

Resolutions of the 21st Annual General Assembly of the Métis Nation of Ontario held August 23 – 25, 2014, at the Valhalla Inn, Thunder Bay, Ontario.

Special Business Resolutions

Resolution #:	AGA-SPECRES2014-01
Title:	CONFIRM CHANGES TO MNO BYLAWS
Mover:	Gary Lipinski (#94-0258)
Seconded:	France Picotte (#94-0225)

WHEREAS the PCMNO met on March 29, 2014 and approved changes to the MNO Bylaws pursuant to the authority set out in section 39 of the MNO Bylaws;

AND WHEREAS the exact wording of the changes made to the MNO Bylaws since the last MNO AGA is highlighted in yellow and explained in detail in the attached document;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2014 MNO AGA approves the PCMNO's changes to the MNO Bylaws dated March 29, 2014, which are attached to this resolution.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-SPECRES2014-01)

Resolution #:	AGA-SPECRES2014-02
Title:	CHANGES TO THE MNO ELECTORAL CODE
Mover:	Gary Lipinski (#94-0258)
Seconded:	France Picotte (#94-0225)

WHEREAS the 2012 MNO AGA directed that a consultation process on potential changes to the MNO Electoral Code be undertaken with MNO citizens prior to the next MNO election;

AND WHEREAS the 2012 MNO AGA appointed an independent Committee consisting of MNO citizens to review the MNO Electoral Code, the Chief Electoral Officer's report from the last MNO election as well as receive feedback and input from MNO citizens on the last MNO election;

AND WHEREAS the Committee provided a written report to the 2013 MNO AGA based on the reviews conducted and the input received on the MNO Electoral Code, which was approved by the 2013 MNO AGA;

AND WHEREAS the Committee then worked with MNO's Legal Counsel to proposed drafting changes to the MNO Electoral Code consistent with input and feedback received;

AND WHEREAS the PCMNO met on March 29, 2014 and approved the proposed changes to the MNO Electoral Code;

AND WHEREAS the exact wording of the proposed changes to the MNO Electoral Code are highlighted in yellow and explained in detail in the attached document;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2014 MNO AGA approves the proposed changes to the MNO Electoral that are attached to this resolution.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-SPECRES2014-02)

Resolution #:	AGA-SPECRES2014-03
Title:	CHANGES TO THE MNO POLICY #2011-002
Mover:	Gary Lipinski (#94-0258)
Seconded:	France Picotte (#94-0225)

WHEREAS the PCMNO has recently amended the MNO Bylaws in order to bring them into compliance with new Ontario legislation dealing with not-for-profit corporations that will come into effect at a future date;

AND WHEREAS MNO Policy #2011-002 requires amendments in order to be consistent with the changes made to the MNO Bylaws;

AND WHEREAS the PCMNO met on March 29, 2014 and discussed proposed changes to MNO Policy #2011-002;

AND WHEREAS the exact wording of the proposed changes to MNO Policy #2011-002 are outlined and explained in detail in the attached document;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2014 MNO AGA approves the proposed changes to MNO Policy #2011-002 that are attached to this resolution.

CARRIED (AGA-SPECRES2014-03)

127 – IN FAVOUR
25 - AGAINST

Resolution #:	AGA-SPECRES2014-04
Title:	ADOPTION OF MNO REGISTRY POLICY
Mover:	Gary Lipinski (#94-0258)
Seconded:	France Picotte (#94-0225)

WHEREAS the MNO AGA adopted the National Definition for citizenship within the Métis Nation in 2004, which is now a part of the MNO Bylaws;

AND WHEREAS the PCMNO adopted an Interim Registry Policy in 2009 in order to provide direction to the MNO Registry for the granting of citizenship within the MNO;

AND WHEREAS the MNO undertook a series of consultations with MNO citizens between 2009 to 2011 in order to more fully explain the Interim Registry Policy and receive input and feedback from the consultations;

AND WHEREAS “What We Heard” reports with recommendations were prepared based on those consultations and circulated throughout the MNO;

AND WHEREAS previous MNO AGAs have provided direction to the MNO in relation to specific recommendations coming out of those consultations, which have been implemented by the MNO Registry;

AND WHEREAS the MNO Interim Registry Policy has now been in place for over 5 years and is relied upon by the MNO Registry for the issuance of MNO citizenship;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2014 MNO AGA adopts the Interim Registry Policy that is attached to this resolution and that all future changes to the policy must come to the MNO AGA for consideration and approval.

CARRIED (AGA-SPECRES2014-04)

122 – IN FAVOUR

21 – AGAINST

6- ABSTENTIONS

Non-Special Business Resolutions

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2014-01
Title:	CALLING FOR A NATIONAL INQUIRY ON VIOLENCE AGAINST ABORIGINAL WOMEN
Mover:	Gary Lipinski (#94-0258)
Seconders:	Sharon McBride (#01-9535)

WHEREAS the Métis Nation of Ontario has a mandate to protect the rights and interests of its citizens including the right to live our lives free of all forms of violence and abuse;

AND WHEREAS the Métis Nation of Ontario recognizes that Aboriginal woman and girls suffer disproportionately high levels of violence in all its forms;

AND WHEREAS the Métis Nation of Ontario acknowledges the negative impacts violence has on the wellbeing of our families, our communities and our nation;

AND WHEREAS the Métis Nation of Ontario is a full partner in Ontario’s Joint Working Group to End Violence Against Aboriginal Women;

AND WHEREAS the Métis Nation of Ontario is a signatory to the Framework to End Violence Against Women;

AND WHEREAS the Métis Nation of Ontario leadership is committed to preventing and addressing Violence Against Women to the best of its ability;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Métis Nation of Ontario President will write to the Prime Minister of Canada urging the federal government to implement a national inquiry into missing and murdered Aboriginal women;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED the Métis Nation of Ontario hereby proclaims the adoption of the Métis Nation Declaration to End Violence Against Aboriginal Women.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2014-01)

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2014-02
Title:	SHARING TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE WITH MÉTIS YOUTH
Mover:	Katelyn Lacroix (#10-408220)
Seconders:	Mitch Case (#07-9358)

WHEREAS the preservation and continuation of Metis history and culture is of great importance to the Metis nation;

AND WHEREAS the MNO Statement of Prime Purpose guides the MNO to “promote the history, values, culture, language and traditions of the Metis Nation and to create an awareness of our proud heritage”;

AND WHEREAS knowledge sharing between Metis elders and youth is an excellent way to ensure that our culture remains strong and vibrant for future generations;

AND WHEREAS senator/veteran/youth workshops in the past were enthusiastically received by youth and elders alike;

AND WHEREAS traditional knowledge sharing with the youth of today ensures the preservation and transfer of knowledge to future generations of Metis and promotes and fosters the development of Metis identity, culture and pride in our history as an indigenous nation;

AND WHEREAS including youth in this process will ensure the continuation of our traditional knowledge for future generations.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that subject to funding being available and secured by MNO future Annual General Assemblies will include a workshop for Senators, Veterans and Youth to share and celebrate traditional knowledge and culture of the Ontario Metis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that PCMNO and the MNOYC work to involve youth in the transfer of traditional knowledge.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2014-02)

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2014-03
Title:	COMMUNICATIONS WITH MÉTIS YOUTH
Mover:	Kyle Grenier (#11-495320)
Seconders:	Alex Young (#11-453420)

WHEREAS youth engagement and involvement in the Metis Nation of Ontario is a current priority of the MNO;

AND WHEREAS appropriate communication is of the utmost importance in engaging and communicating with youth;

AND WHEREAS effective communications with Métis youth sometimes limits their participation in the MNO;

AND WHEREAS the MNO wants to encourage both current and new Métis youth involvement in the MNO;

AND WHEREAS it is the responsibility of the Annual General Assembly to create policy that reinforces the priorities set forward in the MNO Statement of Prime Purpose;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the MNO investigate novel social media strategies, technologies, and employment opportunities to improve communication with Métis youth and students;

AND FURTHER BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any branches of the MNO who engage with youth and/or students have active access to social media to communicate these events and programs to Métis youth and students.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2014-03)

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2014-04
Title:	MÉTIS NATION OF ONTARIO ACT
Mover:	Mitch Case (#07-9358)
Seconded:	Tom Thompson (#00-7861)

WHEREAS advancing Métis self-government agenda is a priority of the Métis Nation of Ontario;

AND WHEREAS in order to advance nation-building the MNO only established one legal and administrative arm - the MNO Secretariat Inc. - under the *Ontario Corporations Act*;

AND WHEREAS as the MNO and its various governance structures at the local, regional and provincial levels continue to grow and evolve it is recognized that the *Ontario Corporations Act* does not adequately address the needs of the MNO and creates potential liabilities for the MNO;

AND WHEREAS there is a recognition that the passage of a Métis Nation of Ontario Act, which recognizes the MNO and its various governance structures at the local, regional and provincial levels, will create a solid legal foundation for the MNO's future growth and development;

AND WHEREAS other provincial governments have passed legislation that recognizes the unique governance structures of Métis governments;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2014 MNO AGA once again direct the MNO's leadership to work with the provincial government to develop and secure the passage of a Métis Nation of Ontario Act by the Ontario legislature.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2014-04)

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2014-05
Title:	A FEDERAL MÉTIS CLAIMS POLICY AND DANIELS CASE
Mover:	Mitch Case (#07-9358)
Seconded:	Tom Thompson (00-7861)

WHEREAS advancing Métis rights and self-government is a priority for the MNO;

AND WHEREAS Ontario Métis communities have outstanding claims related to Métis rights, title and lands that continue to go unaddressed;

AND WHEREAS the Federal Government has established specific and comprehensive claims policies for the negotiation and resolution of First Nation and Inuit claims that currently exclude Métis;

AND WHEREAS in Daniels v. Canada the Federal Court of Appeal confirmed that the Federal Government has constitutional jurisdiction and responsibility for Métis;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2014 MNO AGA provides the following direction to the MNO's leadership:

1. The MNO aggressively pursue that the Federal Government establish a Métis Claims Policy in order to begin to address and resolve outstanding Métis claims;
2. The MNO work collaboratively with other willing provincial Métis governments to draw attention to the need for a Federal Métis Claims Policy; and
3. If the Supreme Court agrees to hear the Federal Government's appeal in the Daniels case that the MNO retain the law firm of Pape Salter Teillet LLP to seek intervener status on behalf of the MNO in the appeal, subject to available funding being identified by the MNO's administration and MNO's Chief Operating Officer negotiating a mutually agreeable budget for said intervention.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2014-05)

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2014-06
Title:	MÉTIS NATIONAL COUNCIL
Mover:	Mitch Case (#07-9358)
Seconded:	Tom Thompson (#00-7861)

WHEREAS Ontario Métis communities are a fundamental and indivisible part of the Métis Nation;

AND WHEREAS the MNO strongly supports the principle of provincial Métis governments working together - through the Métis National Council (“MNC”) - to advance the interests of the Métis Nation at the national and international levels;

AND WHEREAS the MNO’s Statement of Prime Purpose clearly states that one of its guiding principles is to maintain its affiliation with the Métis National Council as one of its five Governing Members;

AND WHEREAS the MNO has ever-increasing concerns about the financial management and operations of the MNC as well as the current national leadership’s ability to respectfully and fairly represent the rights and interests of all parts of the Métis Nation, including the Métis Nation within Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the current situation at the MNC has a negative impact on the perception of provincial Métis governments in the eyes of Métis citizens as well as other governments;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2014 MNO AGA provides the following direction and mandate to the MNO’s leadership:

1. That the MNO President attempt to work with other Presidents of the MNC’s Governing Members in an attempt to improve and reform the MNC’s operations and structures for the benefit of the Métis Nation as a whole, with an annual progress report provided to the Assembly at the AGA;
2. If progress cannot be made in improving the current situation or in reforming the MNC that the PCMNO have the mandate to suspend the MNO’s participation in the MNC until these issues are adequately addressed in order to ensure the MNO and the MNO President are not exposed to potential liabilities or positions are not taken that compromise Métis rights, interests and claims in Ontario.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2014-06)