

Resolutions of the 23rd Annual General Assembly of the Métis Nation of Ontario held August 27-29, 2016, at the Best Western Hotel and Conference Centre, North Bay, Ontario.

2016 Special Business Resolutions

Resolution #:	AGA-SPECRES2016-001
Title:	MNO SECRETARIAT BYLAW CHANGES – AGA VOTING
Mover:	Jerry Clarke
Seconder:	Donna Grayer

WHEREAS the MNO promised to ensure active engagement of Métis Youth;

AND WHEREAS there is a need to engage our youth at an earlier age;

AND WHEREAS the presence of Métis children and youth at the MNO's AGA has fallen over the years;

AND WHEREAS the current MNO Electoral Code Part A reads:

- 5.2 An Elector who is sixteen (16) years of age or older is entitled to cast one (1) vote for the each of the following officers;
- (a) President;
 - (b) Chair;
 - (c) Vice Chair;
 - (d) Secretary Treasurer;
 - (e) Regional Councilor in his or her Region; and
 - (f) Post-secondary representative.
- 5.3 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 or for the regional youth representatives on the MNOYC.

AND WHEREAS providing Métis youth, that may be interested, with an opportunity to cast their first official vote as part of the Métis Nation would be engaging, provide a lifelong memory of validation, and encourage interest and participation at future MNO events;

AND WHEREAS the Federal and Provincial Parties both have youth voting members at their annual conventions, voting on not only policy but also for their leadership starting at the age of fourteen (14) years old;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that in keeping with the MNO's commitment to engage Métis youth and providing them a voice, and encouraging participation, the MNO Electoral Code Part A Article 5.2 and Article 5.3 be amended age from sixteen (16) years old to read as fourteen (14) years old as follows:

- 5.2 An Elector who is fourteen (14) years of age or older is entitled to cast one (1) vote for the each of the following officers;
- (a) President;
 - (b) Chair;
 - (c) Vice Chair;
 - (d) Secretary Treasurer;
 - (e) Regional Councilor in his or her Region; and
 - (f) Post-secondary representative.
- 5.3 Only Electors who are between the ages of fourteen (14) and twenty-nine (29) years of age may vote for the youth representatives on the PCMNO or for the regional youth representatives on the MNOYC.

DEFEATED (AGA-SPECRES2016-001)

62 – IN FAVOUR

238 – AGAINST

Resolution #:	AGA-SPECRES2016-002
Title:	AMEND ARTICLE 4 FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY (“AGA”) PROCESS IN THE MNO, PROCESS FOR CONDUCTING ORDINARY AND SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (UPDATED VERSION APPROVED BY 21ST MNO AGA ON AUGUST 23, 2014)
Mover:	Daniel Boulard
Seconded:	Jessica Boulard

WHEREAS as special resolution amend or repeal the MNO's foundation principals, by-laws or policies which can have a significant impact on MNO citizens;

AND WHEREAS it is a democratic right to freely express the right to vote without influence or prejudice or without any discrimination and re-precautions on your vote;

AND WHEREAS MNO citizens need to express their democratic rights;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED to add the following “The validated special resolutions will be voted on at the annual general assembly by secret ballot voting” to article 4 of the Annual General Assembly (“AGA”) Process in the MNO #2011-022, Process for Conducting Ordinary and Special Resolutions at a General Assembly (updated Version approved by 21st MNO AGA on August 23, 2014) and be changed to read as follows:

“At the beginning of the general assembly, a resolutions committee shall be established. The resolutions committee shall include three (3) MNO citizens selected by the general assembly, along with the MNO's legal counsel. The resolutions committee shall also be supported by the MNO administration, as required. The resolutions committee has the

authority to review the proposed special resolutions to ensure they are in a form that is consistent with this policy. Only those resolutions that are in compliance with this policy will be brought to the assembly floor by the resolutions committee to be voted on by the assembly. At least one of the identified movers and seconders for each special resolution must be in attendance at the general assembly to act as the mover and seconders when the special resolution is brought to the floor. The resolutions committee cannot amend special resolutions in order to make them compliant with the policy. If a special resolution does not refer to a specific clause and propose specific wording, it will not be put forward to the annual general assembly for consideration. The validated special resolution will be voted on at the annual general assembly by secret ballot voting.”

DEFEATED (AGA-SPECRES2016-002)

106 - IN FAVOUR
160 - AGAINST
13 - ABSTENTIONS

Resolution #:	AGA-SPECRES2016-003
Title:	AMEND SECTION 60, SUBSECTION (a) OF THE MNO SECRETARIAT BY-LAWS
Mover:	Juliette S. Denis
Seconders:	Daniel Boulard

WHEREAS “The MNO’s 2010 Annual General Assembly directed the MNO to put in place a process that would ensure that MNO citizens have an opportunity to review, discuss and consider any proposed resolutions that would make changes to the MNO’s by-laws or significant changes to the MNO’s governance structures prior to their consideration by the general assembly” (AGA-RES10-02);

AND WHEREAS “the MNO by-laws have been amended to required that MNO citizens receive thirty (30) days notice of any special resolutions to be proposed at the general assembly” (MNO Policy #2011-002);

AND WHEREAS MNO Policy #2011-002 Process for Conducting Ordinary and Special Resolutions at a General Assembly applies strictly to “MNO’s foundational principles, by-laws or policies that have been previously adopted by the General Assembly” (MNO Policy #2011-002);

AND WHEREAS section 60, subsection “a” of the MNO Secretariat By-laws applies strictly to policies previously adopted by the General Assembly;

AND WHEREAS there is no by-law for the addition, repeal or amendment of MNO policies which relates to foundational principles, citizenship, rights or established boundaries which have not been previously adopted by the General Assembly;

AND WHEREAS MNO policies which relates to foundational principles, citizenship, rights or established boundaries are not subject to the MNO policy #2011-002 Process for Conducting Ordinary and Special Resolution at a General Assembly and do not require MNO citizens to receive thirty (30) days notice of special resolutions to be proposed at a General Assembly for their adoption or ratification;

AND WHEREAS the PCMNO may adopt, repeal or amend MNO policies which relates to foundational principles, citizenship, rights or established boundaries which have not been previously adopted by the General Assembly;

AND WHEREAS the PCMNO is not required to bring to the General Assembly, for adoption or ratification, MNO policies which relate to foundational principles, citizenship, rights or established boundaries which have not been previously adopted by the General Assembly;

AND WHEREAS there is no required timeframe for PCMNO to bring to the General Assembly, for adoption or ratification, new, repealed or amended MNO policies which relates to foundational principles, citizenship, rights or established boundaries which have not been previously adopted by the General Assembly;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED to remove “For greater certainty, a Special Resolution is not required to repeal or amend MNO policies that are not previously adopted by the General Assembly” in s. 60, subsection (a) of the MNO Secretariat By-Law and replace with “New policies which related to the MNO’s foundational principles, citizenship, rights or established boundaries adopted by PCMNO shall be subsequently approved or ratified by a Special Resolution at the next General Assembly.”

DEFEATED (AGA-SPECRES2016-003)

52 - IN FAVOUR
151- AGAINST
20 - ABSTENTIONS

Resolution #:	AGA-SPECRES2016-004
Title:	AMEND SECTION 4 OF THE MNO SECRETARIAT BY-LAWS
Mover:	Daniel Boulard
Seconded:	Jessica Boulard

WHEREAS the Métis National Council can change or amend the Métis definition without full agreement of the Métis Nation of Ontario citizens;

AND WHEREAS the Métis National Council does not give equal seats for voting to the Métis Nation of Ontario;

AND WHEREAS it is the democratic right for Métis Nation of Ontario citizens to have a voice on whom the Métis people are in their community;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED to remove ‘in accordance with the Métis National Council’ in section 4 of the MNO Secretariat Bylaws and to read as follows; “Citizenship in the MNO shall be limited to individuals interested in furthering the objects of the MNO and who are Métis within the definition adopted by the MNO, which is as follows;”

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-SPECRES2016-004)

Resolution #:	AGA-SPECRES2016-005
Title:	MNO HARVESTING CARD FEES FOR SENIORS 65 AND OVER

Mover:	Yvonne Jensen
Seconded:	Guy Mike Laderoute

WHEREAS the MNO Harvesting Policy came into effect on the 27th day of June in the year 2011;

AND WHEREAS the MNO Harvesting Policy has been amended from time to time;

AND WHEREAS article 4.3 of the MNO Harvesting Policy refers to “Applicable Fees as set out in Schedule “A” which is attached to and forms part of this MNO Harvesting Policy”;

AND WHEREAS the government of Ontario has waived the fees for Outdoors Cards or Fishing Licence for citizens 65 years and older;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that any MNO citizen 65 years and older who possesses a Valid Harvesting Card or is eligible to possess a MNO Harvesting Card have all fees associated with obtaining or renewing their Harvesting Card waived.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-SPECRES2016-005)

2016 Non-Special Business Resolutions

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2016-01
Title:	PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO MÉTIS PROSPERITY AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY LAW
Mover:	David Dusome
Seconded:	Peter Couture

WHEREAS one of the foundational objectives of the MNO, as set out in its Statement of Prime Purpose, is to develop prosperity and economic self sufficiency for the Métis Citizens, Metis Communities and the Metis Nation – as a whole – within Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the *Métis Prosperity and Economic Self-Sufficiency* was adopted by the MNO Annual General Assembly and the PCMNO may make changes to the Law to be subsequently ratified the next MNO AGA;

AND WHEREAS there is a need to inform Métis communities about when economic opportunities are being explored or pursued in a given region;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the PCMNO consider making the following changes to the Law:
 - a. That Section 40 be amended to read as "This Law may be amended by the Board of Directors of Infinity Investments GP and only implemented by resolution at the Current Year Annual General by way of resolution and in compliance with the MNO policy number 2011-002

-
- b. That 'Appendix A page 10 ' the word "Governance" be changed to read MNO Chartered Community Councils Capacity Fund;
 - c. That the term "Day to Day Operations" be defined by explicit language to ensure there is clear direction on the boundaries and duties allowable to the Board of Director under the Prosperity and Self Sufficiency Law to conduct the affairs of Infinity Investments GP.

RESOLVED (AGA-RES2016-01)

166 - IN FAVOUR

1- AGAINST

1- ABSTENTION

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2016-02
Title:	ADVANCING MÉTIS HARVESTING RIGHTS
Mover:	Margaret Froh
Seconded:	Victor Brunelle

WHEREAS harvesting and the continuing Métis relationship to the land is fundamental to the protection of Métis culture and identity;

AND WHEREAS the MNO has established a Harvesters Policy to protect Métis rights and manage the Métis harvest in Ontario in order to ensure Métis values of conservation and safety are respected;

AND WHEREAS the 2004 MNO-MNR Harvester Agreement requires that an independent review of the MNO Harvester Card system be completed in order to remove the cap and also includes a commitment that Ontario would pursue collaborative historic research on the MNO's identified traditional territories where it did not agree with the MNO's assertions;

AND WHEREAS the MNO and Ontario are in the process of finalizing a MOU on the conduct of the needed independent review;

AND WHEREAS there are still some areas where additional historic research is needed, including the West of Lake Nipissing region;

AND WHEREAS many Métis citizens need assistance in completing their Harvester Cards files and the MNO Registry currently does not have capacity to assist citizens in this work;

AND WHEREAS the MNO have established a Commission on Métis Rights & Self-Government to advance these issues;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

-
1. That the MNO be directed to move forward as quickly as possible on the independent review so the cap on Harvester Cards is removed once and for all;
 2. That the MNO be directed to press for additional historical research to be undertaken in areas like West of Lake Nipissing, including developing template letters so MNO citizens can send these letters to their respective MPs and MPPs for funding support;
 3. That the MNO be directed to lobby to secure funding from Canada or Ontario to establish a mobile MNO Registry unit that can assist both citizens and harvester applicants in completing their files;
 4. That while the independent review is ongoing the PCMNO and Captains of the Hunt consider issuing additional Harvester Cards over the current negotiated cap (even though it is recognized that those Cards will not be recognized by the MNR for the interim period) for harvesters' with completed files in order to encourage citizens to complete the process.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2016-02)

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2016-03
Title:	MÉTIS REPRESENTATION IN MAINSTREAM MEDIA
Mover:	Mitchell Case
Seconded:	Benny Michaud

WHEREAS the mainstream media plays a role in shaping public opinion on issues in Canadian society;

AND WHEREAS public opinion plays a role in shaping public policy;

AND WHEREAS Currently the Métis Nation is underrepresented in mainstream media;

AND WHEREAS all too often when "Métis" issues are covered they are covered in a way that misrepresents the Métis Nation, our history and our stories;

AND WHEREAS the CBC; as a crown corporation has a mandate which includes, but is not limited to: reflect Canada and its regions to national and regional audiences, while serving the special needs of those regions, actively contribute to the flow and exchange of cultural expression, contribute to shared national consciousness and identity, and reflect the multicultural and multiracial nature of Canada;

AND WHEREAS local media plays a role in raising the profile of groups and events in communities across the country;

AND WHEREAS the MNO currently has an outstanding communications infrastructure for internal communication, including but not limited to the Voyageur, E-voyageur, Website, Facebook and now Twitter;

AND WHEREAS while MNO is currently limited in the amount of support that can be provided to the community councils in the area of communications and outreach;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the MNO President write a letter to the head of the CBC/Radio Canada, expressing our concern with underrepresentation of the Métis Nation in Media and specifically in the coverage by the CBC.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a second letter be sent to CTV;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MNO Communications branch work to develop a strategy to better engage mainstream media with the Métis Nation, our issues, rights etc,;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in order to better promote, and advance the agenda of the Métis Nation in Ontario through the community councils, as well as the other MNO councils (WSMNO/MNOYC/MNOVC); the 2016 AGA direct the PCMNO to seek resources to create a training module on media relations for the councils, specifically in the area of local outreach and event promotion; and that the PCMNO review and approve the training module before it is delivered.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (AGA-RES2016-03)

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2016-04
Title:	AMENDMENT TO THE SENATORS ELECTION PROCESS
Mover:	Verna Porter-Brunelle
Seconder:	Cecile Coutu

WHEREAS we state in the Métis Nation of Ontario Statement of Prime Purpose that its guiding principles are to:

- Establish democratic institutions based on our inherent right of self government;
- Encourage the full participation of all Métis Nation Senators;
- To promote fairness to election process and consistency of democratic policies;

AND WHEREAS, Senators are elected among the active Senators to sit on the Provisional Council of Metis Nation of Ontario;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the MNO Senators should develop and establish a specific electoral code for PCMNO Senators and election of the Executive Senator.

RESOLVED (AGA-RES2016-04)

147 – IN FAVOUR

1 – AGAINST

1 - ABSTENTION

Resolution #:	AGA-RES2016-05
----------------------	-----------------------

Title:	PROVINCIAL TWO-SPIRITED/LGTBQ WORKING GROUP
Mover:	Benny Michaud
Seconded:	Tera Beaulieu

WHEREAS Two-Spirited and LGTBQ Metis people contribute greatly to our Metis Nation;

AND WHEREAS Two-Spirited and LGTBQ Metis people were traditionally valued for their distinctive responsibilities and roles within our communities and have had these roles devalued and diminished through the process of colonization;

AND WHEREAS Two-Spirited and LGTBQ people have unique cultural, health, and social needs;

AND WHEREAS Two-Spirited and LGTBQ people continue to face discrimination and prejudice and remain at higher risk of serious mental health challenges and suicide;

AND WHEREAS various levels of government in Canada have identified Two-Spirited and LGTBQ rights as a high priority;

AND WHEREAS the Metis Nation of Ontario's Statement of Prime Purpose states that the MNO will commit to "improved health and wellness of the individual, the family and the whole Metis community";

AND WHEREAS the Metis Nation of Ontario has other representative special interest groups such as the Women's Secretariat, Metis Nation of Ontario Youth Council and the Metis Nation of Ontario Veteran's Council;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Metis Nation of Ontario establish a provincial Two-Spirited/LGTBQ working group comprised of Metis citizens, with the support of the MNO public service, to assist in developing Two-Spirited and LGTBQ cultural and wellness programming, the identification and advocacy of Two-Spirited and LGTBQ rights, and consider the establishment of an MNO provincial representative body.

RESOLVED (AGA-RES2016-05)

155 – IN FAVOUR

0 – AGAINST

1 - ABSTENTION