



The District Council of Calgary Elbow Métis District

Meeting Minutes

LOCATION:	Virtual via TEAMS (Recorded)
Date:	February 12, 2025
Attendees:	Carmen Lasante, Rhonda Baglot, Javan Belcourt, Samaria Cardinal (Absent), Randall (Randy) Fedderson, Peter McPherson, Charlette Vivier, Elders / Knowledge Keepers: Art Cunningham, Doreen Bergum Paul Bercier.

Public Guests are welcome.

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order

7: 06PM District Captain Lasante called the February 12th, 2025, meeting of the Calgary Elbow Métis District Council of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government to order.

Agenda Item #2 – Opening Prayer

7:07PM Elder Doreen Bergum delivered the opening prayer.

Agenda Item # 3 – Adoption of Agenda

7:10PM Be it resolved by the District Council that the agenda for the February. 12, 2025, Regular Meeting of the District Council be adopted as ***presented or amended.***

MOTION #2025-02-12-1:

Moved by: Councillor Belcourt

Seconded by: Councillor Vivier



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Debate/No Debate:

Vote: All in favour of motion.

For: Unanimous

Against:

Abstain:

Agenda Item # 4 – Approval of Minutes from last meeting

7:15 Be it resolved by the District Council that the motion to accept the AMENDED December 3, 2024, and the January 8th, 2025, Calgary Elbow Métis District Council minutes as administered and deemed accepted by the Calgary Elbow Metis District Council effective this day.

MOTION #2025-02-12-2:

Moved by: Councillor Fedderson

Seconded by: Councillor Baglot

No Debate

Vote: All in favour of motion.

For: Unanimous

Against:

Abstain:

Agenda Item # 5 – Elders/ Knowledge Keepers Report

Elder Cunningham:

Activities: Attended Elders circles for City of Calgary Parks, has been appointed Knowledge keeper of the City of Calgary Supply Chain Management Department. Involved in Metis Crossing: Metis Crossing offering citizens 20% off on accommodations. Thirty Plains Bison were added to the Metis Crossing herd. The Metis Crossing program may have a harvesting event.

Elder Doreen Bergum:



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Attended Youth and Elders conference this month. Metis Crossing, teaching jigging.

Attend MNC Blog Meeting

Is on Elders advisory at the University of Calgary

Is also on a Landscape committee at the U of C regarding plant life.

Elder involvement in building planning on campus

Calgary Catholic School district

Visited Fort Edmonton / recommends as a historical visit site.

Doreen attends The Alex 2 days a month as Elder support.

Doreen assisted with Cypress Hills (Jeanette Hanson)

Is an elder with the Calgary Public Library

Attends Telus Spark

IRF Reconciliation:

Circle of Wisdom: She is involved. Assisting with grant funding. Were recently awarded.

Doreen is assisting this district with grant proposals.

Elder Paul Bercier:

Paul has been working in Metis Crossing

“Now History “project. Working on historical project regarding early Metis Settlement. Previous project Metis Millenium voyage, This highlights historical Metis sites throughout Alberta. Paul said he will send us the information for this project.

Calgary Catholic School district – he has worked with.

Works with Bow Valley College as an Elder Advisor. This is a new role, Paul highlighted a recent concern regarding 1) Conflict of interest re: UCP medication purchasing. Advised that it will be important for our council to review these conflicts and understand the role of The Edmonton office in providing information to citizens.

DISCUSSION:

Captain has emailed Edmonton office for further information and a request for a statement/ Information to provide to citizens. Captain Lasante will circulate the video mentioned to all board members.

Elder Cunningham discussed that citizens have not seen a financial report that breaks down expenses by the OMG? MNA.



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Councillor Vivier discussed that In previous years , citizens received an annual financial report from Nation.

What is the process for fair, Metis tenders / contractors?
We want fair bidding and no single sourcing.

Agenda Item # 6 Captains Report Captain Lasante

Met with the Confluence (Formerly Fort Calgary) discussing partnering for additional events, OF note the Confluence plans to activate Metis cabins and are seeking consultation on this.

They have requested that the district help assist with the Metis cabin activations depending on who is hired to run the cabins.

-Meeting with Calgary Parks: Medicine Hill (Formerly Paskapoo, They have found artifacts and wish to partner regarding the community space and historic landmark recognition.

District Onboarding. See later in agenda.

Community Connector (CARYA). Captain successfully applied for one of the Community Connectors was one of the 10 organizations who are receiving a "Community Connector". The Connector will be paid by Carya for 25 hours a week at \$26 hour to assist District 6 with community building. This is a trial project that will end December 31, 2026. Program has been approved (CARYA grant covers the cost). No expense for district.

They look for volunteers, researching Metis businesses, expand community knowledge and citizenship involvement in our district events.

Employment posting will go out February 18th.

Council members to be a part of the employment/ interviewing.

Laptop will be provided by Carya.

Captain is part of a group that discusses business development / business development – Generating funds and revenue, Captain Lasante requested members of council join her at the meetings. Councillors Fedderson and McPherson offered to make themselves available for upcoming sessions.

Indigenous Advisory Circle – Werkman School of Education has asked Captain Lasante to be part of their Advisory Circle.

Updates to follow next meeting.



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Councillor Belcourt: What is the role. Responsibility. commitment
Wondering when council will receive a citizens list, 4500 in District 6 –
Council does not have a list yet. 30000 Metis citizens are in Calgary.

Councillor Fenderson: Who hires?

CARYA has job posting profile, they will post. They are asking council opinion and inclusion in job recruitment,

Rhonda: What is process for recruiting for the community connector position.

CARYA Voyageur, FACEBOOK and Linkin.

CARYA will do original job posting.

Carmen will send document to council after meeting.

See presentation below by CARYA staff.

ACTION ITEM: Additional information and proposed job ad to be forwarded to council.

Agenda Item # 7 Treasurer's Report Councillor Baglot

Councillor Baglot is still working on some outstanding issues with the bank. Councillor will have a report on bank account deposits and expenses for next meeting.

Agenda item # 8 C-92 Meeting Report Councillor Vivier

Councillor Vivier attended the Otipemisiwak Métis Government, C-92 conference "Reclaiming Our Children, Transforming our Path: A Gathering for Change". in Edmonton, February 1 - 2 2025.

The conference gathered citizens from across the province, to discuss and plan for building a Metis model of care, "that respects Metis culture, values, and traditions".

The conference focused on children and youth, regarding pre-school, general education and prevention needs in the community. The 2 days sessions were about brainstorming and gathering information regarding the needs of citizens across the districts.



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Regarding children in care, the conference information suggested that the Government of Alberta reports small numbers of Métis children in care (55 approx.) where the Nation estimate of up to 1000 Métis children may be in care, unregistered.

Action item: Councillor Vivier will forward a link for an educational video showed at the conference. Keynote speaker, Dr. Jeannine Carriere (Métis Adoptee) was a contributor to the film.

Agenda Item 9 Onboarding Council training in Edmonton February 2025

7:59PM Councillor McPherson commented that the basic overview that walking through the process of being a councillor. This was not as clear or applied as was expected.

Councillor Baglot raised question about councils having citizens lists. No information without a citizens list has been a barrier from citizens communicating and getting to know our citizens.

Councillor Baglot has inquired basic templates from the Main OP More collaboration districts and Edmonton office.

Many questions were not answered regarding finances, budgets.

Action Items: Electronic distribution of Materials to all council members. (Edmonton Head office).

Agenda Item # 10 – Hybrid Rules of Order Update

7:5PM Councillor Belcourt

Councillor Belcourt discussed drafts of Buffalo Hunt draft of decision making. A draft of blended Roberts rules of order.

Refer to Calgary Elbow District Rules of Order.

Councillor Belcourt would like to Make a motion to adopt documents and protocols.

Discussion:



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Councillors Baglot, McPherson and Vivier would like more time to review and discuss. Suggestion that it is tabled until next meeting.

Art Cunningham – This is the first document he has seen that speaks to the Elders role in the council. He is immensely proud of the council for creating this It.

ACTION ITEM: Councillors to review supplementary materials regarding creating a HYBRID Rules of Order.

Elder Bercier suggested that this document be shared with other districts and perhaps consult with other districts.

TABLED TO MARCH 2025 MEETING to accept the draft Calgary Elbow Metis District Rules of Order.

Agenda Item # 11 – Protocols for Elders Update

Councillor McPherson and Councillor Belcourt

Councillor Belcourt had sent out drafts protocols (honorariums, creation of a formalized list).

Councillor McPherson and Councillor Belcourt will meet and discuss further. They will send out a draft Protocol documents for both the district and outside organizations.

Discussion:

Elder Cunningham does not expect honorarium. He is concerned about districts that may have no money. What is the definition of an elder, who etc.

Please include Elders in this discussion.

Protocols outside of our Metis list. How do we refer our Elders to community programs when requested. Do we have a centralized plan. Elders matching to their interests, knowledge etc.



Agenda Item # 12 Banking Update Councillor Baglot

8:15PM **Update:** The bank account has been opened after several appointments. A debit card has been issued, though is not functional for withdrawals. Only can be used for deposits. Councillor Baglot tried to do an Etransfer and was unable to do so and is working with ATB to resolve.

No funds have been released from Edmonton regarding annual budget. Councillor Mcpherson:
When will funds be deposited? How much will we receive?

Captain Lasante confirms that fund have been allocated, She has not received word since October 2024. She continues to request an update. An estimate of \$500 cultural grant. Proposal is needed to access cultural funds from Edmonton Head office),.

\$80.000 will be the anticipated District Operating Budget (all costs – office, supplies, phone, events, programs, additional staffing, honorariums), though no detail shave been provided by Edmonton, including of the first budget will be pro-rated (Council just created a sworn in December 2024).

Captain Lasante reiterates that district partnerships are crucial given the limited proposed budget. Economic development (Revenue, investment and grants will need to be developed).

No credit (card, line of credit etc.) has been applied for as of February 2025.

Agenda Item # 13 –Accounting Update Councillor Baglot (CFO)

8:43PM Councillor Baglot (CFO) continues to research CPA, CPA/ Bookkeepers including discussing with Edmonton head office what software they are using.

Councillor Baglot has initial conversation regarding hiring a CPA. A follow up will be provided next meeting.



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Councillor Baglot has edited our financial agreement policy. She has amended that **individuals cannot borrow**. Please see policy and signing authority council members.

Additionally, Councillor Baglot has drafted financial policy including a creation of financial committees regarding all By laws, constitution and district by laws must be considered.

Council to review the draft TERMS OF reference and review the Financial Agreement for next meeting.

Councillor Baglot to let Captain Lasante and Councillor Vivier know if she is ready for the following motions for next meeting: **Purchasing of Accounting Software (Motion required), Hire a CPA (Motion Required), Hire a Bookkeeper (Motion Required)**

Agenda Item # 14 – Design and order in Seal – Councillor Belcourt

Councillor Belcourt talked to a Calgary Company to create seal. 2” Seal with a long reach is \$65 plus taxes. We just need to finalize what we want on the seal.

Councillor Belcourt to ask the company to create two designs for the seal and we will choose which design we would like next meaning and will do a motion to order in the design agreed upon by council:

Agenda Item # 15 Committees for Council (Ongoing)

Captain Lasante requested that councillors review materials and look at what committee they will head and work on.

DISCUSSION:

Terms of reference : Councillor Baglot will assist as she drafts these professionally.

Councillor McPherson: Can we create a skills matrix: to decide who joins what committee.

Councillor Baglot: Interest level and availability of volunteers will need to be considered.

Elder Cunningham suggested that community members be invited to join committees, Community contributions are critical. This is also an enormous amount of work for only council members,



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Elder Bercier: Mandate
Please consider an economic development committee. Start strategies.
The goal for revenue to be primary, grants secondary.

Action Item for MARCH 2025 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Agenda Item # 16 Community Connector (CARYA)

Chelsea Elliott presented. Her role is the coordinator and support. This is a community development pilot project. The goal is building/Connecting grass roots community projects like ours. It is provided through City of Calgary funding, facilitated through the agency CARYA. District 6 is one of 10 projects that were approved. December 2026 project ends

Goals: To discover exiting strengths and assets in community, Asset based community development, Strength based. "ABCD" learning will be ingoing, Community development and training will be provided by CARYA.

OUTCOME: Community have a stronger connection to community members, businesses and other projects.
DISTRICT Six will be provided with a part time employee!
The hired person will connect host and community members, coffee, going to events, research and find the assets and strengths in community.

They are considered a CARYA employee. HR is covered by CARYA. Their role is to not facilitate but connect people. They could assist our community in connecting to create larger projects ourselves.

Questions: Councillor Belcourt: Where is office space? CARYA can provide some. They have a location by the confluence. They will work remote and work in community.

Elder Bercier: What education or qualifications.



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No prerequisites: Prefer they are Metis, outgoing, relationship building. They have a draft job description. Council will be approved. Carya would like to be involved, however council will be primary deciders/

Agenda Item #17 Metis Winter Celebration

Rocky View Metis District is hosting, and Calgary Elbow and Nosehill Metis Districts will be helping.
Cultural event showcase day.
Event to be held in Airdrie.
Band, jigging, ice skating, speakers, trappers tent,
Saturday March 8th from 12pm – 5pm

Captain Lasante will send further info. We will need to help and have volunteers to assist throughout the day. Would love to have all Councillors participate if possible.

Agenda Item # 18 Gather and Learn with the Metis

Captain Lasante has emailed the City of Calgary to start planning for this event. We have applied for a grant for this. Last year, we had the City's trappers tent and a Red River Cart. The language and youth team helped with activities as well as our Artisan Collective showcased some of our fantastic Metis artwork.

Agenda item # 19 Metis Stampede Festival

Metis Stampede Festival. Booked for July 9th, 2025, at the Confluence Historical Site and Parkland.

Captain Lasante will need help with planning and Councillor Fedderson said they will assist with this. Captain Lasante will request volunteers to assist with planning and volunteering.

Also discussed Marlene Lanz fundraiser: Comprised of 3 districts working together regarding planning and fundraising. Ideas: Dinner, dance, silent auction. Other meaningful fundraising ideas needed.



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We are seeking community contribution as to what social event/fundraiser they would enjoy and would be an effective fundraiser.

Agenda item # 20 Marlene Lanz Fundraiser

Citizens Representative Lussier has asked Captain Lasante to mention that the three districts Rocky View, Calgary Nose Hill and Calgary Elbow partner in putting on a fundraiser that would show case our matriarch Marlene Lanze and everything she did for the community.

Captain Lasante said we are looking for ideas as to what we could do. The past golf tournaments did not make any money, and they only attracted big business, and many citizens could not afford to attend, or they were not interested in golfing.

Some ideas are Dinner and Dance for \$75 or more a plate to cover all costs and make additional money. We could do a silent auction or live auction at the same time.

We will readdress this next meeting and come up with some ideas and schedule meetings with the other districts to discuss further.

We are seeking community contribution as to what social event/fundraiser they would enjoy and would be an effective fundraiser.

Agenda item # 21 New District Emails

9:05PM Have all councillors set up district emails? (to be utilized through the previously approved purchase of Microsoft 360). This would allow for all district communication to be run through the program and have the "Calgary Elbow Metis district" title, rather than the variety of personal email distributed.

Not all councillors have accessed the program. Please do so by next meeting.

DISCUSSION:

Some difficulty with multiuse / professionals emails.



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Captain Lasante will offer technology assistance for those who require. Councillor Belcourt requested email/ contact list for all councillors. (To be distributed)

Contact List to be created: Please share emails and phone numbers to Councillor Vivier.

Please keep all personal numbers private.

Website: Councillor Baglot suggested councillor emails be added to our biographies once the website is complete.

Note: The district has no access to citizens information as of February 2025.

Agenda item # 22 Politics 101

Captain Lasante will have someone come in and give a politics 101 refresher for the group. An overview of Nation politics and how this works in a tripartite relationships (Province, Federally and with other Nations).

Agenda item # 23 In Camera

No Items for In Camera

Agenda Item # 24 – Action Items

- 8:50PM Councillor Vivier reviewed action items assigned to councillors.
- 1) Elder Bercier to forward report on Metis history.
 - 2) Hybrid Rules of Order: Councillors to review doc and comment.
 - 3) Protocol for Elders: Councillors Belcourt and McPherson to review and bring draft document to next meeting. Elders to be included.
 - 4) Banking/ Accounting/ Booking: Councillor Baglot to follow up.
 - 5) Corporate SEAL: 2 designs, MOCK UPS TO BE REQUESTED FROM seal COMPANY to be brought to net meeting.
 - 6) Carya job ad to be forward to council for review



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7) Captain LASANTE to send Councillor McPherson the information regarding meeting Friday with City of Calgary. (Stampede festival)
Captain Lasante to forward forms to Councillor McPherson to prepare for meeting.

8) District emails. Please log in. Contact Captain Lasante for technology assistance. Please have all emails running by next meeting.

9) List of emails to be provide to council members. Councillor Vivier will create list an distribute. Council members to forward emails and preferred phone numbers to Councillor Vivier. Councillor Vivier noted, please disregard and not use her work email in the interim.

10) Tabled politics 101

11) Committee. Information: a Skills matrix to be created. Captain Lasante, Councillors Baglot and McPherson will assist Captain Lasante.

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 #22 – Date for Next Meeting

9:20PM **March 19th, 2025**, next date for meeting. Location TBD. Councillor Vivier to send a TEAMS invite to everyone if applicable. **2nd Wednesday of every month as a schedule. Hybrid 7pm. Location to be determined.**

Calgary Co op is offering meeting rooms for use to community organizations.

Councillor Vivier asked about old regional office for use if meeting rooms are available.

Citizens to be consulted regarding meeting spaces.



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Agenda Item #23 – Closing Prayer

9: 30PM Elder Doreen Bergum delivered the closing prayer.

Agenda Item #24 – Adjourn Meeting

9:40PM **MOTION #2025-02-12-3:**
Moved by: Councillor Baglot
Seconded by: Councillor Fedderson

Be it resolved by the District Council that Calgary Elbow Métis District Council adjourn the meeting at 9:40 pm.

Debate/No Debate

Vote: All in favour of motion.

For: Unanimous.

Against:

Abstain: