

Decision (PC240613-03):

WHEREAS the advancement and implementation of Métis rights, including the inherent right of self-government, has been the upmost priority for the Métis Nation of Ontario (“MNO”) since its creation in 1993, as reflected in the MNO Statement of Prime Purpose;

AND WHEREAS, in February 2023, the MNO and Canada signed a Métis Government Recognition and Self-Government Implementation Agreement (“2023 Self-Government Agreement”) that immediately recognized the MNO as a Métis government and committed Canada to negotiating a self-government treaty with the MNO;

AND WHEREAS the 2023 Self-Government Agreement includes a series of processes, requirements and commitments to fully implement the self-government of the Métis Communities Represented by the MNO, including the MNO developing and ratifying a Constitution;

AND WHEREAS, following the 2024 election, the newly elected Provisional Council of the Métis Nation of Ontario (“PCMNO”) has met and is united in working together to fully implement the 2023 Self-Government Agreement and achieving a self-government treaty with Canada for the benefit of its Citizens and the Métis Communities represented by the MNO;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, upon review of the resolutions passed by MNO Annual General Assemblies and PCMNO, the mandate letters for the PCMNO and the Provincial Secretaries as well as the rights and self-government related work undertaken by the MNO to date, the PCMNO has identified the following activities as next steps and strategic priorities:

1. Implementing Métis Self-Government

- a) Negotiating a Self-Government Treaty with Canada as well as a Fiscal Financing Agreement, Tax Treatment Agreement, Treaty Implementation Plan and Implementation Legislation (2023 Self-Government Agreement, Ch. 10, 11, 12, 13);
- b) Moving forward on putting in place regional self-government structures through the MNO Act for the rights-bearing Métis communities the MNO represents as represented by the relevant PCMNO Regional Councilor and MNO Chartered Community Councils, including the creation of economic development entities at the local and/or regional level (PCMNO Resolution #PC191117-05);
- c) Engaging in consultations with MNO Regions 6, 8 and 9 to develop a self-government model that respects the unique and important role of MNO citizens living outside of Métis traditional territories, including the potential creation of economic development entities at the local and/or regional level;
- d) Development of a MNO Statement of Principles for a Constitution that will be brought to the 2024 MNO Annual General Assembly for information purposes that will then be brought out for consultations throughout 2024 and early 2025, consistent with the MNO-wide self-government consultation plan and commitments in the MNO Regional Implementation Agreements;

- e) Based on consultations, work towards the development and adoption of a Constitution that will be ratified by Métis Citizens and the Métis Communities represented by the MNO in 2025 or 2026;

2. Advancing Métis Rights and Claims

- a) Update the MNO-Ontario Harvesting Agreement map to align with regional self-government structures for the seven rights-bearing Métis communities the MNO represents;
- b) Ensuring the honourable implementation of the Crown's duty to consult and accommodate owing to rights-bearing Métis communities in Ontario, by:
 - i. Working collaboratively to update the MNO's Land, Resources and Consultation Branch templates and communication materials to ensure alignment with the MNO's Métis rights and self-government related work;
 - ii. Updating the MNO-Canada Consultation Agreement to be consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including seeking updated and enhanced consultation funding; and
 - iii. Ensuring any benefits from Métis consultation or accommodation go to legitimate Métis rights-holders and those directly impacted at the Métis community level;
- c) Work with Canada to ensure a Métis claims related process is developed and advance, including securing research funding for Métis claims as well as the establishment of a Métis claims unit within the MNO.

3. Advancing Education and Awareness of Métis Communities in Ontario

- a) Move forward on the implementation of the "Revitalizing Our Stories, Histories, Alliances and Relationships" resolution adopted by the 2023 MNO Annual General Assembly;
- b) Establish the Powley Institute as the MNO's education arm to research, support and publish the histories of Métis communities in Ontario;
- c) Move forward on commissioning additional historic research on Métis communities in Ontario to supplement existing reports;
- d) Undertake immediate outreach to First Nations in areas where the MNO does not claim that Métis land related rights exist to attempt to build relationships based on being guests in another Indigenous peoples' traditional territory.

RESOLVED BY CONSENSUS