



LES FEMMES MICHIF OTIPEMISIWAK WOMEN OF THE MÉTIS NATION

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
APRIL 26-27, 2014**

Minutes of Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation (LFMO) Annual General Meeting (AGM) held April 26-27, 2014 at the Holiday Inn Winnipeg Airport – Polo Park, 1740 Ellice Road, Winnipeg, MB.

DAY ONE: SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2014

OPENING PRAYER

Co-Chair Cynthia Bertolin called Day One – Saturday, April 26, 2014 of Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation (LFMO) Annual General Meeting (AGM) scheduled April 26-27, 2014 to order at approximately 9:12 a.m. Annette Friedman offered an Opening Prayer.

WELCOMING REMARKS

Anita Campbell, Infinity Women's Secretariat (IWS) Spokesperson

IWS Spokesperson Campbell welcomed delegates to Winnipeg, and expressed appreciation for the door having been left open for the IWS to return to the LFMO table. She discussed the IWS's change in name from the Metis Women of Manitoba, and its incorporation in April 2013. The IWS has taken the time it needed to refocus and re-energize and was now prepared to come to the LFMO table to work together to move forward the Metis Women's agenda. The IWS delegates had come to the AGM with open hearts and open minds, and to bring support and resources to the table.

David Chartrand, Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) President

MMF President Chartrand welcomed delegates to Manitoba, and commented on reflecting on where you have come from in order to know where you are going. He referenced the importance of the current day for the Metis with the victory in the recent MMF land claim and with economic developments.

MMF President Chartrand thanked LFMO President Omeniho for her leadership, and stated his belief in the democratic process. He referenced a recent meeting with Minister Leech where there was

discussion on the democracy of the Metis women's movement, and concerns that despite this the government continues to fund other organizations and not the LFMO. The Minister committed to looking into the matter, and shared her view that this should be changed.

Delegates were informed that there was also discussion with the Minister on the subject of missing and murdered Aboriginal women. The Government is looking to Metis leadership for advice and direction in this area, and the LFMO was encouraged to consider its strategy for continuing to push this issue nationally. MMF President Chartrand informed that the MMF has committed to co-donate funding in support of a video project to document the story of one missing Metis women to bring more attention to this issue. He also discussed the arrangement with Manitoba Police to ensure that any incident involving any Metis in the province is communicated to the MMF President.

OPENING REMARKS

Melanie Omeniho, Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Metis Nation President

LFMO President Omeniho welcomed delegates to the AGM, and introduced LFMO Board members in attendance. She informed that the Board is looking forward to moving things forward.

LFMO President Omeniho also referenced the meeting with Minister Leech the prior day, at which the Minister acknowledged that the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) does not speak for Metis women, and that Metis women have a voice for themselves through the LFMO. The need to ensure that it is Metis women representing Metis women in Canada was noted.

LFMO President Omeniho thanked the Elder, and Metis leadership for their attendance and support, and thanked the IWS for their assistance and support in organizing the AGM.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. Roll Call

Co-Chair Bertolin conducted Roll Call and confirmed the list of delegates for the AGM.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Provided under Tab 1 of the Agenda package: Draft Agenda for the Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Annual General Meeting scheduled April 25-27, 2014.

The proposed meeting agenda was introduced for consideration.

Discussion ensued on:

- Suggestion to amend the Agenda to include, "Election of the National President"
- Scheduling for this item in the event that the amendment is approved
- Clarification of the role of the Co-Chairs to facilitate the AGM
- Intent of the proposed amendment to conduct the election of the National President
- Clarification that the Bylaws indicate that the date of election shall be set by the Board or a majority resolution passed at an AGM
- Suggestion to consider the matter the following day when the Bylaws are considered
- Support for a discussion on setting the date for the election of the National President
- Clarification that Article 10.0 of the Bylaws indicates that the term of the office of the

National President is for three years and that the current President is in the second year of her three year term

- Support for setting the date of the election during the next year
- Suggestion that it is a mute point to discuss an election when it is not an election year
- Need for adequate notice of an election being called in order to ensure that the voices of those not present at the AGM are also represented
- Scheduling an item to discuss setting the date for the election of the National President.

A delegate questioned the authority under which the Filles De Madeleine Association Inc. (FDMA) delegates were in attendance at the AGM. It was of concern that correspondence from the Metis Nation – Saskatchewan President identified an individual who was not present at the AGM as being the President of FDMA.

It was MOVED (Muriel Parker, IWS) and SECONDED (Shannon DuPont, IWS)

That the Agenda for Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation Annual General Meeting scheduled April 26-27, 2014 be approved with the following friendly amendments agreed to by the Mover and Seconder and with the consent of the delegation:

- Vary the order of the Agenda to consider Regional Updates on Day 2 during the 10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. timeslot or sooner if time allows
- Add “Election of the National President” on Day 2 at 1:00 p.m.
- Add “Definition of Metis” on Day 2 at 9:00 a.m.
- Add “Appointment of the Co-Chairs” as the next item of business.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140426-01)

3. Appointment of the Co-Chairs

It was MOVED (Irena Collins, NDWS) and SECONDED (Viola Bell, FDMA)

That Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis (LFMO) accept Cynthia Bertolin and Kathy Hodgson-Smith as Co-Chairs for its Annual General Meeting scheduled April 26-27, 2014.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140426-02)

Point of Order

A delegate raised a Point of Order regarding the legitimacy of the FDMA delegation, which could affect the validity of the voting at the AGM. Concern was restated that the individual identified as President of the FDMA in correspondence from the MN-S President was not present at the AGM.

Co-Chair Hodgson-Smith recommended that this matter could be responded to later in the AGM, under Regional Reports. Delegates were referred to Tab 14 of the Agenda package for clarification, under which was provided a court ruling “Queen’s Bench for Saskatchewan” dated 2014 03 20, Docket QB 1519/2013, Judicial Centre: Saskatoon.

Discussion ensued on:

- Need to ensure that the LFMO is abiding by its bylaws
- Need for clarification as to when this concern would be addressed during the AGM
- Suggestion that the matter needed to be dealt with prior to any further voting
- View that the Agenda had already been amended and voted on and should not be revisited.

It was MOVED (Irena Collins, NDWS) and SECONDED (Sharon McBride, WMNO)

That the Roll Call for the Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation Annual General Meeting scheduled April 26-27, 2014 be revisited in order to establish the legitimacy of delegates in attendance.

RULED OUT OF ORDER BY THE CHAIR

A motion was introduced to agree that until the legitimacy of the delegates present was confirmed, no votes would take place.

Discussion ensued on:

- Recognition that not all provinces address the matter of representation similarly, with some having been elected by members, and others being appointed by provincial Presidents
- Implications of Industry Canada legislative changes that would soon require that individuals must be elected in order to sit as a Board director of the LFMO.

LFMO President Omeniho acknowledged that there had been much transition in FDMA during the prior year, involving two factions. She clarified that the LFMO Bylaws do not indicate that the Metis National Council (MNC) Board of Governors determines who will participate in the LFMO. The decision as to whom from FDMA is a LFMO Board member and who is a delegation at this AGM was evidence based.

Delegates were informed that Monell Bailey was identified in March 2013 as the FDMA Spokesperson and one week later, and AGM was held where Ms. Monell resigned and Tammy Mah was elected. Two subsequent MN-S Provincial Council meeting minutes identified Ms. Mah as the elected representative of the FDMA; incorporation documents for FDMA also listed Ms. Mah; and a court ruling in Saskatchewan has quashed the proceedings from an illegal meeting appointing Janice Henry as FDMA President. Based on the evidence provided, the LFMO moved forward with its March 2014 LFMO Board meeting with Ms. Mah serving as the FDMA representative on the LFMO Board.

Further discussion ensued on:

- The importance of working together to make decisions on behalf of Metis women
- Request to receive the FDMA incorporation documents in order to consider withdrawing concerns
- Suggestion that not all LFMO Board directors received information on the FDMA's political situation
- Suggestion that all delegations should be required to provide their incorporating documents.

It was MOVED (Irena Collins, NDWS) and SECONDED (Sharon McBride, WMNO)

That Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation Annual General Meeting agree that until the legitimacy of the delegates is confirmed, no votes would take place.

TABLED

Recess

The AGM recessed at 10:28 a.m. and resumed at 10:54 a.m. at which time copies of the FDMA incorporating papers provided to each provincial delegation.

Point of Order Cont'd.

Letter from the Information Services Corporation of Saskatchewan dated July 15, 2013 re "Filles de Madeleine Association Inc. 101151876" acknowledging receipt of the Affidavit filed in its office on May 28, 2013.

Confirmation was provided that upon receipt of the distributed documentation, the matter could be considered resolved. Based on what was presented, the Mover and Seconder agreed to withdraw the earlier tabled motion.

It was MOVED (Irena Collins, NDWS) and SECONDED (Sharon McBride, WMNO)

That Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation Annual General Meeting agree that until the legitimacy of the delegates is confirmed, no votes would place.

WITHDRAWN

4. Approval of March 16 & 17, 2013 Annual General Assembly Minutes

Provided under Tab 2 of the Agenda package: Draft Minutes of the Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis National Meeting held March 16-17, 2013.

The draft Minutes of the prior AGM were considered. In response to a query regarding a motion passed at the prior AGM, the Metis Women of British Columbia (MWBC) informed that the MWBC Board had decided to forgo hosting the AGM this year given that there was insufficient notice regarding the date. However, the MWBC would be willing to host the AGM in future so long as sufficient time is provided to prepare for the event.

It was MOVED (Helene Johnson, FDMA) and SECONDED (Susie Hooper, MWBC)

That the Minutes of the Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation Annual General Meeting held March 16-17, 2013 be accepted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140426-03)

(Roz Calder and Theresa Stenlunch, WMNO; and Tammy Bouvier, Irena Collins, Debbie Houle, Kristy Isert and Muriel Stanley-Venne, NDWS abstaining from the vote.)

BUSINESS AGENDA

5. Report on Women of the Métis Nation Activities 2013-2014

- *Provided under Tab 3 of the Agenda package: Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak: Women of the Métis Nation Year End Report 2013/2014*
- *Provided under Tab 5 of the Agenda package:*
 - *Aboriginal Affairs Working Group – DRAFT Framework for Coordinating Action to End Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls dated March 12, 2014 v.9*
 - *Draft Justice Framework* to Address Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls*
 - *Engaging National Aboriginal Organizations (NAOs) Through a Dialogue Session: A Review of the “Draft Justice Framework to Address Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls” [The Draft Justice Framework Document Was Originally Released By The Federal/Provincial/Territorial Ministers Responsible for Justice and Public Safety, November 2013] meeting hosted by the Native Women’s Association of Canada (NWAC) March 6-7, 2014 Ottawa*
- *Provided under Tab 8 of the Agenda package: Letter to Ministers of Labour and Minister of Status of Women; Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada; and the Prime Minister from the Presidents of the AFN, NWAC, ITK, LFMO and the National Chief of CAP regarding efforts to end violence against Indigenous women and girls*
- *Provided under Tab 9 of the Agenda package: Aboriginal Affairs Working Group Progress Report to Provincial and Territorial Ministers of Aboriginal Affairs and National Aboriginal Leaders May 2014*
- *Provided under Tab 10 of the Agenda package: Joint MNC LFMO press release expressing*

frustration with the report released by the Special Parliamentary Committee on Violence Against Indigenous Women

- *Provided under Tab 11 of the Agenda package: House of Commons Report of the Special Committee on Violence Against Indigenous Women – INVISIBLE WOMEN: A CALL TO ACTION – A Report on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in Canada dated March 2014 41st Parliament, Second Session*
- *Provided under Tab 12 of the Agenda package: Royal Canadian Mounted Police document “Domestic Human Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation in Canada” dated October 2013*
- *Provided under Tab 13 of the Agenda package:*
 - *NWAC 2012 document titled “National Forum on Community Safety and Ending Violence – A Workbook Addressing the Crisis of Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women and Girls: A National Public Inquiry”*
 - *NWAC document titled “Our Way of Knowing” : Protocol for Ethical Research and Engagement with Aboriginal Women, Families and Communities Impacted by Violence*
- *Provided under Tab 14 of the Agenda package:*
 - *LFMO letter dated November 25, 2013 to Delegates of the LFMO AGM re “Governance Status of the Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak (LFMO)”*
 - *“Queen’s Bench for Saskatchewan” dated 2014 03 20, Docket QB 1519/2013, Judicial Centre: Saskatoon*
- *Provided under Tab 15 of the Agenda package: INSPIRE 2013 Report dated June 5, 2013.*

LFMO President Omeniho referred to the distributed materials, and highlighted:

- Welcome IWS to the LFMO table, and appreciation to the delegates for their attendance
- Inability to call LFMO Board meetings, although requested by Alberta and Ontario, pending resolution of governance issues in Saskatchewan
- Election of LFMO Board Officers at its meeting in March 2014
- Her personal commitment to uphold the responsibilities of the LFMO President’s office and to follow the Bylaws to strengthen the organization
- Need to strengthen LFMO communications with and representation of all Metis women
- Plans for the development of an e-newsletter, and quarterly national updates
- Work on a National Aboriginal Committee formed as a result of the Metis having been excluded from the Special Parliamentary Committee on Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women
- Opportunities for involvement with Sisters in Spirit
- Petitions on Intolerance of Violence Against Aboriginal Women
- Need to develop a national campaign on committing to living in a non-violent society
- Aboriginal Affairs Working Group (AAWG) composition and mandate relative to education, housing, economic development and ending violence against women
- AAWG process of reporting to the Congress of Federations (COF) each spring
- COF’s support for a national inquiry on missing and murdered Aboriginal women and need to develop related scope and parameters
- LFMO housing and economic development reports, provided in the agenda package
- Her ongoing participation in Metis Rights Panel and Constitutional meetings
- “Taken” video documentary project, and Metis contribution of \$25,000 to support the production of a video documenting the story of a missing Metis women

- Meeting in October 2013 with the United Nations Special Rapporteur who was touring Canada to identify unresolved issues with Aboriginal peoples, at which there was discussion regarding Metis land claims, missing and murdered Aboriginal women, and the importance of engagement with Metis women; his report is with the Government of Canada at this time and is expected to soon be publically released
- Continued work with the Assembly of First Nations and NWAC to develop national strategies dealing with violence against Aboriginal women
- Canadian Feminist Alliance Action Committee's conduct of an inquiry into missing and murdered Aboriginal Women
- Canadian Cancer Partnership in relation to Traditional Knowledge (TK)
- Opportunity to consider an accord that will provide five years secured core funding for LFMO subject to developing better relationships with other departments
- Funding cuts to the LFMO budget in the current and prior years, which is similar for most National Aboriginal Organizations
- Need to work on building capacity and identifying other funding sources for the LFMO
- Ongoing efforts to put forward a Metis women's lens in the Metis Nation Constitution
- LFMO Strategic Plan provided on the website and under Tab 6 of the Agenda package
- Her attendance at events of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and Batoche
- Participation in a review of the Justice Framework put forward by core departments and provincial and territorial associations relative to public safety and violence against Aboriginal women
- National Aboriginal Women's Summit (NAWS) IV planned in Membertou, Nova Scotia October 20-22, 2014; and efforts to secure funding for 10 Metis women to attend.

Request for Action (RFA-AGM140426-01)

It was requested that Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak: Women of the Métis Nation Strategy 2013 be amended on Page 3, Organizational Structure, 3rd paragraph, to clarify that the LFMO President holds a term of office of three years; to replace "In March 2013" with "In March 2012"; and clarify the election process.

It was MOVED (Marielee Nault, IWS) and SECONDED (Sherry McLellan, FDMA)

That Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak: Women of the Métis Nation Annual General Meeting receive for information the President's Annual Report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140426-04)

(Barbara Ann Wright, WMNO, abstaining from the vote.)

6. Financial Report

6.1 2012-2013 Audited Financial Statements

Provided under Tab 4 of the Agenda package: Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak (O/A Women of the Metis Nation) Financial Statements – Year Ended March 31, 2013, prepared by Andrews & Co. Chartered Accountants.

Discussion ensued on:

- Bylaw requirements for presentation of the annual report at an AGM
- Confirmation that the LFMO Board accepted the Financial Statements at its March 2014 meeting, which the auditor also attended
- Confirmation that proper process is for the Statements to be accepted at an AGM.

Request for Action (RFA-AGM140426-02)

It was requested that in future Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak (LFMO) Women of the Métis Nation Annual General Meeting packages include a copy of the LFMO Board motion recommending approval of the Financial Statements.

It was MOVED (Reena Sinclair, SK) and SECONDED (Karin Laroche, SK)

That Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation (LFMO) Annual General Meeting accept as presented *Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak (O/A Women of the Metis Nation) Financial Statements – Year Ended March 31, 2013.*

CARRIED (AGM140426-05)

(9 delegates voting in the negative and 1 delegate abstaining from the vote.)

6.2 Approval of the Auditors for 2013-2016

It was MOVED (Mavis Taylor, FDMA) and SECONDED (Anita Campbell, IWS)

That Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation (LFMO) Annual General Meeting accept the recommendation of the LFMO Board of Directors to appoint Andrews & Co. Chartered Accountants as auditors for the 2013-14 fiscal year.

CARRIED (AGM140426-06)

(4 delegates voting in the negative.)

Health Break

The meeting recessed at 11:50 a.m. and resumed at 1:07 p.m. with the same persons in attendance with the exception of Loretta Boulard, IWS, who was replaced by IWS Alternate Shirley Langan for the remainder of Day One of the AGM.

7. Election of the National President

Discussion ensued on:

- Article 5(k)(i) of the Bylaws, indicating “The election of the National President shall take place between the second and third year of the National President’s term” and 5(k)(ii)
- Interpretation of Bylaws Article 5(k)(i) as meaning that there is need to call an election before the third year of the term concludes
- Whether it is necessary to introduce a motion to amend the Bylaws to clarify when the election of the National President occurs
- Clarification that this is the National President’s second year with one year remaining in the three year term
- Lack of support to conduct an election for the National President during this AGM as sufficient notice has not been provided
- Suggestion that it would be appropriate to schedule the election during the 2015 AGM
- Suggestion to task the LFMO Board with making required clarifications to the Bylaws, including potential contradictions between Articles 5(k)(i) and 10(b)
- Responsibility of the provincial spokespersons and presidents to inform Metis women in their provinces of the opportunity to run in elections
- Clarification that the 2013-14 AGM was deferred until the beginning of the 2014-15 fiscal given that a LFMO Board meeting was not convened in time to prepare and provide sufficient notice for the AGM to be held before March 31, 2014
- Assurance that the next LFMO AGM would be held prior to the end of the fiscal 2014-15
- Clarification that there was a duly called meeting of the LFMO Board on March 20, 2014

at which information was provided on the 2013-14 AGM

- Concern that many of the issues raised at this AGM have been the result of lack of information and could have been avoided if materials were provided in advance with sufficient time for their review.

8. LFMO Financial Policies and Procedures

Provided under Tab 6 of the Agenda package:

- *Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Metis Nation – Strategy 2013*
- *Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Metis Nation – Finance Policies & Procedures.*

LFMO President Omeniho introduced the draft Policies and Procedures, provided for review and comment.

Request for Action (RFA-AGM140426-03)

It was requested that Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation Annual General Meeting delegates review the draft Financial Policies and Procedures and bring forward any comments/questions through their representative to the LFMO Board as the intention is to present the reviewed, revised version at the next AGM.

Discussion ensued on:

- Suggestion that signing authority should be included in the Policies and Procedures
- Rationale for the former LFMO Treasurer's refusal to sign cheques
- Email sent to the former Treasurer asking for return of all financial documents
- Receipt of legal advice that because of the nature of the expenditures, cheques could be signed by the other two signatories in relation to the AGM
- Confirmation that cheques relating to expenditures due as a result of the prior AGM had been signed by other signatories on the account
- Clarification that no other cheques had been signed until the election of the current LFMO Treasurer on March 20, 2014
- Confirmation of the former LFMO Treasurer's intention to return financial documents
- Suggestion that the draft policy indicate that AGM packages should include annual appointment of the auditor, and the motion from the LFMO Board approving presentation of the audited Financial Statements
- Clarification that the National President's salary had been reduced by 30% to allow the LFMO to continue to operate as this was the only area of the budget with some discretionary ability
- Clarification that professional development fees noted in the 2012-13 Financial Statement have been used to pre-pay for LFMO Board training at the Banff Centre.

6. Financial Report Cont'd.

6.3 2013-2014 Financial Statements

Provided under Tab 5 of the Agenda package: Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Metis Nation – Financial Statements For the Year to Date – 31-Mar-14”.

LFMO President Omeniho indicated that the Financial Statements would be audited and presented for approval at the next AGM following their consideration by the LFMO Board. Because there was not an AGM held before the end of the fiscal, \$60,000 in unexpended funds

will be returned to the federal government; however, there is ability to apply to have that funding returned. She noted that the budget has been realigned to accommodate the loss of 30% of the budget with a corresponding reduction to the National President's salary as previously discussed.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER – METIS NATION UPDATE

9. **Clement Chartier, Metis National Council President**

Provided on-table at the AGM: Document titled "Federal-Provincial-Metis Nation Economic Development Accord to Guide the Development of Long Term Metis Economic Development Strategy".

MNC President Chartier extended a welcome to delegates. He spoke of significant recent events, including the decision in *Daniels*, and provided an overview of the history of relevant legal rulings relative to Section 91.24 of the Constitution. Delegates were informed that the Government has 30 days to appeal the decision in *Daniels*, and that the MNC President has sent a letter to Prime Minister Harper providing rationale and a request for him to not appeal.

It was noted that the Metis-Nation Protocol signed in 2008 was renewed in 2013 for another five years, and that starting this fiscal, the MNC will be receiving five-year flexible block funding with minimal reporting. The MNC is the only Aboriginal organization that has this arrangement. The Protocol also includes accords on Governance and Accountability and Economic Development that should soon be concluded.

MNC President Chartier advised that Prime Minister Harper has acknowledged the distinction between the Historic Metis Nation and others who call themselves Metis. He then provided information on a Metis Nation – Crown Summit, noting that as the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples was also invited, the Board of Governors wrote to the Prime Minister and indicated the MNC's desire for a Summit only with the Metis.

Delegates were advised of a meeting scheduled the following week with the Minister and David Chartrand regarding the ASETS program. At that meeting, the importance of ASETS to the Metis would be emphasized, particularly in the context of the *Daniels* decision, the Metis Nation Protocol and the relationship.

Metis Economic Development (MEDS) I and II were held where there was agreement to develop a Metis Economic Development Strategy. There have been a number of mini and regional MEDS since held, and a draft Strategy is ready to present to leadership and then to MEDS III sometime in 2014. The Metis are promoting that Canada has a responsibility to take a lead role in getting the Provinces to the table.

Reference was also made to the upcoming NAWS IV in Nova Scotia, and the importance of Metis women being represented in that forum.

MNC President Chartier discussed ongoing efforts on development of the Metis Nation Constitution, which would be addressed at the upcoming May 9-10, 2014 MNC General Assembly. The Acceptance Process is also in process to eventually lead to a National Registry that would allow Metis to move from one jurisdiction to another without having to reapply for citizenship.

It was noted that although the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) is winding up its work, the Metis have not yet been heard. The MNC President has been given opportunities to explain to the TRC that while there are several hundred Metis who were acknowledged in the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement (IRSSA), there were thousands not covered by the IRSSA, Apology or the TRC process. He encouraged delegates to write to the TRC to request that they ensure they address the Metis appropriately.

Discussion ensued on:

- Need to ensure that the Constitution is based on principles of equality in terms of Governing Members' representation
- Commendation for work of the MNC President during his term
- Clarification of the intention for all Governing Members to follow the Constitution and for the MNC to continue to represent the Metis Nation nationally and internationally but not deliver programs and services
- Interest in benefits to Metis Women depending on how the negotiations proceed around Section 91.24
- Need to move forward collectively to put priority agenda items to the Federal and Provincial governments
- Recognition of the amount of historical information on the traveling patterns of the Metis that has been revealed through citizenship appeals
- Suggestion from Metis Youth that the MNC ask the Canadian Taxpayers Association to work with Metis to force the Federal Government to acknowledge Metis rights and to prevent them from using Canadian tax dollars to take the Metis to court.

10. Biodiversity

Provided on-table at the meeting: Environment Canada presentation titled "Toward 2020 Biodiversity Goals and Targets for Canada" prepared by Bob McLean, Environment Canada.

Co-Chair Hodgson-Smith discussed the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity preamble and specifically the importance of keywords "conservation" and "sustainable use". She noted the Convention's specific reference to engagement of and the vital role of women, and discussed Article 8(J) relative to traditional knowledge specific to conservation and sustainable use, and Article 10(c) relative to protection of use. It was noted that Canada is developing targets and goals and meeting with the National Aboriginal Organizations to discuss what the indicators should be. Canada reports each year on what it is doing and how it is interpreting these articles.

Information was also provided on Species at Risk Statutory processes to engage Aboriginal Peoples, including the National Aboriginal Council on Species at Risk (NACOSAR), which has six Aboriginal representatives; and the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWC), which makes scientific assessments about which species should be endangered. COSEWC also has an Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge Subcommittee that searches for any existing TK in the public domain. She noted the importance of ensuring relationships for Metis women via these two mechanisms.

Discussion ensued on:

- Concern regarding how the Province and the Department of Heritage failed to consult with Metis over a critical find in Saskatchewan
- Clarification that Metis in Saskatchewan have an unrecognized traditional territory
- Clarification that Duty to Consult is triggered when it interferes with an Aboriginal right
- Note that industry is sending notices and meeting with communities and checking this off as consultation; however there is a Constitutional obligation to consult
- Suggestion that judicial review remedies can be much faster than the court system
- The Crown's role in determining whether an assertion is credible
- Suggestion that it would be useful to hold a workshop on Duty to Consult so that Metis Women are better informed and able to feed into local conversations
- Notice that a resolution would be tabled the following day to find resources to develop a protocol for research and engagement to ensure Metis women have input into their processes, that ethical research practices are being done, that communities know that what that means to protect and pass on Traditional Knowledge, and to engage Metis students.

It was MOVED (Karen Larocque, FDMA) and SECONDED (Tammy Mah, FDMA)

That Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation (LFMO) Annual General Meeting recommend that the Metis National Council continue to participate in international discussions to gather information and to ensure that Metis women's issues are brought to international and national attention, i.e. World Intellectual Property Organization, Convention on Biological Diversity, Climate Change, and to ensure the Women's agenda is alive and heard.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140426-07)

It was MOVED (Karen Larocque, FDMA) and SECONDED (Viola Bell, FDMA)

That Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation (LFMO) Annual General Meeting recommend that the Metis National Council continue to press Canada to develop a Metis-specific Strategy on Biological Diversity to develop a Federal/Provincial/Territorial table to discuss environmental issues, conservation, sustainable use, and Metis engagement, and to ensure that the Metis women are engaged.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140426-08)

A delegate introduced a motion relative to Nagoya. Discussion ensued on:

- Suggestion to strengthen the motion to make it clear that this is part of a protocol
- Meaning of biological diversity
- Measures set out in the Convention on Biological Diversity to show that the globe is a better place because of its differences and its variety
- Whether to also make reference to Intellectual Property in the motions
- Rationale for including reference to the MNC in the motions, given that they have access to staff and resources whereas the LFMO does not
- Suggestion for the motion to refer to the Metis Women's agenda.

It was MOVED (Karen Larocque, FDMA) and SECONDED (Reina Sinclair, FDMA)

In regard to Nagoya, that the Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation Annual General Meeting recommend that the Metis National Council continue to engage with Canada on the unfolding policy in relation to ensuring equitable access and benefit sharing arising from the utilization of Traditional Knowledge and genetic resources in our traditional territories.

TABLED

There was agreement to table the motion for consideration the following day pending clarification of wording with assistance from Co-Chair Hodgson-Smith.

ADJOURNMENT

Day One – Saturday, April 26, 2014 of Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation (LFMO) Annual General Meeting (AGM) scheduled April 26-27, 2014 adjourned at 4:20 p.m. with a Closing Prayer offered by Annette Maurice. The time to reconvene on Day Two – Sunday, April 27, 2014 was set at 9:00 a.m.

DAY TWO: SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2014

OPENING PRAYER

Co-Chair Bertolin reconvened Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation (LFMO) Annual General Meeting (AGM) scheduled April 26-27, 2014 on Day Two – Sunday, April 27, 2014 at 9:18 a.m. Annette Friedman offered an Opening Prayer.

Point of Order

Copies of FDMA incorporation documents were distributed to each delegation for reference.

Discussion ensued on:

- Suggestion that there was need to address the validity of the documents
- Support for all delegations to be required to provide their incorporation documents
- Support for politics in each province to remain in those provinces for resolution
- Clarification that the matter in Saskatchewan had been dealt with in a court of law and that it was inappropriate for the LFMO to revisit it
- Clarification that FDMA has always been at the LFMO table and is welcomed
- Changes to Industry Canada law that will require delegates at this table in future to be elected.

Co-Chair Hodgson-Smith informed that the matter of the FDMA delegation's participation at the AGM had been ruled on earlier in the AGM based on the evidence provided, and as such, any further discussion on this matter was suspended.

11. Definition of Metis

This item was not considered at the AGM.

12. Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak By-Law Review

12.1 Proposed By-Law Amendments

Provided on-table at the AGM:

- *Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Bylaws*
- *Borden Ladner Gervais memorandum dated April 25, 2014 regarding “Continuance under the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act*
- *Schedule A – Canada-Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (NFP Act) Form 4031 Articles of Continuance (transition).*

Co-Chair Hodgson-Smith provided an overview of changes to the Canada *Not-for-Profit Corporations Act* (NFP Act) affecting the LFMO.

LFMO President Omeniho clarified that the only requirement at this time is for the AGM to approve Schedule A – the Articles of Continuance (transition). These are similar to the Letters of Patent on the initial bylaws, formatted to meet the requirements of the *NFP Act*. It is a requirement that these be approved and submitted before October 17, 2014.

Discussion ensued on:

- Following the LFMO Board’s review of the new Bylaws, there will have a period of time for proposed revisions to be brought forward for consideration at the next AGM
- Clarification that once the Bylaws are accepted they become active immediately
- Suggestion that delegates who require hard copies of materials should request these in advance and provide their mailing address to the LFMO.

It was MOVED (Melanie Omeniho, LFMO) and SECONDED (Viola Bell, FDMA)

That Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation (LFMO) Annual General Meeting accept Schedule A – *Canada-Not-for-Profit Corporations Act* (NFP Act) Form 4031 Articles of Continuance (transition) with correction to Section 6(2) to replace “Metis women” with “Metis Women”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140427-01)

12.2 Resolutions

Discussion ensued on:

- Suggestion to book future AGM’s over a three day period with the first day being training/orientation for new delegates, to aid in building relationships and increasing communications
- Suggestion that for future AGM’s a Resolutions Committee be formed with representatives from each delegation (who are not sitting delegates at the AGM) to wordsmith resolutions prior to their introduction at the AGM and potentially to assist administrative staff with work to be done at the AGM.

Request for Action (RFA-AGM140427-01)

It was requested that the Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation Board develop a process to implement a Resolutions Committee for future Annual General Meetings.

A delegate introduced a motion to establish a protocol for research and engagement. Discussion ensued on:

- Clarification regarding intended contracting for proposed research to quality for funding available only to educational institutes
- Need for transparency in tendering and contracting processes
- Suggestion that the LFMO take into advisement various avenues for funding
- Suggestion that Finance Policies should include tendering/contracting processes and should identify Metis Women as the first priority for opportunities
- Clarification that the intention is to develop a research document through an academic process in order for the research conducted to be considered credible.

It was MOVED (Melanie Omeniho, LFMO) and SECONDED (Viola Bell, FDMA)

That Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation (LFMO) Annual General Meeting direct the LFMO to attempt to find necessary resources to establish a “Protocol for Research and Engagement” to ensure that there is a Metis Women’s lens in the LFMO’s work under Traditional Knowledge and so that women understand the importance on how to protect their intellectual property and knowledge.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140427-02)

Further consideration of Item 12.2, Resolutions, was deferred until following Item 13.

13. Women of the Metis Nation’s Economic Development Portal

A presentation was provided titled “Women of the Metis Nation’s Economic Development Portal” highlighting:

- 2005 data indicating Metis with low incomes in private households
- Data indicating higher self-employment of Metis compared to other Aboriginal groups, but much lower than other ethnicities
- Business support services and programs for Metis-specific and Aboriginal groups
- LFMO Goals and Objectives and Development Strategy
- Methods for implementing the Strategy, including establishment of the Portal
- Efforts to assist Metis women entrepreneurs starting a business and those interested in expanding their business
- Ongoing development of the Economic Development Portal
- Accessibility of the “One-stop shop” Portal: www.metiswomen-entrepreneurs.ca.

Discussion ensued on:

- Whether statistics provided in the presentation could be broken out by province
- Challenges of accessing Metis specific data
- Suggestion that the LFMO establish a development corporation to lessen the dependency on federal and provincial resources
- Availability of research on Metis Women
- Ongoing efforts to glean data from Stats Canada polls and the 2011 Census
- Confirmation that this project has linkages to the provincial capital corporations to encourage them to provide more access to entrepreneurial resources for Metis women
- Current lack of resources to establish a Metis Women capital corporation.

12.2 Resolutions Cont'd.

Co-Chair Hodgson-Smith read aloud a proposed resolution on incorporating specific values into the LFMO's workplans, goals and objectives.

It was MOVED (Muriel Stanley-Venne, NDWS) and SECONDED (Karen Larocque, FDMA)

WHEREAS the Metis People believe in the holistic, sacred and dependent relationship between the Metis People and Mother Earth; and

WHEREAS the Metis People have always understood their birthright to include a duty of stewardship and care towards the land, skies, waters and living organisms. This sense of responsibility and relationship with the earth has been passed down through the generations by the grandmothers and grandfathers; and

WHEREAS the health of the Metis People cannot be separated from the health of the environment, the health of our Metis culture and identity, our traditional livelihoods, our spirituality and the expression of our inherent right to self-determination; and

WHEREAS the Metis people are not consulted sufficiently and have sufficient resources to participate or assurances that the needs of the Metis community are fully addressed where development projects are undertaken on traditional territories; and

WHEREAS the Metis Women believe that the violence against women includes the violence of poverty, the violence of underdevelopment, the violence against the environment and the eventual hardship and struggle the Metis people find themselves in;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation incorporate these values into our workplans, our goals and objectives.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140427-03)

Co-Chair Hodgson-Smith read aloud a proposed resolution on engaging in gender analysis work.

Discussion ensued on:

- Confusion regarding the resolution's intent
- Confirmation that Metis Women are involved and participate in most MNC initiatives including housing, education, economic development and ending violence against Aboriginal women
- Proposed friendly amendment to seek out funds to carry out the referenced work
- Clarification that reference to "gender analysis" within the resolution was to inform Metis Women on events at a national level and to have input into that
- Suggestion to table the resolution to allow for clarification of its intent to hire an analyst
- Suggestion to draft a resolution for consideration at the MNC AGM
- Suggestion to have a call for resolutions 30-60 days before future AGMs so as to allow sufficient time for their review
- Request that draft AGM minutes be provided within 30 days of the AGM.

It was MOVED (Muriel Stanley-Venne, NDWS) and SECONDED (Reina Sinclair, FDMA)

WHEREAS the work of the Metis Nation in relation to our rights and our self-determination and community development is valued, necessary and effects all the Metis people; and

WHEREAS the Metis women and children have specific challenges and needs within the Metis Nation;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation engage in gender analyses of the work of the Metis Nation so that LMFO may move forward in a positive and informed manner.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140427-04)

Co-Chair Hodgson-Smith read aloud the proposed rewritten Nagoya resolution, tabled the prior day.

Discussion ensued on:

- Clarification that a “genetic resource” is every living source
- Suggestion that the resolution include a definition of “genetic resources” as defined in the Nagoya Protocol
- Suggestion to task the Resolutions Committee to review prior resolutions to determine if they are still relevant and appropriate
- Confirmation that that Nagoya Protocol can be attached to the Resolution
- Confirmation that the Nagoya Protocol is relevant to all provinces
- Intention of the resolution to ensure that Metis Women and the MNC are engaged to ensure that funding comes back to the Traditional Knowledge keepers in the communities as opposed to the Government of Canada
- Key issue that NWAC and the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples are engaged and hold more seats than the MNC in working on some of these matters and issues
- Intent to work with the MNC to ensure that there is strong Metis representation in United Nations processes that affect the Metis.

It was MOVED (Karen Laroacque, FDMA) and SECONDED (Anita Campbell, IWS)

WHEREAS under the Convention on Biological Diversity the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing was negotiated; and

WHEREAS the Nagoya Protocol provides for obligations on the state in ensuring the prior informed consent or approval and involvement of Indigenous and local communities where their traditional knowledge in relation to genetic resources as defined by the Nagoya Protocol is engaged; and

WHEREAS the Nagoya Protocol also requires that an agreement on equitable access and benefit sharing based on mutually agreed terms be undertaken where the traditional knowledge of Indigenous and local communities in relation to genetic resources is engaged; and

WHEREAS the Metis are an Indigenous people and would see benefit under the application of the Nagoya Protocol here in Canada; and

WHEREAS Canada has not determined whether to accept the obligations set out under the Nagoya Protocol;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Metis National Council continue to engage with Canada in

the unfolding of legislation and policy in relation to ensuring equitable access and benefit sharing arising from the utilization of Metis traditional knowledge and genetic resources on our traditional territories and that Les Femmes Michif Otipimsewak Women of the Metis Nation be engaged to ensure that the needs of Metis Women are considered and advanced in any discussion.

CARRIED (AGM140427-05)

(4 delegates voting in the negative.)

13. Canadian Standards Association

Request for Action (RFA-AGM140427-02)

It was requested that Co-Chair Hodgson-Smith be asked to provide a briefing note on the work of the Metis Nation Registry Officials with the Canadian Standards Association.

14. Date for the Next AGM & Election

Discussion ensued on:

- Responsibility of the Board to set the date for the next AGM and Election prior to March 31, 2015
- Confirmation that MWBC is willing to host the next AGM so long as there are dates provided with sufficient notice
- Confirmation that the bylaws indicate that the date of the National President's election can be set by the Board or by a majority resolution at an AGM
- Support for leaving the determination of the dates for the next AGM and election to the Board.

15. Regional Updates

The MWBC delegation was introduced and discussed: cultural activities, its focus on Women's emotional, spiritual and mental well-being; plans to visit all communities in BC to listen to the concerns/ideas/needs of Metis Women; critical importance of communications; role of Metis Women as the core of the family and importance of a strong and healthy core; ongoing work on long term goals and strategic planning; and need to stand together to advocate for all Metis Women.

The NDWS delegation was introduced and discussed: NDWS origins and evolution of its mandate and role; interest in working on preservation of Metis culture and identity; and selection of NDWS delegates to participate in the LFMO AGM based on their experience and knowledge.

The FDMA delegation was introduced and discussed: the court's resolution of the issue of FDMA leadership; and anticipation that there would be report on more work at the next AGM.

The IWS delegation was introduced and discussed: incorporation of the IWS in 2013; election of the IWS President for a four year term and approval of IWS bylaws; ongoing struggles to secure funding; inequities in funding for Metis Women as compared to other Aboriginal Women's groups; support of the MMF Board of Directors and efforts of the IWS to open an office; and work towards increasing communications, including establishment of a website.

The WMNO delegation was introduced, and discussed: the delegation's inclusion of five members of the Women's Secretariat of the Metis Nation of Ontario (MNO) elected for a four-year term, and the President elected at the AGM and by province-wide ballot box election as the

Minister of Women; MNO's partnership with the Province of Ontario to address Violence against Aboriginal Women with a strong focus on prevention; MNO's recent employment of the former NWAC file holder for Sisters in Spirit; interest in training new Board members using in-house resources; and Bright Roofs Solar project involving 60 contracts that will direct some funding to the WMNO.

CLOSING REMARKS

LFMO President Omeniho thanked delegates for their contributions during the AGM. In response to some statements made against her, she offered clarification that she does not have a lifetime partner now and that she has never paid any man using LFMO funds. She encouraged the delegation to move forward by acknowledging the past and moving forward very positively.

CONCLUSION

It was MOVED (Reina Sinclair, FDMA)

That Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation Annual General Meeting held April 26-27, 2014 be now concluded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140427-06)

(Time: 12:24 p.m.)

Annette Friedman offered a Closing Prayer.

* * * * *

This is a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation Annual General Meeting held April 26-27, 2014 and incorporates any and all corrections made at the time of adoption.

ATTACHMENTS:

- List of Voting Delegates in Attendance
- List of Resolutions



**LES FEMMES MICHIF OTIPEMISIWAK
WOMEN OF THE MÉTIS NATION**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
APRIL 26-27, 2014**

DELEGATES IN ATTENDANCE

**Metis Women of British Columbia
(MWBC)**

Clara Dal Col, Provincial Chair
Karen Anonson
Lee Fraser
Gail Fuson
Susie Hooper
Annette Maurice
Brenda Nome
Sharon Payou
Margaret Penner
Barbara Toombs

**Filles De Madeleine Association
Inc. (Saskatchewan)**

Tammy Mah, President
Monell Bailey
Viola Bell
Helene Johnson
Karen Larocque
Darlene McKay
Sherry McLellan
Angela Poitras
Reina Sinclair
Mavis Taylor
Bonnie Vandale

**Infinity Women Secretariat
(Manitoba)**

Anita Campbell,
Spokesperson
Loretta Boulard
Dee Chaboyer
Frances Chartrand
Shannon DuPont
Stephanie Eyolfson
Leah LaPlante
Judy Mayer
Marielee Nault
Muriel Parker
Shirley Langan (Alternate)

**New Dawn Women's Society
(Alberta)**

Irena Collins, Interim President
Tammy Bouvier
Kelsey-Dawn Bradburn
Bea Demetrius
Debbie Houle
Kristy Isert
Doreen Poitras Hays
Pearl Sandor
Muriel Stanley-Venne
Laura Waniandy

**Women of the Metis Nation of
Ontario**

Sharon McBride, Spokesperson
Verna Brunelle
Roz Calder
Pearl Gabona
Reta Gordon
Shirley Lynn Pantuso
France Picotte
Brenda Powley
Lori-Ann Riverts
Theresa Stenlunch
Barbara Ann Wright



**LES FEMMES MICHIF OTIPEMISIWAK
WOMEN OF THE MÉTIS NATION**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
APRIL 26-27, 2014**

LIST OF RESOLUTIONS AND REQUESTS FOR ACTION

It was MOVED (Muriel Parker, IWS) and SECONDED (Shannon DuPont, IWS)

That the Agenda for Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation Annual General Meeting scheduled April 26-27, 2014 be approved with the following friendly amendments agreed to by the Mover and Seconder and with the consent of the delegation:

- Vary the order of the Agenda to consider Regional Updates on Day 2 during the 10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. timeslot or sooner if time allows
- Add “Election of the National President” on Day 2 at 1:00 p.m.
- Add “Definition of Metis” on Day 2 at 9:00 a.m.
- Add “Appointment of the Co-Chairs” as the next item of business.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140426-01)

It was MOVED (Irena Collins, NDWS) and SECONDED (Viola Bell, FDMA)

That Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis (LFMO) accept Cynthia Bertolin and Kathy Hodgson-Smith as Co-Chairs for its Annual General Meeting scheduled April 26-27, 2014.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140426-02)

It was MOVED (Helene Johnson, FDMA) and SECONDED (Susie Hooper, MWBC)

That the Minutes of the Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation Annual General Meeting held March 16-17, 2013 be accepted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140426-03)

(Roz Calder and Theresa Stenlunch, WMNO; and Tammy Bouvier, Irena Collins, Debbie Houle, Kristy Isert and Muriel Stanley-Venne, NDWS abstaining from the vote.)

Request for Action (RFA-AGM140426-01)

It was requested that Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak: Women of the Métis Nation Strategy 2013 be amended on Page 3, Organizational Structure, 3rd paragraph, to clarify that the LFMO President holds a term of office of three years; to replace “In March 2013” with “In March 2012”; and clarify the election process.

It was MOVED (Marielee Nault, IWS) and SECONDED (Sherry McLellan, FDMA)

That Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak: Women of the Métis Nation Annual General Meeting receive for information the President's Annual Report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140426-04)

(Barbara Ann Wright, WMNO, abstaining from the vote.)

Request for Action (RFA-AGM140426-02)

It was requested that in future Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak (LFMO) Women of the Métis Nation Annual General Meeting packages include a copy of the LFMO Board motion recommending approval of the Financial Statements.

It was MOVED (Reena Sinclair, SK) and SECONDED (Karin Laroche, SK)

That Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation (LFMO) Annual General Meeting accept as presented *Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak (O/A Women of the Metis Nation) Financial Statements – Year Ended March 31, 2013.*

CARRIED (AGM140426-05)

(9 delegates voting in the negative and 1 delegate abstaining from the vote.)

It was MOVED (Mavis Taylor, FDMA) and SECONDED (Anita Campbell, IWS)

That Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation (LFMO) Annual General Meeting accept the recommendation of the LFMO Board of Directors to appoint Andrews & Co. Chartered Accountants as auditors for the 2013-14 fiscal year.

CARRIED (AGM140426-06)

(4 delegates voting in the negative.)

Request for Action (RFA-AGM140426-03)

It was requested that Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation Annual General Meeting delegates review the draft Financial Policies and Procedures and bring forward any comments/questions through their representative to the LFMO Board as the intention is to present the reviewed, revised version at the next AGM.

It was MOVED (Karen Larocque, FDMA) and SECONDED (Tammy Mah, FDMA)

That Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation (LFMO) Annual General Meeting recommend that the Metis National Council continue to participate in international discussions to gather information and to ensure that Metis women's issues are brought to international and national attention, i.e. World Intellectual Property Organization, Convention on Biological Diversity, Climate Change, and to ensure the Women's agenda is alive and heard.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140426-07)

It was MOVED (Karen Larocque, FDMA) and SECONDED (Viola Bell, FDMA)

That Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation (LFMO) Annual General Meeting recommend that the Metis National Council continue to press Canada to develop a Metis-specific Strategy on Biological Diversity to develop a Federal/Provincial/Territorial table to discuss environmental issues, conservation, sustainable use, and Metis engagement, and to ensure that the Metis women are engaged.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140426-08)

It was MOVED (Melanie Omeniho, LFMO) and SECONDED (Viola Bell, FDMA)

That Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation (LFMO) Annual General Meeting accept Schedule A – *Canada-Not-for-Profit Corporations Act* (NFP Act) Form 4031 Articles of Continuance (transition) with correction to Section 6(2) to replace “Metis women” with “Metis Women”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140427-01)

Request for Action (RFA-AGM140427-01)

It was requested that the Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation Board develop a process to implement a Resolutions Committee for future Annual General Meetings.

It was MOVED (Melanie Omeniho, LFMO) and SECONDED (Viola Bell, FDMA)

That Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation (LFMO) Annual General Meeting direct the LFMO to attempt to find necessary resources to establish a “Protocol for Research and Engagement” to ensure that there is a Metis Women’s lens in the LFMO’s work under Traditional Knowledge and so that women understand the importance on how to protect their intellectual property and knowledge.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140427-02)

It was MOVED (Muriel Stanley-Venne, NDWS) and SECONDED (Karen Larocque, FDMA)

WHEREAS the Metis People believe in the holistic, sacred and dependent relationship between the Metis People and Mother Earth; and

WHEREAS the Metis People have always understood their birthright to include a duty of stewardship and care towards the land, skies, waters and living organisms. This sense of responsibility and relationship with the earth has been passed down through the generations by the grandmothers and grandfathers; and

WHEREAS the health of the Metis People cannot be separated from the health of the environment, the health of our Metis culture and identity, our traditional livelihoods, our spirituality and the expression of our inherent right to self-determination; and

WHEREAS the Metis people are not consulted sufficiently and have sufficient resources to participate or assurances that the needs of the Metis community are fully addressed where development projects are undertaken on traditional territories; and

WHEREAS the Metis Women believe that the violence against women includes the violence of poverty, the violence of underdevelopment, the violence against the environment and the eventual hardship and struggle the Metis people find themselves in;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation incorporate these values into our workplans, our goals and objectives.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140427-03)

It was MOVED (Muriel Stanley-Venne, NDWS) and SECONDED (Reina Sinclair, FDMA)

WHEREAS the work of the Metis Nation in relation to our rights and our self-determination and community development is valued, necessary and effects all the Metis people; and

WHEREAS the Metis women and children have specific challenges and needs within the Metis Nation;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation engage in gender analyses of the work of the Metis Nation so that LMFO may move forward in a positive and informed manner.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140427-04)

It was MOVED (Karen Laroacque, FDMA) and SECONDED (Anita Campbell, IWS)

WHEREAS under the Convention on Biological Diversity the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing was negotiated; and

WHEREAS the Nagoya Protocol provides for obligations on the state in ensuring the prior informed consent or approval and involvement of Indigenous and local communities where their traditional knowledge in relation to genetic resources as defined by the Nagoya Protocol is engaged; and

WHEREAS the Nagoya Protocol also requires that an agreement on equitable access and benefit sharing based on mutually agreed terms be undertaken where the traditional knowledge of Indigenous and local communities in relation to genetic resources is engaged; and

WHEREAS the Metis are an Indigenous people and would see benefit under the application of the Nagoya Protocol here in Canada; and

WHEREAS Canada has not determined whether to accept the obligations set out under the Nagoya Protocol;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Metis National Council continue to engage with Canada in the unfolding of legislation and policy in relation to ensuring equitable access and benefit sharing arising from the utilization of Metis traditional knowledge and genetic resources on our traditional territories and that Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Metis Nation be engaged to ensure that the needs of Metis Women are considered and advanced in any discussion.

CARRIED (AGM140427-05)

(4 delegates voting in the negative.)

Request for Action (RFA-AGM140427-02)

It was requested that Co-Chair Hodgson-Smith be asked to provide a briefing note on the work of the Metis Nation Registry Officials with the Canadian Standards Association.

It was MOVED (Reina Sinclair, FDMA)

That Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak Women of the Métis Nation Annual General Meeting held April 26-27, 2014 be now concluded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (AGM140427-06)

(Time: 12:24 p.m.)