



The District Council of Calgary Elbow Métis District

Meeting Minutes

LOCATION:	H2Safety Boardroom 7260 12 St. SE Suite 210
Date:	December 3, 2024
Attendees:	Carmen Lasante, Rhonda Baglot, Javan Belcourt, Samaria Cardinal, Randall (Randy) Fedderson, Peter McPherson, Charlette Vivier, Elders Art Cunningham, Grant Britton, Guests: Darlene & Murray Brandt, Jennifer Cunningham,

Public Guests are welcome .

Art Cunningham and Grant Britton (Elder advisors)

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order

7PM District Captain Lasante called the December 3, 2024, swearing in ceremony and inaugural meeting of the Calgary Elbow Métis District Council of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government to order.

Agenda Item #2 – Opening Prayer

7:05PM Councillor Nancy Cardinal delivered the opening prayer.

Agenda Item # 3 – Oaths of Office

7:10PM Captain Lasante delivered the Oaths of Office for elected the newly elected councillors who were elected on November 5, 2024.

Agenda Item # 4 – Adoption of Agenda

Additions : Corrections to Charlette's name

Peter suggests conflict of interest be reviewed at future meetings.



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715PM

MOTION #2024MMDD-1:

Moved by: Councillor Baglot

Second Councillor Fedderson

Be it resolved by the District Council that the agenda for the December 03, 2024, Regular Meeting of the District Council be adopted as ***presented or amended.***

Debate/No Debate

Vote: All in favour of motion.

For: Unanimous

Against:

Abstain:

Agenda Item # 5 – Ratify District Captain Oath of Office

720PM

MOTION #2024MMDD-2:

Moved by: Councillor Baglot

Be it resolved by the District Council that the oath of office sworn by Captain Lasante on October 15, 2023 at the official ceremony of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government which followed the 2023 General Election, is hereby ratified as administered and deemed by the Calgary Elbow Métis District Council effective this day.

Seconded by: Councillor Fedderson

Debate/No Debate

Vote: All in favour

For: Unanimous

Against:

Abstain:

Agenda Item # 6 – Ratify 14-Notification of Council Meeting



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7:25PM

MOTION #2024MMDD-3:

Moved by: Councillor Baglot

Be it resolved by the District Council that the motion to waive the 21-day notification for councillors of the next meeting sent via email on November 21st, is hereby ratified as administered and deemed accepted by the Calgary Elbow Metis District Council effective this day.

Seconded by: Councillor Fedderson

Debate/No Debate

Vote: All in favour of motion.

For: Unanimous

Against:

Abstain:

Agenda Item # 6 – Announcement of CFO and Secretary

7:25PM Captain Lasante announced Councillor Baglot as CFO and Councillor Vivier as secretary.

Agenda Item # 7 – Adoption of Robert's Rules of Order or Create own Rules of Order

7:25PM

MOTION #2 R024MMDD-4

Moved by: Councillor Fedderson

Second: Councillor Belcourt

Be it resolved by the District Council that Calgary Elbow Métis District Council adopt the following course of action regarding parliamentary procedure for our meetings:

Hybrid Option - Calgary Elbow Métis District Rules of Order
(Blended with Robert's Rules of Order)

In this hybrid approach, the organization will develop a set of procedural rules, the **Calgary Elbow Métis District Rules of Order**, which incorporates elements of **Robert's Rules of Order** while also integrating unique cultural practices and values specific to the Calgary Elbow Métis community. This set of rules would aim to balance the structure and clarity provided by



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Robert's Rules with more flexible, community-driven processes that reflect the Métis culture, traditions, and practical needs.

The development of this hybrid model will be a collaborative process, engaging community members to ensure the rules are culturally relevant and inclusive. The hybrid rules will allow the organization to maintain standardized parliamentary procedures where necessary, while ensuring that Métis cultural values and traditions are respected and incorporated into the decision-making process.

The hybrid option provides a path towards creating a more localized approach to parliamentary procedure, preserving fairness, efficiency, and inclusivity, while aligning with the identity and needs of the Calgary Elbow Métis community. This option offers flexibility, using Robert's Rules as a guideline, but adapting them to meet the specific needs of the community.

Hybrid Option - Calgary Elbow Métis District Rules of Order (Blended with Robert's Rules of Order):

The Hybrid Option offers a balanced solution that seeks to respect and preserve the structure and efficiency of **Robert's Rules of Order** while integrating the unique cultural needs, traditions, and values of the Calgary Elbow Métis community. The rationale behind this blended approach includes the following key points:

1. **Cultural Relevance:** The hybrid model allows the organization to maintain the efficiency and clarity of Robert's Rules, while also embracing Métis cultural values, practices, and traditions. By incorporating elements specific to Métis community needs, the procedural rules will foster a decision-making environment that is not only fair but also culturally appropriate and meaningful to community members.
2. **Flexibility:** A hybrid approach offers the flexibility to adapt standard parliamentary procedures where necessary to fit the unique circumstances and priorities of the Métis community. It allows for a balance between the structured, time-tested processes of Robert's Rules and the desire for more personalized, culturally specific ways of conducting meetings.
3. **Community Inclusion:** This approach emphasizes community engagement and collaboration in the creation of the procedural rules, ensuring that the Métis community



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has a direct role in shaping how decisions are made. By blending Robert's Rules with Métis traditions, the organization ensures that all voices are heard, fostering inclusivity and transparency in the decision-making process.

4. **Streamlined Transition:** The hybrid model allows the organization to continue using Robert's Rules of Order as a framework during the development of the Calgary Elbow Métis District Rules of Order. This provides stability and consistency in the short term, while gradually introducing the elements of the new procedural rules, making the transition smoother and minimizing disruptions in meetings.
5. **Fairness and Efficiency:** By retaining key elements of Robert's Rules, such as clear guidelines for decision-making and the ability to manage complex discussions, the hybrid model ensures that meetings remain fair and efficient. At the same time, it introduces flexibility to allow for more dynamic and culturally reflective discussions and decisions.
6. **Long-Term Sustainability:** The hybrid option ensures that the organization can continue to evolve its parliamentary procedures as the community grows and its needs change. This option provides the foundation for ongoing refinement of the rules in alignment with the community's evolving cultural and practical needs, ensuring long-term sustainability and relevancy in the decision-making process.

In summary, the hybrid model combines the best of both worlds: the structure and clarity of Robert's Rules, and the cultural relevance and flexibility of the Calgary Elbow Métis District Rules of Order. It offers a path forward that respects both tradition and the evolving needs of the Métis community.

A Committee will be established to guide the creation and revision of the Calgary Elbow Métis District Rules of Order, blending key elements of Robert's Rules with Métis traditions. The committee will engage with community members to ensure the new hybrid rules are reflective of Métis values and practical needs. Once the draft of the hybrid rules is developed, it will be presented to the citizenship for review and approval.

Seconded by: Councillor Belcourt



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Debate/No Debate:

Elders present voiced their opinion on what other groups have done and felt that we should also look at creating a hybrid model that will reflect the Métis values and needs.

Vote: For creating a Hybrid model for the Rules of Order

For: Unanimous

Against:

Abstain:

Concerns : preparation is needed to rewrite.

Ammendment: Elder Cunningham is to send out the Buffalo Report so it can be incorporated into our Hybrid Model for the Rules of Order

TABLED . Javan to head committee.

Agenda Item # 8 – Elders & Knowledge Keepers invited to Attend at Future Meetings

7:30PM

MOTION #2024MMDD-5:

Moved by: Councillor Baglot

Seconded by: Councillor McPherson

Be it resolved by the District Council that Calgary Elbow Métis District Council have at least one Elder or Knowledge Keeper in attendance in our future Council meetings.

Whereas the presence of Elders and Knowledge Keepers offers valuable cultural insight, wisdom, and guidance that can greatly benefit the decision-making process;

Whereas Elders and Knowledge Keepers hold an integral role in preserving and sharing traditional knowledge, history, and spiritual teachings that reflect the values and needs of the community;

Whereas their inclusion fosters a deeper understanding and respect for cultural practices, strengthens community relationships, and ensures that decisions are made with consideration to all perspectives;



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Whereas the teachings and wisdom of Elders and Knowledge Keepers can contribute to the holistic and sustainable development of the community, and enrich the discussions around key topics, challenges, and initiatives;

Be it resolved that the Calgary Elbow Métis District Council proposes that Elders and Knowledge Keepers be invited and included as formal attendees at all future meetings, to provide guidance, support, and input on relevant matters.

Be it further resolved that the scheduling of Elders and Knowledge Keepers' attendance be done in a manner that ensures their time and contributions are respected, and that they are fully integrated into discussions as valued participants.

Be it further resolved that a framework be developed to ensure proper protocols are in place for engaging Elders and Knowledge Keepers, including compensation for their time, clear communication of meeting agendas, and a respectful environment for their contributions.

Debate/No Debate

Vote: All in favour of motion.

For: Unanimous

Against:

Abstain:

Next steps : Peter and Javon to start committee . Protocol regarding Elder involvement.

Amendment : Ensure that the word protocols is used especially when discussing compensation.

Agenda Item # 9 – Ratify Captain Lasante’s Decision to Purchase Liability and Directors Insurance



7:50 PM

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MOTION #2024MMDD-6:

Moved by: Councillor Vivier

Second: Councillor Baglot

Be it resolved by the District Council that Calgary Elbow Métis District Council ratify Captain Lasante's decision to purchase liability and directors insurance.

WHEREAS, Captain Lasante has been actively working to secure appropriate insurance coverage for the organization, specifically focusing on obtaining Liability and Directors and Officers insurance policies;

AND WHEREAS, Captain Lasante has successfully negotiated terms for Directors and Officers insurance at a premium of \$995 annually;

AND WHEREAS, Captain Lasante has received a quote for \$2M Liability coverage for \$750 annually;

AND WHEREAS, the combined annual cost for both \$2M Liability and \$2M Directors and Officers insurance is \$1,745;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the decision made by Captain Lasante to purchase the Liability and Directors Insurance with the terms described, for an annual premium of \$1,745, is hereby ratified by this body.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the \$2M Liability insurance will be purchased for \$750 annually, and the \$2M Directors and Officers insurance will be purchased for \$995 annually, for a total of \$1,745 annually.

Debate/No Debate

Vote: All in Favour.

For: Unanimous

Against:

Abstain:

Carmen will send information about insurance policy to councillors.



Agenda Item # 10 – Ratify Captain Lasante’s Decision to Purchase Website – Nationbuilder For \$179 USD(\$252 CAD)/Month & GoDaddy For \$87.24 CAD/year.

8:04PM **MOTION #2024MMDD-7:**
Moved by: Councillor Cardinal
Seconded by: Councillor Belcourt

Be it resolved by the District Council that Calgary Elbow Métis District Council to **Ratify Captain Lasante’s decision to purchase website – Nationbuilder for \$179 USD/month & GoDaddy for \$82.74 CAD/year.**

Whereas, Captain Lasante, in the execution of her duties, identified the need for an effective and professional web presence for the organization;

Whereas, Captain Lasante determined that the services provided by NationBuilder at \$179 USD/month and GoDaddy at \$87.24 for hosting and domain registration would best meet the organization’s needs;

Whereas, these services are necessary for the successful development, maintenance, and operation of the organization's website;

Whereas, Captain Lasante made the decision to proceed with the purchase of these services in the interest of the organization and its operational efficiency;

Whereas, it is now necessary to seek formal ratification from the Calgary Elbow Métis District Council regarding this decision.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That:

1. The purchase of the NationBuilder subscription at \$179 USD/month and GoDaddy service at \$87.24 is hereby ratified and approved by the board of directors or governing body of the organization.
2. Captain Lasante is authorized to continue utilizing these services for the benefit of the organization, and the necessary payments will be made to ensure continued service.
3. Any further decisions related to these subscriptions, including upgrades or cancellations, shall be subject to appropriate approval processes as outlined by the organization.

Be it further resolved that:

This motion is effective immediately upon approval.



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Debate/No Debate:

Samaria : Can we get a better price if we pay for a year up front?

Is this the best? Carmen is very familiar with the site will inquire about an annual fee with discount. Is there a discount for a not for profit group.?

Javon : Is there a local company?

Vote: All in Favour of Motion.

For: Unanimous

Against:

Abstain:

Agenda Item # 11 – Secure Online Storage and Accessibility of Council Members

8:09PM **MOTION #2024MMDD-8:**
Moved by: Councillor Vivier
Seconded by: Councillor Fedderson

Be it resolved by the District Council that Calgary Elbow Métis District Council to adopt the use of a secure online document storage and sharing platform, such as ShareFile, Google Docs, or an equivalent program, to store all relevant council documents, including but not limited to meeting minutes, agendas, reports, and other pertinent materials.

The platform will be set up to allow council members easy access and collaboration on these documents in a secure and organized manner. This solution will improve efficiency, transparency, and communication, as it will enable members to view and edit documents online from any location.

Additionally, the minutes of all council meetings will be published on the Calgary Elbow Métis District website for public access, providing



Otipemisiwak Métis Government

transparency and allowing citizens to review the proceedings at their leisure.

This motion aims to improve both internal council operations and public transparency, ensuring that council materials are securely stored and easily accessible by all stakeholders.

I request a vote to approve the use of an online storage platform for council documentation.

Debate/No Debate: We will research further similar programs .

Vote: All in favour of motion.

For: Unanimous.

Against:

Abstain:

NEXT STEP: Councillor Cardinal will look into pricing of different programs.

Agenda Item # 12 – Establish a bank account for the District Council of the Calgary Elbow Metis District

8:15PM **MOTION #2024MMDD-9:**
Moved by: Councillor Fedderson
Seconded by: Councillor Belcourt

Be it resolved by the District Council that Calgary Elbow Métis District Council approve the establishment of a bank account for the Council with the following conditions:

1. **Signing Authorities:**

That the following individuals be authorized as signing authorities for the account: Each transaction will require approval of two of these authorities.

- Carmen Lasante
- Rhonda Baglot
- Charlette Vivier
- Peter McPherson



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These individuals will have the authority to sign or approve on behalf of the Council for any banking transactions related to the account.

2. **Banking Institution:**

That ATB (Alberta Treasury Branch), be selected to open and maintain the bank account. If we require charter Band (International business policies, we will review)

3. **Ability to Process EFTs and e-Transfers:**

That the bank account be set up with the ability to make and receive Electronic Funds Transfers (EFTs) and e-transfers, to facilitate smooth financial transactions.

4. **Credit Card:**

That the Councillor's office be authorized to apply for and obtain a credit card in the name of Captain Lasante and the Metis Elbow River District for use in the course of official duties, with the spending limit and terms to be determined by the Councillor in consultation with the appropriate financial advisor. The credit card statements will be presented to the board for approval each month.

Debate/No Debate

Consideration for out of province banking or Charter bank planning for future .

-Financial controls policy to be developed . -Some aspects : credit cards / limits . Rhonda will look at discussion .

-Deposit may be required for Credit card.

-Spending limits to be discussed

Options discussed :

BMO

Scotia

CIBC

ATB (Metis Crossing , Patrick Head)



Otipemisiwak
Métis Government

Royal Bank

Vote: All in favour of motion.

For: Unanimous

Against:

Abstain:

Agenda Item # 13a – Purchase an Accounting Program for Tracking Grants and Projects

8:33PM **MOTION #2024MMDD-10:**
Moved by: Councillor Baglot
Seconded by: Councillor Fedderson

Be it resolved by the District Council that Calgary Elbow Métis District Council initiate an evaluation of various accounting program options, including Certified Public Accountant (CPA) services and possible bookkeeping solutions. This evaluation will include a review of potential vendors, pricing structures, and the qualifications of service providers that align with our current and future financial needs. A comprehensive report outlining these options will be prepared and presented at the next meeting for further discussion and decision-making. The motions for this meeting will be brought forward for the next meeting and a decision will be made.

Debate/No Debate:

We must work in collaboration with an accountant / CPA . Rhonda will research .

Vote: All in favour of Motion

For.: Unanimous.

Against:

Abstain:



Otipemisiwak Métis Government

Original MOTIONS #10, 11 and 12 to be added to the agenda for next meeting as the decision was made to research all options first for pricing and then update the council. Councillor Baglot to head this research.

Agenda Item # 14 – Order corporate seal for the District Council of Calgary Elbow Metis District

8:41PM **MOTION #2024MMDD-12:**
Moved by: Councillor Belcourt
Seconded by: Councillor Fedderson

Be it resolved by the District Council that Calgary Elbow Métis District Council proceed with the ordering of a corporate seal for the District Council, to be used for official documentation, agreements, and other purposes as required by the council's operations. The design and specifications of the seal shall be finalized by and approved by the council.

Debate/No Debate

Vote: All in favour of motion.

For: Unanimous
Against:
Abstain:

Javon will be heading the committee with design and meet with the different seal making companies for pricing. Councillor Belcourt will have an update for us at the next meeting.

Agenda Item # 15 – Captains Report

8:43PM Captain Lasante delivered the Captains Report for the last year as update for the incoming Councillors.
2 Metis week celebration, Seniors Christmas dinner, several meetings, City of Calgary meetings, seniors bingo, elders talks, women's gatherings,



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hosting a festival and partnership with city on a Metis weekend event during the month of June.

Agenda Item # 17 – Action Items

8:50PM Councillor Vivier reviewed action items assigned to councillors.

Agenda Item # 7 – Adoption of Robert’s Rules of Order or Create own Rules of Order

Javan to head committee regarding Creation of blended “ Rules of Order” .

Agenda Item # 8 – Elders & Knowledge Keepers invited to Attend at Future Meetings Next steps :

Peter and Javon to start committee. Protocol regarding Elder involvement.

Agenda Item # 11 – Secure Online Storage and Accessibility of Council Members: Samaria to research programs and accessibility and get back to council next meeting

Agenda Item # 12 – Set Appointment at ATB to discuss bank account
Baglot to set up appointment for first meeting and signing of paperwork prior to next meeting. Baglot will also work on a Financial Controls Policy

Agenda Item # 13 _ Purchase an Accounting Program for Tracking Grants and Projects BANKING , hire an CPA and Possibly a book keeper

Baglot to research CPA, accounting programs, and possible book keeper and update council at the next meeting so Council can make a decision

Agenda Item # 14 – Order corporate seal for the District Council of Calgary Elbow Metis District

Javon will be assisting with design and speaking at seal maker company,



Agenda Item # 18 – Tabled Items

9:03PM **Original MOTIONS #10, 11 and 12** to be added to the agenda for next meeting as the decision was made to research all options first for pricing and then update the council. Councillor Baglot to head this research.

Agenda Item #19 – Date for Next Meeting

9:03PM January 8th, 2025 at 7PM at H2Safety Services is the next meeting. This will be a Hybrid meeting. Councillor Vivier to send a TEAMS invite to everyone.

Agenda Item #20 – Closing Prayer

9:08PM Councillor Cardinal delivered the closing prayer.

Agenda Item #21 – Adjourn Meeting

9:10PM **MOTION #2024MMDD-12:**
Moved by: Councillor McPherson

Be it resolved by the District Council that Calgary Elbow Métis District Council adjourn the meeting at 9:10pm.

Seconded by: Councillor Baglot

Debate/No Debate

Vote: All in favour of motion .

For: Unanimous.

Against:

Abstain: