

Resolutions of the 20th Annual General Assembly of the Métis Nation of Ontario held August 24 – 26, 2013, at the Delta Ottawa City Centre, Ottawa, Ontario.

DAY 1 – SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 2013

Special Business Resolutions

Resolution #:	AGA-SPECRES2013-01
Title:	ACCEPTANCE OF MNO BYLAWS DATED DECEMBER 2012
Mover:	Joanne Young
Seconder:	Guy Mandeville

That the MNO 2013 AGA accept the changes to the bylaws made by the PCMNO over the last year, as set out in the MNO Bylaws, dated December 2012.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-SPECRES2013-01)

Resolution #:	AGA-SPECRES2013-02
Title:	TO AMEND MNO POLICY ON ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS
Mover:	Gary Lipinski
Seconder:	France Picotte

WHEREAS the 2012 MNO AGA gave direction that additional clarity be provided in relation to the parameters of non-special business resolutions in order to ensure that non-special business resolutions do not financially bind or compromise the MNO.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that s.34.2 of the MNO Bylaws be amended to add in the underlined and bolded words below:

34.2 Any special **or non-special business resolutions** to be dealt with at a general assembly must comply with the *MNO Policy – Process for Conducting Special Business at a General Assembly* as amended from time to time.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED the *MNO Policy – Process for Conducting Special Business at a General Assembly* (MNO Policy #2011-002) be amended to add in the underlined and bolded words as follows:

Process for Conducting Special Business at a General Assembly

Background on and Context for Policy For greater certainty, resolutions that do not propose to amend the MNO's foundational principles, by-laws or policies that have not been previously adopted by the general assembly are not special business and are not required to comply with the thirty (30) day notice requirement. Resolutions that are non-special business can be put before any general assembly based on the process set out in #5 below.

Process Annual General Assembly Process

5. At an annual general assembly, the resolutions committee may also receive other resolutions proposed by MNO citizens that are not special business. **These are called non-special business resolutions. These types of resolutions provide general policy and political direction to the MNO. For example, a suitable non-special business resolution could set out a position that the MNO should take on a specific policy issue, encourage the MNO to undertake specific activities to advance the Métis Nation's agenda, provide direction on important political issues at the provincial, national or international levels that affect Ontario Métis, recognize Métis accomplishments, etc. These resolutions cannot be drafted in a way where they financially bind the MNO or make it act in a manner that is inconsistent with existing contractual relationships it already has in place. They also cannot deal with internal and individual staffing and personnel issues. If a proposed non-special business resolution deals with these ineligible issues, the resolution committee shall not present it to the general assembly. All non-special business resolutions submitted to the resolutions committee at a general assembly must include the names, signatures and MNO citizenship card numbers of the mover and seconder for the resolution. The mover and seconder of a resolution that is non-special business must be in attendance when the resolution is brought to the floor for vote by the assembly. As a guide to MNO citizens, a sample resolution that is non-special business is attached to this policy as Annex B.**

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-SPECRES2013-02)

DAY 2 – SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 2013

Non-Special Business Resolutions

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2013-ECDEVLAW
Title:	MNO ECONOMIC PROSPERITY AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY LAW
Mover:	Louise Goulding
Seconder:	Senator Rene Gravelle

That the MNO 2013 AGA adopt the MNO Economic Prosperity and Self-Sufficiency Law.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2013-ECDEVLAW)

DAY 3 – MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 2013

Non-Special Business Resolutions

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2013-01
Title:	MÉTIS NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL
Mover:	Mitchell Case
Seconder:	Brianne Gosselin

WHEREAS the Métis Nation of Ontario has long made great strides in bringing Youth into the MNO;

AND WHEREAS it is critical to the future of the Métis Nation that Youth are informed and involved in the governance across the homeland to help strengthen the Métis Nation;

AND WHEREAS building strong relationships with Youth from other Métis governments across the homeland helps strengthen the Métis Nation;

AND WHEREAS the National Métis Youth Advisory Council collapsed a number of years ago due to lack of funding;

AND WHEREAS the 2013 Métis National Council AGA passed a unanimous resolution to direct the MNC to seek out to restart this important forum for Métis Youth;

AND WHEREAS the MNOYC has been working very hard to establish the credibility of the Youth Council and is as such well positioned to take a leadership role in the National Youth Council.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly of 2013 direct the PCMNO, Métis Nation of Ontario Executive and Secretariat to work with the Métis National Council to show the Métis Nation of Ontario's support for re-establishing the Métis National Youth Advisory Council.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2013-01)

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2013-02
Title:	YOUTH INCLUSION AND PARTICIPATION
Mover:	Thomas A. Thompson

Seconded:	Mark Thompson
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WHEREAS the Métis Nation of Ontario has long made inclusion of Youth in the Annual General Assembly a priority;

AND WHEREAS it is critical to the future of the Métis Nation of Ontario that Youth are involved and informed in the governance of the Métis Nation;

AND WHEREAS participation and inclusion in all sessions of Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly is the best way to understand the structures and practices of the governance systems;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly of 2013 direct the Provisional Council of Métis Nation of Ontario, the Métis Nation of Ontario Executive and the Métis Nation of Ontario Secretariat to work to have all documents available to the Youth delegates of the Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that children of citizens of the Métis Nation of Ontario be recognized as full participants for all purposes of the Métis Nation of Ontario Annual General Assembly, other than voting.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2013-02)

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2013-03
Title:	MNO BOUNDARY RELATED ISSUES
Mover:	Cameron Burgess
Seconded:	Theresa Stenlund

WHEREAS Métis rights are based on the facts of history that Ontario Métis communities lived, used and relied on traditional territories prior to Canada becoming Canada;

AND WHEREAS Ontario Métis communities continue to rely on these traditional territories to sustain their identify, culture and way of life;

AND WHEREAS one of the MNO's most important objectives is to protect and advance Métis rights and self-government;

AND WHEREAS when the MNO initially created its nine MNO Regions in 1993, these were created for administrative and self-government purposes – not rights claims;

AND WHEREAS the MNO Harvesting Policy that was adopted in 1996, which includes the identification of Métis harvesting areas, is based on Métis rights assertions;

AND WHEREAS in 2008, for the purposes of Crown consultation, the MNO established Regional Consultation Protocol areas, which are also based on Métis rights assertions;

AND WHEREAS the boundaries the MNO has identified for administrative purposes (i.e., MNO Region) and for rights purposes (i.e., Harvesting Areas, Regional Consultation Protocol Areas) are not one in the same;

AND WHEREAS over the last decade the MNO has undertaken additional historic research, traditional land use studies, genealogical research, etc. that provides a better understanding of the geography of Métis communities, Métis traditional territories and Métis rights claims;

AND WHEREAS it has become apparent that in some areas of the province there are shared territories and overlap where Regional Consultation Protocols may be required to work together in order to ensure Métis rights are respected and protected;

AND WHEREAS the MNO's current Consultation Model does not include mechanisms or processes to address shared territory or overlap issues that will allow for Regional Consultation Protocols to work through these issues with the support of the LRC Branch;

AND WHEREAS there is a need to review the MNO's current rights-based boundaries, based on additional historic research, traditional land use studies, genealogical research, etc. that has been gathered, as the MNO continues to move forward on advancing Métis rights and claims in Ontario;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the MNO AGA direct the MNO, subject to securing funding, to hold a 2-3 day workshop with PCMNO and Community Councils to better understand and discuss the administrative and rights-based boundaries within the MNO and discuss how the MNO can be better positioned to advance Métis rights in the future;
2. That based on the outcomes of the abovementioned workshop that the MNO move forward on putting shared territory/overlap arrangements and/or agreements in place between Regional Consultation Protocols in order to avoid disagreements or disputes that undermine the MNO's collective work or the credibility of the MNO in the eyes of government and proponents; and,
3. That based on the abovementioned workshop and shared territory/overlap work that the MNO report to the next MNO AGA on progress.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2013-03)

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2013-04
Title:	CONSULTATION ISSUES
Mover:	Pauline Saulnier
Seconded:	Larry Duval

WHEREAS, since 2008, the MNO has developed and implemented its own consultation framework, which includes MNO, Community Councils (as set out below) and the MNO Land,

Resources and Consultation Branch, working together through Regional Consultation Committee processes as set out in negotiated and signed Protocols;

AND WHEREAS Métis rights are collective rights and the MNO consultation framework is mandated by MNO citizens and Community Councils to ensure regional rights-bearing Métis communities are meaningfully consulted and accommodated;

AND WHEREAS the Supreme Court of Canada has recognized that Aboriginal communities can establish and mandate their own consultation structures, regardless of government positions or approaches;

AND WHEREAS other levels of government continue to attempt to impose their own site-specific approach to consultation, which MNO citizens, Community Councils and the MNO rejects;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the MNO President once again write to other levels of government to set out the MNO position on these issues to ensure it is respected;
2. That the MNO continue to apply to New Relationship Fund based on the existing mandates and authorizations within the MNO, as set out in the negotiated and signed Regional Consultation Protocols; and,
3. That the MNO work to develop additional plainspeak documents for Regional Consultation Protocol Committees to explain the MNO consultation model to government and industry.

Listing of MNO Community Councils:

1. Northwest Métis Nation of Ontario Council
2. Kenora Métis Community Council
3. Sunset Country Métis Council
4. Atikokan Métis Council
5. Greenstone Council
6. Superior North Shore Métis Council
7. Thunder Bay Métis Council
8. Chapleau Métis Council
9. Northern Lights Métis Council
10. Temiskaming Métis Council
11. Métis Nation of Ontario – Timmins
12. Historic Sault Ste. Marie Métis Council
13. North Channel Métis Council
14. Sudbury Métis Council
15. North Bay Métis Council
16. Mattawa Métis Council
17. Ottawa Regional Métis Council
18. High Land Waters Métis Council

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19. Georgian Bay Métis Council
 20. Great Lakes Métis Council
 21. Moon River Métis Council
 22. Peterborough and District Wapiti Métis Council
 23. Grand River Métis Council
 24. Oshawa and Durham Region Métis Council
 25. Toronto and York Region Métis Council
 26. Niagara Region Métis Council
 27. Windsor-Essex-Kent Métis Council
 28. Hamilton-Wentworth Métis Council
 29. Credit River Métis Council

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2013-04)

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2013-05
Title:	LONG TERM ENERGY PLAN
Mover:	Ernest M. Gatien
Secunder:	Robert Bird

WHEREAS the MNO is very supportive of the First Nation and Métis community participation and partnership commitments in Ontario’s current Long-Term Energy Plan;

AND WHEREAS it is the MNO’s position that any future LTEP should strengthen the participation and partnership commitments made to First Nations and Métis, as a means to align government, ratepayers, industry, First Nation and Métis interests in Ontario’s energy sector;

AND WHEREAS, while some industry partners, have recognized that these commitments are made to both First Nations and Métis communities, others have interpreted them to only apply to First Nations;

AND WHEREAS this has been particularly the case in relation to Hydro One and Ontario Power Generation, which have mainly focused on pursuing participation and partnerships with only First Nations to date;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the MNO work to encourage the ongoing pursuit and development of a green energy economy in Ontario, which includes First Nation and Métis communities as partners;
2. That the MNO work to ensure that in any LTEP update, the commitments to First Nation and Métis for participation and partnership be strengthened and enhanced (i.e., referring to First Nation and Métis — not “Aboriginal”, creating Métis set aside targets in RFP processes, identifying geographically proximate Métis communities for discussions, etc.); and,

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3. That the MNO President write to the Minister of Energy, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs, Hydro One and Ontario Power Generation, outlining Métis concerns about the perceived lack of Métis participation and partnership opportunities pursued by Ontario's energy corporations.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2013-05)

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2013-06
Title:	FEDERAL MÉTIS CLAIMS POLICY
Mover:	Theresa Stenlund
Seconded:	Mitchell Case

WHEREAS the courts continue to send ongoing direction to the Federal Government that there are outstanding Métis claims, which require negotiation and agreements with Métis governments;

AND WHEREAS Métis continue to be excluded from all Federal claims processes that have been established for First Nations and Inuit, despite the fact that the Federal Government has constitutional responsibility for Métis;

AND WHEREAS in the words of the Supreme Court of Canada, the "time has come" to honourably deal with the rights, claims and interests of the Métis;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the MNO President write to the Federal Government that a Métis claims negotiation process be put in place in order to uphold the Honour of the Crown and achieve the promise of s. 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2013-06)

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2013-07
Title:	FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION TO MÉTIS VOYAGEUR DEVELOPMENT FUND
Mover:	Mitchell Case
Seconded:	Ernest M. Gatien

WHEREAS Ontario has committed \$30 million over 10 years to support Métis businesses in the Province through the Métis Voyageur Development Fund (MVDF);

AND WHEREAS the Federal Government has provided absolutely no support to date to the MVDF, despite the fact that it has invested significant funds with other Métis capital corporations and the reality that the Ontario Métis population is the second largest in Canada;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the MNO calls upon the Federal Government to work with MNO and MVDF to ensure a meaningful and equitable investment is made in Ontario to promote Métis economic development and businesses.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2013-07)

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2013-08
Title:	MODIFICATION OF AGA-RES2012-003 TITLED MNO HARVESTERS CARDS
Mover:	Daniel Boulard
Seconder:	Lorenzo Prevost

WHEREAS current Harvester Card Holders are citizens of the Métis Nation of Ontario and are part of the history in fighting for harvesting rights and in supporting, directly or indirectly, the *Powley* case;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Article 1:

Subsection “b” be changed to:

- b. The MNO Harvester Card holder has until November 30, 2015, to ensure that his or her Harvester Card file is complete;

Subsection “c” be changed to:

- c. If the Harvester’s file is not completed prior to November 30, 2015, the Harvester’s Card will be cancelled and provided to the next MNO citizen on the list who has a completed MNO Harvester Card file that has been waiting for one of the MNO’s 1250 cards;

Section “e” be changed to:

- e. If their Harvester’s Card is cancelled on November 30, 2015, they will be able to re-apply for a MNO Harvester’s Card in the future once their file is complete and if MNO Harvester’s Cards are available for issuance;

Addition of subsection “h”:

- h. The MNO continue to negotiate to remove the 1250 cap, with intent to not cancel current Harvester Card holders, because they have been the founding Métis Citizens in the fight for harvesting rights.

RESOLUTION DEFEATED (AGA-RES2013-08)

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2013-09
Title:	TO OPPOSE THE PRACTICE OF FRACKING IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO
Mover:	Phoebe Mandry

Seconder:	Brianne Gosselin
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WHEREAS the practice of fracking for unconventional natural gas is continuing to expand across Canada;

AND WHEREAS there is irrefutable evidence that fracking causes irreparable environmental damage;

AND WHEREAS other nations such as France, Switzerland and Ireland have banned the practice of fracking;

AND WHEREAS the Métis Nation of Ontario has committed itself to protecting not only our lands, but also the health and well-being of our Métis communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Annual General Assembly direct the Provisional Council of the Métis Nation of Ontario and the Lands, Resources and Consultation Branch of the Métis Nation of Ontario to oppose the practice of fracking within the Province of Ontario, until sufficient scientific evidence has been provided that ensures the safety and well-being of MNO citizens;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the MNO LRC be directed to actively engage proponents and opponents of hydraulic fracturing in order to ascertain the environmental and health consequences of hydraulic fracking.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2013-09)

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2013-10
Title:	CANOE EXPEDITION
Mover:	Katelyn LaCroix
Seconder:	Alexandra Dusome

WHEREAS the MNO as a governing body, MNO Citizens, MNO staff and MNO Youth would benefit from the opportunity that would be derived from the Canoe Expedition that would raise Métis Cultural and Historic awareness by educating the general public, visiting communities and by obtaining high profile media coverage;

AND WHEREAS if funding were available, by combining both the Summer Youth Cultural Program and the Canoe Expedition would provide the incredible opportunity to deliver cultural programming to various communities along the canoe expedition route and giving the selected Métis Youth the opportunity to learn, experience and appreciate the Way of Life of our Métis ancestors while sharing their journey with others;

AND WHEREAS in commemoration of the War of 1812, the Canoe Expedition could relive and retrace the historic fur trade routes of our Métis ancestors while bringing forth and putting emphasis on the involvement of Métis People in the War of 1812 which would strongly demonstrate that Métis people are not a forgotten people and how significant a role that Métis people had during the War;

AND WHEREAS the Canoe Expedition enables Métis Youth to showcase Métis pride and strength as a people, youth would be given an opportunity to showcase Métis pride by becoming educated on Métis Way of Life through paddling the waterways of Canada, cooking practices, strong sense of self endurance, healthy active living, appreciation and life skills;

AND WHEREAS in the past the MNO put importance on supporting and funding two previous Canoe Expeditions in 2003 and 2005 which has had a lasting effect within the MNO both in publication of the events and on the Métis Youth involved;

AND WHEREAS there is a high interest for the opportunity to participate in a Canoe Expedition, as well as community members who have established support and interest on following this adventure; this opportunity has been discussed for the past three years within the SYCP with several summer staff showing strong interest and anticipation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the MNO AGA 2013 direct the PCMNO and MNO Secretariat to attempt to seek funding in order to support a Canoe Expedition.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2013-10)

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2013-11
Title:	COMMUNITY COUNCIL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTICIPATION
Mover:	Alain Lefebvre
Seconder:	Marcel Lafrance

WHEREAS the Statement of Prime Purpose declares to promote and foster community development;

AND WHEREAS it is important that Community Councils be included in Economic Development and Self-Sufficiency endeavours;

AND WHEREAS many Economic Development opportunities are identified at the community level;

AND WHEREAS Community Councils are able to communicate potential Economic Development and Self-Sufficiency endeavours directly to Métis citizens and businesses;

AND WHEREAS Community Councils are able to bring input from Métis citizens and businesses to Economic Development and Self-Sufficiency endeavours;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the 2013 MNO Annual General Assembly direct the PCMNO and MNO Secretariat to look into methods and options to accept input on potential Economic Development and Self-Sufficiency opportunities sourced by Community Councils; and,

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2. That the 2013 MNO Annual General Assembly direct the PCMNO and MNO Secretariat to look into methods or options to involve Community Councils directly in the sourcing, planning and operation of Economic Development and Self-Sufficiency opportunities in their community.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2013-11)

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2013-12
Title:	WEBCASTING FUTURE ASSEMBLIES
Mover:	Lynne Picotte
Seconded:	Amanda Desbiens

WHEREAS the MNO prides itself on forward thinking initiatives and increasing Métis involvement through programming, community activities and community consultation;

AND WHEREAS the MNO has the capabilities to utilize technology to reach the members who are unable to attend an Annual General Assembly;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the MNO, if feasible (financially, technically, legally), move forward to have the 2014 and future AGA's webstreamed and/or connected through video conference with the opportunity for interactions, as well as investigate voting capabilities by 2017 so that MNO citizens who are home bound or unable to afford to travel to the AGA be able to view the business meetings and participate in the discussions concerning resolutions. Thereby increasing the ability of participation for all Métis across the province with respect to the political direction that our leadership takes for the upcoming year from citizens as an important part of the democratic process the MNO fosters.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2013-12)

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2013-13
Title:	STEM
Mover:	Matthew Lafreniere
Seconded:	Alexander Young

WHEREAS there exists significant socioeconomic challenges facing the education and employment of Métis Youth;

AND WHEREAS the economic self-sufficiency of the Métis Nation depends on education and employment in the fields of science, technology, engineering and maths;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the MNO is directed to develop policy principles to promote STEM education and employment amongst Métis Youth.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2013-13)