Special Business Resolutions

Resolution #: AGA-SPECRES2015-001
Title: AMEND MNO PROSPERITY AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY LAW
Mover: Gary Lipinski
Seconder: France Picotte

WHEREAS the PCMNO met on June 25-26, 2015 and approved proposed changes to the MNO Prosperity and Self-Sufficiency Law based on the recommendation of the MNO legal counsel;

AND WHEREAS the exact wording of the proposed changes to section 2 (definition of “Infinity Investment Structures”, “MNO Infinity Investments GP Inc.” and “MNO Infinity Investments LP”), 7, 12, 16-18, 21-22, 25-29, 35-36 and 42 of the MNO Prosperity and Self-Sufficiency Law are attached;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2015 MNO AGA adopts the changes to the MNO Prosperity and Self-Sufficiency Law, which are attached to this resolution.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-SPECRES2015-001)

Resolution #: AGA-SPECRES2015-002
Title: AMEND MNO REGISTRY POLICY
Mover: Gary Lipinski
Seconder: France Picotte

WHEREAS the MNO has been engaged in collaborative research on Métis health with the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES), which has brought attention to Métis health priorities and has been used to secure resources to address Métis health needs and improve MNO service delivery and program development;

AND WHEREAS amendments to the MNO’s Registry Policy are required in order to address both ICES’ and the MNO’s privacy obligations and ensure that the research collaboration can continue;

AND WHEREAS the current MNO Registry Policy does not include a mechanism for appeal of the MNO Registrar’s reconsideration decision in relation to a Harvester’s Card;
AND WHEREAS the current MNO Registry Policy is no longer consistent with the Policy on Conditions for Limitations that May Apply to MNO Citizens, effective February 21, 2015;

AND WHEREAS the exact wording of the proposed changes to page 3 of the MNO Registry Policy (“Independent and Confidential Registry”), sections 3, 5, 39, and 41 of the Registry Policy Guidelines, and the proposed Appendix C are attached;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2015 MNO AGA adopts the changes to the MNO Registry Policy that are attached to this resolution.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-SPECRES2015-002)

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<th>Resolution #:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Title:</td>
<td>AMEND THE MÉTIS NATION OF ONTARIO (MNO) STATEMENT OF PRIME PURPOSE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mover:</td>
<td>Lawrence O’Connor</td>
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<td>Seconder:</td>
<td>Jennifer Henry</td>
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WHEREAS we state in the Métis Nation of Ontario Statement of Prime Purpose that: The strength of our society is based on democracy, freedom, fairness, equality, generosity, justice and the customary and written law of our people. Above all, we cherish harmony and peace;

AND WHEREAS, consistent with this statement we declare as one of our aims and objectives: to establish good relations with all Aboriginal peoples for the pursuit of our common interests and goals;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this objective be amended to read: to establish good relations and maintain our historic alliances with all Aboriginal peoples for the pursuit of our common interests and goals.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-SPECRES2015-003)

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<th>Resolution #:</th>
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<td>Title:</td>
<td>AMEND THE MÉTIS NATION OF ONTARIO (MNO) STATEMENT OF PRIME PURPOSE</td>
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<tr>
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WHEREAS it is a value of the Métis people to respect and honour Mother Earth;

AND WHEREAS this value is contained the Statement of Prime Purpose as follows: We are a Nation, born of independence, and self-sufficiency whose teachings are founded on the values of honesty and truth. We are proud of our rich heritage. We are inspired by the values and traditions of our ancestors. The strength of our society is based on democracy, freedom, fairness, equality, generosity, justice and the customary and written law of our people. Above all, we cherish harmony and peace;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following text be added to the aims and objectives of the Métis Nation of Ontario: to protect and preserve the land and waters within our homelands for future generations.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-SPEC RES2015-004)

Non-Special Business Resolutions

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<th>Resolution #:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Title:</td>
<td>MNO HARVESTER CARDS</td>
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<td>Mover:</td>
<td>Nelson Montreuil</td>
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<td>Seconder:</td>
<td>Kim Powley</td>
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WHEREAS the advancement of Métis rights is the upmost priority for the MNO;

AND WHEREAS the 2004 MNO-MNR Harvesting Agreement always contemplated the MNO and Ontario working together to increase the 1250 cap on Harvester Card allowable under the interim arrangement and for the eventual negotiation of a longer term, rights-recognition agreement;

AND WHEREAS through the MNO-ADM Working Group process the MNO and Ontario have reached common understandings with respect to historic Métis communities in all of the harvesting areas that the MNO now issues Harvester Cards in;

AND WHEREAS MNO has now undergone an internal assessment of all Harvester Cards that has cancelled all incomplete Harvester Card files;

AND WHEREAS the MNO is now close to issuing its 1250th Harvester Card;

AND WHEREAS constitutionally-protected Métis rights cannot be capped;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the MNO’s leadership be directed to commence immediate negotiations with the MNR to have the number of MNO Harvester Cards under the MNO-MNR agreement increased and to move quickly on completing the independent review contemplated in the MNO-MNR agreement so there will be no future cap on MNO Harvester Cards;

2. If a negotiated arrangement with the MNR cannot be reached by the end of September 2015 that the MNO be directed to begin issuing Harvester Cards over the allowable 1250 number for valid Harvester Cards holders and the MNO will defend these harvesters in court if they are charged by MNR;

3. The MNO leadership be directed to attempt to secure a formal negotiations process with the MNR in order to arrive at a longer-term, rights recognition agreement.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2015-005)
WHEREAS past MNO AGAs have called for the MNO’s leadership to work with the Ontario Government to secure legislation that recognizes and respects the MNO’s unique governance structure;

AND WHEREAS the MNO’s leadership and legal counsel have presented the MNO AGA on the progress that has been made on this issue as well as the proposals being considered;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:
1. That the 2015 MNO AGA fully endorses the MNO moving forward on securing provincial legislation that recognizes and respects the MNO’s unique governance structure;
2. That, when it is strategic, all of the MNO’s governance structures at the local, regional and provincial levels will provide letters of support to the provincial government and opposition parties in an attempt to secure unanimous support within the legislature for this historic legislation.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2015-006)

WHEREAS the protection of the environment is an obligation the MNO owes to future generations;

AND WHEREAS many railways carry hazardous or dangerous materials if spilt and are in close proximity to Métis communities that rely on their territories for food as well as spiritual and cultural well-being;

AND WHEREAS the MNO is increasingly concerned that there are insufficient environmental and safety protections in place in relation to railway transportation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:
1. That the MNO’s leadership be directed to write to other levels of government to raise these concerns;
2. That the MNO’s Land, Resources and Consultation branch be directed to look at this issue with a view to identifying opportunities on how the MNO can influence railway transportation policies and regulation as well as play an increased role on these issues.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2015-007)
Resolution #: AGA-RES2015-008  
Title: MÉTIS LAND CLAIMS  
Mover: Gary Lipinski  
Seconder: Kim Powley

WHEREAS the advancement of Métis rights is the upmost priority for the MNO;

AND WHEREAS the MNO has repeatedly called on the federal government to establish a Métis claims policies or include the Métis in the existing federal claims policies;

AND WHEREAS the Akaicho First Nations in the Northwest Territories have challenged the federal government’s ability to enter into a modern day land claim with the Northwest Territories Métis Nation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the MNO AGA renew its call for the federal government to finally begin dealing with outstanding Métis claims in Ontario through the negotiation of modern day land claims or treaties;
2. That the MNO’s legal counsel be directed to investigate the ongoing litigation in the Northwest Territories for potential negative implications for Ontario Métis and the rest of the Métis Nation and report to the PCMNO on options to protect and advance Métis rights.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2015-008)

Resolution #: AGA-RES2015-009  
Title: HYDRO ONE SALE  
Mover: Marcel Lafrance  
Seconder: Kim Powley

WHEREAS energy development in Ontario has a legacy of damage to the rights, territories and way of life of Ontario Métis;

AND WHEREAS, through the innovative and progressive policies of the Ontario government over the last decade, new relationships and partnerships have begun to be developed between Hydro One and Métis communities;

AND WHEREAS there remains a legacy of outstanding Métis claims that have not been addressed by Hydro One in relation to past transmission development;

AND WHEREAS through the sale of Hydro One the MNO is concerned that the Ontario government will divest itself of the ability to effectively address these outstanding claims as well as to ensure that Hydro One continues to be mandated and available to advance partnerships with Aboriginal communities that advance reconciliation;

AND WHEREAS the MNO asserts that these factors trigger the Ontario government’s duty to consult the MNO on the sale of Hydro One;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:
1. That the MNO President be directed to write to the Ontario government on this issue with a view to establishing a consultation and potentially a negotiations process with the province to ensure that the rights, interests and claims of Ontario Métis communities are protected and addressed in any sale of Hydro One.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2015-009)

Resolution #: AGA-RES2015-010
Title: FRENCH LANGUAGE
Mover: Brianne Gosselin
Seconder: Verna Porter-Brunelle

WHEREAS all resources and the MNO Website must be translated in both French and English as they are important material and have great content for MNO citizens as well as raise Métis awareness in the general public;

AND WHEREAS the French language is an important part of our Métis heritage and identity for our citizens.

AND WHEREAS the MNO is effectively excluding entire francophone community by providing its material only in English.

AND WHEREAS the MNO appears to be devaluating francophone culture and heritage by not actively including francophone communities.

AND WHEREAS by not actively including francophone communities MNO is implicitly promoting the loss of the French language for our future generations of Ontario Métis.

AND WHEREAS not having access to French resources is a form of oppression for the non-English speakers.

AND WHEREAS the MNO should treat both languages equally and respect their citizen’s mother tongue as stated in the Statement of Prime Purpose aims and objective to promote languages of the Métis Nation and to create an awareness of our proud heritage.

AND WHEREAS the MNO receives funding for publications that does not state that materials produced must be exclusively in English.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the MNO should develop a strategy on this issue to be brought back to the next MNO AGA for a policy on publication of MNO materials in French.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2015-010)

Resolution #: AGA-RES2015-011
Title: MNO RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL RECONCILIATION STRATEGY
Mover: Mitch Case
Seconder: Kelly Duquette
WHEREAS the Residential school system represents an attempt by Canada to erase indigenous people from existence as distinct peoples;

AND WHEREAS although the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement and the Truth and Reconciliation mandate largely excluded Métis from the TRC process, the legacy of Residential Schools has impacted and affected the Métis Nation and continues to affect our people;

AND WHEREAS the process of reconciliation is going to take multiple generations for Indigenous peoples and Canada to reach a place of respect;

AND WHEREAS, by and large, Métis Youth understand the need for reconciliation, and it will be Métis Youth who will do the “heavy lifting” of reconciliation moving forward;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the MNO AGA 2015 direct the PCMNO and MNO administration to work with Ontario in order to ensure that Métis are included in any initiatives that Ontario undertakes as a result of the renewed effort to move towards reconciliation as a result of the recent release of the TRC summary report; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that MNO actively engage youth via the MNOYC in any reconciliation related programs or partnerships.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2015-011)

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<th>Resolution #:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Title:</td>
<td>SUPPORT THE 4RS YOUTH MOVEMENT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mover:</td>
<td>Mitch Case</td>
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<td>Seconder:</td>
<td>Brianne Gosselin</td>
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WHEREAS the goals of reconciliation between indigenous and non Indigenous communities in the land that is now known as Canada is the most pressing social issue of our time.

AND WHEREAS as the reconciliation process moves forward it will take all people to come together to achieve the goals of reconciliation.

AND WHEREAS the Métis Nation is often forgotten in the larger scheme of “aboriginal programs” and by participating in these things we can do something about that....

AND WHEREAS the Goals of reconciliation are not only about understanding our collective past, but also preparing for a better, more productive and respectful future it is important that young people be prepared to and allowed to take on leadership roles in the reconciliation journey.

AND WHEREAS youth from the MNOYC have participated in 4Rs events in the past and seen the benefits of this initiative.

AND WHEREAS the National youth serving organizations and the 5 national aboriginal organizations have come together to establish a framework for allowing Indigenous and non
Indigenous youth to come together and work towards reconciliation, this structure is known as the 4Rs Youth Movement.

AND WHEREAS the Métis National Council Via the Métis Nation - British Columbia represents the Métis Nation on this important initiative.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2015 MNO AGA endorse the 4Rs Youth Movement as a vehicle for advancing the goal of Reconciliation.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MNOYC President send a letter of commendation to 4Rs steering committee and board of directors expressing the appreciation of the MNO for the work they are doing to create an environment of reconciliation that is truly inclusive of and respectful to Métis people and our unique history and culture.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2015-012)

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<th>Resolution #:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Title:</td>
<td>COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATION ON MNO ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE CHART</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mover:</td>
<td>Anita Tucker</td>
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<td>Seconder:</td>
<td>Jennifer Parkinson</td>
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WHEREAS the MNO Statement of Prime Purpose states that its guiding principles are to:
- Establish democratic institutions based on our inherent right of self-government;
- Encourage the full participation of all Métis in the Métis Nation;
- To promote and foster community development;

AND WHEREAS Section 1 of the MNO Secretariat Bylaws states 'These are the Bylaws of the Métis Nation of Ontario Secretariat (the “MNO”) that represents the Métis in Ontario. The MNO is composed of nine geographic regions and has established several institutions to better serve its citizens. Those institutions include the Provisional Council of the MNO, the Registry, Community Councils, the Captain of the Hunt, the Veterans Council, the Women's Secretariat of the MNO and the Youth Council.';

AND WHEREAS an organizational chart is the most common visual depiction of how an organization is structured and outlines the roles, responsibilities and relationships between individuals and structures within an organization;

AND WHEREAS Community Council operate in accordance with MNO Charter Agreements, which give councils the mandate to govern, while ensuring accountability, transparency, and consistency within the MNO;

AND WHEREAS MNO citizens are represented at the local level through MNO Chartered Community Councils;

AND WHEREAS Community Councils are the cornerstone of a strong foundation for the MNO in its push towards its inherent right to self-government;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the MNO put Chartered Community Councils on the Métis Nation of Ontario Organizational Structure Chart.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2015-013)

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<tr>
<td>Title:</td>
<td>FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANNING IN ONTARIO AND ITS EFFECT ON THE CITIZENS OF THE MÉTIS NATION OF ONTARIO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mover:</td>
<td>Ernie Gatien</td>
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<td>Seconder:</td>
<td>Peter Rivers</td>
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WHEREAS the integrity of the Lands and Waters are of ultimate importance to the Métis Nation of Ontario Citizens and for their future generations;

AND WHEREAS the Forest Management Planning process, as practiced by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, has jurisdiction over All Crown lands in the Province of Ontario;

AND WHEREAS many community Councils and citizens have witnessed impacts to their way of life and proper forest management is necessary for the protection of not only our forests, but our way of life;

AND WHEREAS there are literally thousands of roads and water crossings each year are being constructed throughout the homeland without the Métis Nation of Ontario’s input or consultation;

AND WHEREAS it has been made evident by virtue of many Métis Nation of Ontario Chartered Community Councils that have made registered motions to support Lands Resources and Consultation in moving forward with the Forestry agenda and move the forestry priority to top or near top of its priorities;

AND WHEREAS we realize that the forestry agenda does not generate any significant monetary return to the Métis Nation of Ontario but that is not the driving force of our Métis culture;

AND WHEREAS the continued integrity and maintenance of the Land and Waters for future generations of the Métis people is being disregarded as forest harvesting proceeds;

AND WHEREAS Forest Management Planning is and has been proceeding in most cases on all of these lands in Ontario without the participation of the Métis Nation of Ontario and it’s citizens’ rights and interests in mind;

AND WHEREAS there has not been any True consultation has taken place in these Forest Management Plans;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Métis Nation of Ontario by means of its Lands and Resources Branch have the appropriate numbers of staffing put in place (where funds are available) to deal effectively with these outstanding issues before the next General Assembly of the Métis Nation of Ontario in 2016.
WHEREAS after 6 years the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada has concluded their comprehensive study of Canada’s genocidal experiment known as the Residential School System.

AND WHEREAS the Summary report has been released and the full report is due to be released later this year.

AND WHEREAS the summary report contained 94 recommendations for Canada, the Provinces, Municipalities, Industry and Media on how to reconcile between Indigenous and settler communities.

AND WHEREAS although the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement and the Truth and Reconciliation mandate largely excluded Métis from the TRC process, the legacy of Residential Schools has impacted and affected the Métis Nation and continues to affect our people.

AND WHEREAS the process of reconciliation is going to take multiple generations for Indigenous peoples and Canada to reach a place of respect.

AND WHEREAS by and large, Métis Youth understand the need for reconciliation, and it will be Métis Youth who will do the “heavy lifting” of reconciliation moving forward.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the MNO AGA 2015 call on all levels of Government in Ontario and Canada to act to implement the 94 recommendations of the TRC;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MNO President write a letter to The Premier of Ontario and the Prime Minister (after the fall election) to demand that any steps toward implementation include Métis Individuals, families and communities;

AND FINALLY BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED MNO actively engage youth via the MNOYC in any reconciliation related programs or partnerships.
WHEREAS the MNO Statement of Prime Purpose states that its guiding principles are to:

- Encourage the full participation of all Métis in the Métis Nation;
- Promote and foster community development;
- Provide care and support necessary to meet the fundamental needs of citizens of the Métis Nation; and
- Establish means of communication for the Métis Nation;

AND WHEREAS MNO citizens are represented at the local level through MNO Chartered Community Councils;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the MNO develop a “Community Relations Communication Protocol” using the LRC – Community Relations team as the liaison between the MNO branches, MNO staff, MNO Regional Councilors, MNO Community Councils, MNO Veterans, MNO Senators, MNO Captains of the Hunt, MNO Women Secretariat and the MNO Youth Council to ensure advanced communication regarding engagements, consultations, gatherings, MNO branch events, etc. happening in their regions and communities to ensure full representation and participation from MNO citizens.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2015-016)

WHEREAS the MNO has always put youth as a top priority.

AND WHEREAS the future of the Métis Nation depends on a strong and healthy youth population who are engaged and involved in the nation and have the necessary skills to carry on the legacy of the Métis Nation.

AND WHEREAS most if not all other provincial aboriginal organizations already have an annual provincial youth conference.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that MNO seek funding to support a Métis youth leadership conference;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MNOYC be engaged in and direct the process of planning the content of the conference;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the conference be geared towards building leadership capacity, culture, skills development;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the conference should be aimed at being an annual event; and,

AND FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that the community councils be called upon to sponsor youth where possible.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2015-017)

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<td>Title:</td>
<td>ETHICAL INVESTMENT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mover:</td>
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<td>Seconder:</td>
<td>Ernie Gatien</td>
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WHEREAS the Métis Nation was born from the land on which we now call the homeland

AND WHEREAS as Indigenous people we have a special relationship with the land

AND WHEREAS our land has always provided for our people, even in the darkest times of colonization and loss of land.

AND WHEREAS we as Métis people have rights which stem from our indigenous connection to land and our prior use of and connection to land prior to “effective control.” While these rights are enshrined in Canadian law, our customary law of the Métis Nation emphasize not only our rights, but our responsibilities, to land.

AND WHEREAS the Métis Nation of Ontario has established Infinity Investments to facilitate the MNO to benefit from our rights and land.

AND WHEREAS climate change, caused by human activity and carbon emissions is the biggest threat humanity has ever faced, and

AND WHEREAS to deny the science behind Climate Change is unethical and is becoming a more well known issue for humanity to deal with.

AND WHEREAS many Canadian universities and other organizations and institutions are divesting themselves of heavy carbon emitting investments.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2015 MNO AGA direct the PCMNO to work with MNO legal counsel to develop a policy to direct Métis Infinity Investments on what types of investments we find to be socially and environmentally responsible. This is not intended to bind Infinity from doing their job or generating profit but it is intended to create guidelines of the types of industry that simply do not fit with our Métis Worldview. For Greater certainty, the goal of this resolution is limit MNO investments from investing in heavy carbon emitting industries.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2015-018)
WHEREAS the MNO Statement of Prime Purpose states that it guiding principles are to:

- To promote the history, values, culture, languages and traditions of the Métis Nation and to create an awareness of our proud heritage;
- Promote and foster community development; and
- To promote the improved health and wellness of the individual, the family and the whole Métis community;

AND WHEREAS sport has been shown to play a primarily positive role in youth development, including improved academic achievement, greater confidence and self-esteem, stronger peer relationships and family attachment, fewer behavioural problems, better psychosocial development and greater involvement in volunteer work;

AND WHEREAS the playing of sports has repeatedly been shown to improve critical components of positive youth development such as competence, confidence, connections, character, and caring;

AND WHEREAS sports provide lifelong skills for those that play, such as the discipline of training, learning teamwork, following the leadership of coaches and captains, and learning to lose;

AND WHEREAS the MNO is committed to improving the health of all its citizens by encouraging healthy weights, active living and culturally appropriate interventions to achieve these goals;

AND WHEREAS a growing body of research points to community sport’s fundamental role as a primary generator of social capital within communities including improved social inclusion, crime prevention, fostering economic development and environmental sustainability;

AND WHEREAS sport and traditional Métis Voyageur games have always been a significant community activity for the Métis people;

AND WHEREAS MNO citizens are represented at the local level through MNO Chartered Community Councils;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the MNO develop a strategy to foster, develop and initiated both organized and traditional sport at the community and regional levels within the province of Ontario.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2015-019)