

PROVISIONAL COUNCIL OF THE MÉTIS NATION OF ONTARIO

RESOLUTION PC220308-09

It was **MOVED (Senator Gravelle) and SECONDED (Youth Representative Playne)**

WHEREAS, as the next step in the MNO Registry Review process that was initiated by the PCMNO in 2017, the 2022 MNO AGA¹ directed the MNO to conduct a province-wide plebiscite (“Plebiscite”) to allow all MNO citizens over the age of 16 with an opportunity to have their voices heard on the following question:

Should all existing members/citizens of the Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) and the MNO Secretariat, whose files do not meet the current requirements for citizenship as set out in the MNO Bylaws and Registry Policy, be removed as members/citizens?

AND WHEREAS, in furtherance of MNO Resolution #AGA220820-02, the PCMNO adopted the “MNO Registry Review Province-Wide Plebiscite Vote Guidelines” and appointed an independent Chief Electoral Officer (“CEO”) to oversee the Plebiscite;

AND WHEREAS the Plebiscite was conducted by the CEO over an 82-day period between December 8, 2022 and February 28, 2023, and a total of 27,805 of the MNO’s over 31,000 citizens were eligible to vote in the Plebiscite via telephone, online, or by mail;

AND WHEREAS a total of 8,270 MNO citizens cast a ballot in the Plebiscite, and a clear majority (i.e., 71% or 5,898 MNO citizens) voted in favour of removing “Incomplete” citizenship files from the MNO Registry;

AND WHEREAS the 2022 MNO AGA also directed the PCMNO to “call a special General Assembly in late 2022 or early 2023 to amend the MNO Bylaws, if a majority of those who voted in the referendum provide direction to remove members/citizens with incomplete files ...”;

AND WHEREAS the special General Assembly could not be called in early 2023 because the CEO extended the voting period to end on February 28, 2023;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1) The PCMNO confirms that a one-day, in-person MNO special General Assembly will be held on Saturday, June 17, 2023 at the Delta Hotel Airport Hotel (655 Dixon Rd, Toronto, ON M9W 1J3) for the sole purpose of voting on a special resolution to amend the MNO Bylaws and Registry Policy in order to allow for the removal of “Incomplete” MNO citizenship files from the MNO Registry. Only those in physical attendance at the meeting will be eligible to vote on the special resolution (i.e., no virtual participation or voting).²
- 2) The PCMNO directs the MNO administration to work with MNO legal counsel to develop the proposed special resolution that will be brought back to the PCMNO for final review and approval that amends the MNO Bylaws and Registry Policy in order to remove “Incomplete” citizenship files from the MNO Registry, and that:

- a. ensures the MNO complies with all legal requirements to remove MNO members/citizens based on the MNO Bylaws, Registry Policy, MNO Act, the Ontario Not-For-Profit Corporations Act, and other relevant statutes and case law; and
 - b. considers issues raised in the “Registry Review Citizen Consultations What We Heard Report,” including, providing a reasonable notice period, an appeals process, and clarity that removed citizens can re-apply in future if they provide the required documentation.
- 3) The PCMNO directs the MNO administration to work with MNO legal counsel on the following matters to be brought back for the PCMNO for a decision at a future meeting:
- a. develop a single issue agenda for the to-be-called special General Assembly to be approved by the PCMNO; and
 - b. identify a potential independent Chair for the special General Assembly and/or a CEO that could oversee the vote at the special General Assembly, including, ensuring the vote on the special resolution at the special General Assembly can be conducted confidentially via a ballot box vote (i.e., not just via a hand count).
- 4) The PCMNO directs the MNO administration to arrange for MNO leadership update meetings and other workshops to be held prior to the special General Assembly and present proposed agendas for those sessions to the PCMNO at a future PCMNO meeting.
- 5) The PCMNO directs the MNO administration to establish a MNO dedicated webpage at www.metisnation.org/2023specialassembly where all MNO citizens can access information about the to-be-called special General Assembly as well as develop a communications strategy to ensure all MNO citizens have information about said meeting once it is officially called.
- 6) The PCMNO directs the MNO to not engage or negotiate with any MNO citizen, groups of MNO citizens or lawyers purportedly retained by anonymous or identified MNO citizens in relation to these matters outside of established processes to avoid affording such individuals greater participatory opportunities than other MNO citizens. The MNO shall continue to encourage all MNO citizens to “Complete” their citizenship files and participate within the MNO’s governance structures and the processes established by the MNO as a Métis government. If litigation is initiated, the MNO will retain legal counsel on those matters at that time.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS (PC220308-09)

- 1 MNO Resolution #AGA220820-02.
- 2 For greater clarity, through this resolution, the PCMNO has not yet officially called a special General Assembly pursuant to the notice requirements set out in the MNO Bylaws. Through this resolution, the PCMNO is simply confirming a date and location for the to-be-called special General Assembly in order to provide MNO citizens with as much advance information as possible in relation to the date and location of the upcoming special General Assembly. The special General Assembly will be officially called pursuant to the requirements of s. 49 of the MNO Bylaws at a future date.