



The District Council of Calgary Elbow Métis District

Meeting Minutes

LOCATION:	H2Safety Boardroom 7260 12 St. SE Suite 210
Date:	January 8 th 2024
Attendees:	Carmen Lasante, Rhonda Baglot (online) , Javan Belcourt, Samaria Cardinal, Peter McPherson, Charlette Vivier We will add a sign in sheet for future

Public Guests are welcome .

Art Cunningham Elder

Paul Bercier Elder

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order

7:02 pm District Captain Lasante called the January 8, 2025, meeting of the Calgary Elbow Métis District Council of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government to order. 2nd meeting

Agenda Item #2 – Opening Prayer

7:02PM Art Cunningham

Agenda Item # 3 – Adoption of Agenda

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

Addendum: we will add a sign in sheet for guests listed



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7:15PM

MOTION

Moved by: Councillor Javon

Second Councillor Charlette Vivier

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 # 4 –

Agenda Item # 5 – Approval of Minutes with Amendments

7:10PM

MOTION # Councillor Baglot

Moved by: Councillor Peter McPherson (Double Check)

Seconded by:

Previous Minutes accepted.

Debate/No Debate

Amendments

Vote: All in favour

For: Unanimous

Against:

Abstain:

7:18 pm Agenda Item # 6 – Elder's Report (Art Cunningham)



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Discussed previous work with Civic and Provincial Leadership. Suggested Document civic/ Liaison with Calgary and local districts.

Art suggest council understanding our representation in Cabinet.

Paul Bercier : Discussed Tripartite agreements. Asked about larger budget on a provincial level. Talked about Southern Alberta District alliances / communication.

7:43PM **Accept Elders Minutes**
Moved by:
Seconded by:

Debate/No Debate:

Councillor Baglot discussed a creation of the District Business plan . District still needs to receive budget and all budget information. (Pending)

-Query: Should we approach Citizens reps in Districts (Cabinet) and to explore creation of a Metis Caucus representing our Territory. This is to share ideas, learn and represent Southern Alberta. Metis culture to be considered in this group creation. (Battle River Metis Caucus) .

This idea will be tabled to next meeting. Councillor McPherson volunteered to research Caucus examples.

Councillor discussed the council considering .

Captain will request a 101 Politics review to be provided at future meeting.

Vote: All in favour of motion.

Agenda Item # 6 – Captains Report

7: 49PM
Discussed her research regarding Residential School /



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Catholic Diocese communications regarding Indigenous Reconciliation Fund . Councillor Belcourt also worked on this initiative.

Attended a Female Elected Officials meeting

Attended meeting with City of Calgary met with Councillor Alcott.
Re: Housing

Discussed knowing more about Metis Housing .

Councillor

Exploring initiatives to hire with City partnership employment for 1 year.
Captain Lasante requested council to explore possible employment.
CARYA CLI initiative.

Met with community members / Business planning / Investments.

Applied for the Canadian Arts Grant (University of Calgary).

June 18th Grant applied for Cultural event. Councillor Fedderson was involved in this initiatives. Downy/ Wenjack Grant.

Has contacted Microsoft 360 – Council use.

Researched Nation Builder website.

Applied for City of Calgary grant (10-15K) Summer stampede cultural event.

Dates : Jan 17th Transition Meeting : Dinner.

Jan 20th : Confluence Meeting . Captain Lasante invited councillors to attend.

Jan 21st : Human Trafficking Meeting . Councillor Cardinal will attend.

Jan 24th : City of Calgary Meeting . In person event.

Agenda Item # 7 – Review of Previous Motion Tabled: To use Metis Contexed Roberts Rules of Order.



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Councillor Belcourt : Reviewing Hybrid model . Red River Cart Teachings / Buffalo Hunt. Tabled to the next meeting .

Councillor McPherson discussed collaborating with Committee. Elders at Meetings and Protocols.

10 and 11 to be carried forward.

SEAL : Councillor Belcourt : Has drafted several samples . Example of Seal brought to meeting.

Councillor Cardinal : Research of online storage . We discussed Microsoft 360. One drive.

Councillor Baglot: Banking Update. Councillor Mcpherson signs tomorrow. Councillor Vivier has appointment at bank Friday. TABLED : Remaining financial directives.

The financial authority policy will be forwarded to ATB tomorrow by Captain Lasante.

Transitional sessions.

Next meeting: Please review Committee handout and be prepared .

8:10PM

MOTION To utilize Microsoft 360
Moved by: Councilor Cardinal
Second: Councillor Mcpherson



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 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



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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 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



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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

TABLED . Javan to head committee.

Agenda Item # 8 – Guests Randy Bradshaw / Darcy Mcrae

Origins of the Metis Film. They are requesting funding and consideration for future funding regarding film production.

8:35 Tabled

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;



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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;

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:

Addendum : Jan 8th 2025 Reflect discussion about the use of protocols for Elders.

Elder Art Cunningham Elder offered to provide a framework for protocol.

Motion 11 last minutes : Omitted .

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



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 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 # 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:

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



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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:

Javan 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.

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Agenda Item # 17 – Action Items

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

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

Javan to continue to work on cultural additions to existing Roberts Rules of Order.

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

Peter and Javan to continue committee. Protocol regarding Elder involvement to continue to be developed. Captain Lasante has sent



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supporting documents the Region Three had developed previously to review.

**Agenda Item # 12 – Councillor Vivier will sign Friday January 10th .
Councillor Mcpherson signs documents Jan 9th 2025.**

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

Councillor Baglot to continue 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**

Councillor Belcourt will be continuing to work on seal. Drafts brought to meeting.

Agenda Item # – Tabled Items

9:03PM

Agenda Item # – Feb 12th Date for Next Meeting

9:03PM , Feb 12th 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

9:03PM Councillor Cardinal delivered the closing prayer.

Agenda Item #21 – Adjourn Meeting

9:PM **MOTION**
Moved by: Councillor Belcourt



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Be it resolved by the District Council that Calgary Elbow Métis District Council adjourn the meeting at 9:05pm.

Seconded by: Councillor Mcpherson.

Debate/No Debate

Vote: All in favour of motion .

For: Unanimous.

Against:

Abstain: