Part A in accordance with the recommendations of the June 2018 Report on Modernizing the MNO Electoral Codes A&B (“June 2018 Report”);

WHEREAS the MNO Electoral Code: Part A currently has no provision to alter the Code, including to amend or extend timelines, in the event of an emergency or unforeseen circumstance such as a postal strike or extreme weather event; and

WHEREAS the June 2018 Report recommended providing authority to the Chief Electoral Officer to modify the MNO Electoral Code: Part A in case of an emergency or unforeseen circumstance to remedy this gap;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2019 MNO AGA approves the recommended addition to the MNO Electoral Code: Part A:

“ARTICLE 45. EMERGENCIES

45.1 During an Election period or within 30 days after it, if an emergency, an unusual or unforeseen circumstance, or an error makes it necessary, the Chief Electoral Officer may, for the sole purpose of enabling Electors to exercise their right to vote or enabling the counting of votes, adapt any provision of the Code, and in particular, may extend the time for performing any obligation or doing any act under this Code.”

✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED*

**Decisions and Actions of the August 23-25, 2019 Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly
| STATUS Updates**

Special Business Resolution #18 – To Allow Citizens Left Off the List of Electors to Vote in Elections Held Pursuant to the MNO Electoral Code: Part A (Resolution #AGA190824-13):

WHEREAS the MNO wishes to modernize the MNO Electoral Code: Part A in accordance with the recommendations of the June 2018 Report on Modernizing the MNO Electoral Codes A&B (“June 2018 Report”);

WHEREAS the June 2018 Report recommended that a procedure be put in place to enable individuals left off the List of Electors to vote and have their ballots counted, if that individual was left off the List of Electors due to an error made by the MNO;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2019 MNO AGA approves the following recommended amendments and additions to the MNO Electoral Code: Part A:

1. In Article 27.1(a), to add the following after “The Returning Officer shall ascertain whether the name of the Elector is on the List of Electors and if it is not, the Returning Officer shall not permit the Elector to vote”:

“If the individual seeking to vote is not on the List of Electors, that individual shall be permitted to vote if he or she makes a declaration that he or she lives in the area serviced by the poll. This declaration shall be in the form prescribed in Appendix B. This individual shall be given a Paper Ballot so that he or she may cast their vote, and the Returning Officer shall segregate that vote from other Paper Ballot cast by Electors on the List of Electors. The Chief Electoral Officer shall count such a paper Ballot if the Chief Electoral Officer reasonably determines that the individual was left off the List of Electors due to an administrative error or oversight on the part of the MNO.”

2. The following is added as a new Appendix B:

APPENDIX B

AFFIRMATION OF AN ELECTOR WHOSE NAME DOES NOT APPEAR ON THE OFFICIAL LIST OF ELECTORS

Polling Station at _____

I, of _____ affirm:

1. That I have been an ordinary resident of _____ preceding the date of the Election; and
2. That I have not already voted in this Election.

Signature of Elector

MNO Citizenship Number of Elector:

Affirmed before me at: _____, this _____ day of _____, 20____.

✓ **STATUS:** This has been COMPLETED

Special Business Resolution #20 – To Amend the MNO Electoral Code: Part A, Article 6.9 to Allow for the Creation of a New Provincially Elected Youth Chair Person on the Métis Nation of Ontario Youth Council (Resolution #AGA190824-14):

**Decisions and Actions of the August 23-25, 2019 Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly
| STATUS Updates**

WHEREAS the Métis Nation of Ontario Youth Council advocates on behalf of Métis youth across the province;

WHEREAS due to their hard work and ingenuity, the Métis Nation of Ontario Youth Council has significantly expanded the number of programs and supports it offers to benefit the Métis youth community;

WHEREAS the administration, volunteer organization and communication of these initiatives requires an increasing level of time and commitment from the Métis Nation of Ontario Youth Council members;

WHEREAS it is important for regionally elected youth representatives to focus on advocating for and supporting youth within their region;

WHEREAS the Métis Nation of Ontario Youth Council Chair person is currently appointed from among regional youth representatives; and

WHEREAS the Chair Person position focuses on unity regional youth representatives to address provincial level issues of importance to Métis youth;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2019 Métis Nation of Ontario AGA approves the recommendation and additions to the MNO Electoral Code: Part A:

1. In Article 5.3 – “Electors”, add “and for the Chair Person of the MNOYC” after “regional youth representatives”, and delete “or for” where it appears prior to “regional youth representatives.” The new Article 5.3 will read:

“Only Electors who are between the ages of sixteen (16) and twenty-nine (29) years of age may vote for the youth representatives on the PCMNO, the regional youth representatives on the MNOYC, and for the Chair Person of the MNOYC.”

2. In Article 6.9 – “Nomination of Candidates”, add “Chair Person of the MNOYC” after “MNOYC regional youth representatives” and delete “and” where it appears prior to “MNOYC regional youth representatives”. The new Article 6.9 will read:

“All nominations for youth representatives on the PCMNO, MNOYC regional youth representatives, and Chair Person of the MNOYC shall include the following:”

3. In Article 6.9(d) – “Nomination of Candidates”, remove:

“Candidates for youth representative on the PCMNO require a minimum of four (4) signatures of electors who are at least sixteen (16) years and under the age of thirty (30) from seven (7) of the nine (9) Regions”

And replace with the following:

“Candidates for youth representative on the PCMNO and Chair Person require a minimum of four (4) signatures of electors who are at least sixteen (16) years and under the age of thirty (30) from seven (7) of the nine (9) Regions”.

✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED*

Ordinary Resolution #1 – Seeking Resources to Support Community Council Women’s Representatives to attend the AGA (Resolution #AGA190825-01):

WHEREAS it is important that the Community Council Women Representatives attend the Annual General Assembly (AGA); and

WHEREAS all Community Council Women Representatives provide a strong voice for the women in their community;

Decisions and Actions of the August 23-25, 2019 Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly | STATUS Updates

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2019 AGA direct the PCMNO and Administration to seek resources to support community council Women's Representatives to attend the AGA.



STATUS : UPDATE REQUIRED

To date there has been no funding mechanism to cover the costs of 31 Community Council women's representatives to attend the AGA in person. Estimated Cost \$3,000 x 31 = \$93,000.

With current technology, this is easily accomplished via the AGA technology platform. MNO will continue to explore funding opportunities and other technological processes to expand the reach of Annual Assemblies.

Ordinary Resolution #2 – Youth Programming (Resolution #AGA190825-02):

WHEREAS currently MNO Youth Programs are housed in the Education and Training Department; and

WHEREAS the MNO remains the only Métis Government without a stand-alone youth department and a director of youth programming;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the PCMNO be directed to work with the MNOYC to explore the establishment of a stand-alone youth branch within the administrative structure, and to create a director of youth initiative within the director level of the administration.



STATUS : This is PROGRESSING

The potential to establish a Youth branch and/or Director of Youth within the MNO has been identified with Senior Management Staff. Several branch reviews are being conducted and consideration for a youth branch has been flagged to the consultants for consideration in those reviews. More information will come available once those are complete – anticipate final reports mid-October.

Ordinary Resolution #3 – Federal Election 2019 (Resolution #AGA190825-03):

WHEREAS the upcoming federal election will involve issues of importance to the Métis Nation of Ontario; and
WHEREAS it is important that the four federal political parties are aware of the issues that affect Ontario Métis People in Ontario, and it is even more important for Métis citizens to know where the parties stand on issues which affect our nation and our interests;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2019 Annual General Assembly direct the President to write to the four Federal Political Parties (Liberal, Conservative, NDP and Green) in order to ask questions about issues of importance to the Métis Nation of Ontario; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President circulate the responses from the four parties to MNO citizens through MNO communications mechanisms.



STATUS: This has been COMPLETED

MNO sent letters to all Parties with questions, and incorporated the responses received into a document that was provided to MNO leadership and updated on the MNO website.

Ordinary Resolution #4 – To Direct the President to Write to Elections Canada (Resolution #AGA190825-04):

WHEREAS as an Indigenous nation, the Métis Nation of Ontario citizens have a right to use their Métis Citizenship card as identification; and

WHEREAS during the most recent Provincial election, MNO citizens were able to use their MNO cards as valid

Decisions and Actions of the August 23-25, 2019 Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly | STATUS Updates

means of identification;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2019 Annual General Assembly directs the President to write to Elections Canada in order to ensure that Métis Nation of Ontario Citizenship Cards will be accepted by elections officials in order to vote in the 2019 Federal Election; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President circulate the response from Elections Canada to MNO citizens through MNO communications mechanisms.



STATUS: *This has been COMPLETED*

MNO wrote to Elections Canada and was assured that the MNO Citizenship Card would be accepted by elections officials for voting in the 2019 election.

Ordinary Resolution #6 – Regarding Advanced Consultation in the Development of Future Ratification Processes (Resolution #AGA190825-05):

WHEREAS ratification of the Métis Government Recognition and Self-Government Agreement with the Métis Nation of Ontario Constitution will impact generations of Métis to come; and

WHEREAS discussion and democratic decision making are important for avoiding oversights and represent a core part of our cultural traditions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that ratification processes for the Métis Government Recognition and Self-Government Agreement and the Métis Nation of Ontario Constitution will be discussed at an Annual General Assembly prior to implementation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that proposed ratification processes will be designed to allow for discussion and initial votes of support at an Annual General Assembly for specific areas in the drafts prior to a general ratification vote which will include all MNO citizens.



STATUS: *This is PROGRESSING*

Progress updates and discussions on the Metis Government Recognition and Self-Government Agreement will be part of future AGA agenda development.

Ordinary Resolution #7 – Directing Additions to Schedule A of the Métis Government Recognition and Self-Government Agreement (Resolution #AGA190825-06):

WHEREAS self-government provides mechanisms to address specific problems as needed in many different areas; and

WHEREAS the health needs of Métis are under-addressed, especially in rural and remote settings;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Métis Nation of Ontario are included in health discussions, in addition to the areas already listed in Schedule A of the Métis Government Recognition and Self-Government Agreement:

- 1) Health insurance broadly, and specifically whether Métis will continue to receive health insurance through OHIP, FNIHB post-Daniels, or a Métis administered plan, and the extent of such coverage to additional areas (e.g., drug plan/pharmaceutical access, mental health services, disability supports), and the extent as to whether such supplemental coverage will be covered by the Métis or another Government.



STATUS: *This is PROGRESSING*

In terms of prescription drugs, Canada is looking to implement a National Pharmacare Program. Details will likely be forthcoming in the upcoming budget.

Several Regions have requested that non-insured health benefits (NIHB) be included in self-

Decisions and Actions of the August 23-25, 2019 Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly | STATUS Updates

government discussions, but this may be more appropriate for the MNO-Canada-Ontario Framework Agreement conversations. Métis citizens are currently eligible for all health benefits and supports provided by Ontario. This work will continue.

Ordinary Resolution #10 – Regarding Bill C-262 (Resolution #AGA190825-07):

WHEREAS the President of the Métis National Council has, without our consultation or approval, has taken a position against the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* through publicly refusing to support Bill C-262;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Métis Nation of Ontario take the position that the national interest of Canada, as determined by the political party of the day, does not override the need for the free, prior and informed consent of Métis and other Indigenous peoples as affirmed in the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Provincial Government of the Métis Nation of Ontario be instructed to censure the leadership of the Métis National Council for both publicly opposing Bill C-262 and for doing so without democratic consultation of the Métis people.

- ✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED*
The MNO, along with the Métis Governments of the Métis Nation of Alberta and Métis Nation-Saskatchewan, have been speaking out about the overall lack of integrity, accountability and leadership being shown by the Métis National Council (MNC) on many matters. This specific issue has not been referenced but may be brought to deliberation at a future MNC Assembly or Board of Governors Meeting.

Ordinary Resolution #11 – Regarding MNO Recording and Using the Official Version of O Canada (Resolution #AGA190825-08):

WHEREAS respect for women is fundamental to Métis culture; and

WHEREAS the official words of the Canadian National Anthem, O Canada were changed from “all our sons” to “all of us” to acknowledge and include women (gender neutral) in February 2018; and

WHEREAS the version of O Canada used at the 2019 AGA of the MNO was not the official version of the national anthem; and

WHEREAS the version of O Canada used at the 2019 AGA of the MNO did not honour our women citizens;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the MNO record and use the official version of O Canada with its gender neutral lyrics at all AGA and other meetings going forward.

- ✓ **STATUS:** *This has been COMPLETED (The official version of O Canada will be used)*

Ordinary Resolution #12 – To Support Métis Elders (Resolution #AGA190825-09):

WHEREAS it is important that our own Métis elders (senior citizens) are recognized and honoured as central contributors to the Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO); and

WHEREAS we, the Métis, have and continue to cherish and uphold our Métis elders; and

WHEREAS our Métis elders have given their life blood for future Métis generations; and

WHEREAS the MNO has provided much needed support and help to some specific groups of members such as the youth for education and advocates for the veterans;

**Decisions and Actions of the August 23-25, 2019 Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly
| STATUS Updates**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the MNO be directed to study the current needs, supports and situations of our Métis elders (senior citizens) and the informal (family) Métis caregivers of these Métis elders, and report back at the 2020 MNO Annual General Assembly.

- ⇒ **STATUS :** *This is PROGRESSING*
The MNO is investigating potential additional supports for elders/seniors. Extra supports have been realized and provided through COVID-19 programs. MNO will be introducing a Seniors Program – “Mitigating Risks of Isolated Home Environments”, a collaboration between the Housing and Healing and Wellness Branches.

Related to Ordinary Resolution #12 – To Support Métis Elders (Request for Action #AGA-RFA190825-01):

It was requested that MNO staff research and provide clarification on the definition of “Elder”.

- ⇒ **STATUS:** *UPDATE REQUIRED*
The definition of Elder varies. Carleton University describes “Elder” as follows: “In First Nations, Métis, and Inuit cultures, Elders and traditional teachers play a prominent, vital, and respected role. They are held in high regard as they are the knowledge keepers, carrying traditional teachings and information passed down through oral history, customs and traditions which encompass beliefs, values, worldviews, language, and spiritual ways of life. Indigenous elders are leaders, teachers, role models, mentors, and healers who within their communities often provide the same functions as advisors, professors, and doctors”.

The MNO has a position of Senator, but has not articulated that this is the same as “Elder”. MNO would need to determine if and how Métis Elders might be identified, supported and utilized within Communities, what their role(s) would be, etc.

* * *