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## The District Council of Calgary Elbow Métis District

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### Meeting Minutes

<b>LOCATION:</b>	Virtual via TEAMS (Recorded)
<b>Date:</b>	April 9, 2025
<b>Attendees:</b>	Carmen Lasante, Rhonda Baglot, Samaria Cardinal , Peter McPherson, Randall ( Randy) Fedderson.  Elders / Knowledge Keepers: Paul Bercier.

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**Public Guests are welcome.**

#### Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order

7: 06PM District Captain Lasante called the April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, meeting of the Calgary Elbow Métis District Council of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government to order.

#### Agenda Item #2 – Opening Prayer

7: 07PM Councillor Cardinal delivered the opening prayer.

#### Agenda Item # 3 – Adoption of Agenda

7:10PM Be it resolved by the District Council that the agenda for the April 9th, 2025, Regular Meeting of the District Council be adopted as **presented or amended**.

**MOTION #2025-04-09-1:**

**Moved by:** Councillor **McPherson**

**Seconded by:** Councillor **Baglot**



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**Debate/No Debate:** Financial Authority Policy final draft was not sent out to members prior to meeting with current agenda. A draft reference was previously sent. Captain Lasante will send to committee members for discussion at next meeting. Therefore, Agenda items 17 and 18 will be removed from Agenda , so members can have adequate time to review the financial documents and draft policy prepared by Councillor Baglot .

Councillor Baglot does not have March 2025 minutes. Please note that the “Calgary Elbow “email is not accessible to Councillor Baglot.

The previously approved minutes will be required to bring approved documents to our bank, ATB financial to amend current policy . ( Limits who can approve borrowing ). Forwarded to April 2025 meeting.

Council discussed that previous minutes to be reviewed this week via email in order to expedite approval.

**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 March 2025 , Calgary Elbow Métis District Council minutes as administered and deemed accepted by the Calgary Elbow Metis District Council effective this day.

**MOTION #2025-04-09-2:**

**Moved by:**

**Seconded by:**

**Discussion :**

***This motion to be forwarded via email , to ensure that all committee members have read March 2025 minutes for approval.***



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**Vote:**

**For:**

**Against:**

**Abstain:**

**Updated motion to be addressed in April 2025 minutes.**

### **Agenda Item # 5 – Elders/ Knowledge Keepers Report**

Elder / Knowledge Keeper Overview of Activities:

**Elder PAUL Bercier** continues to be involved with the following projects and meetings :

**Calgary Alliance of Common Good** : Lobbying, ( Multi-Faith based ) community development group focusing on civic and humanitarian issues. Attended a meeting with the group. Paul suggests Captains meeting with the group to discuss community partnerships.

Discussion : Councillor McPherson has some experience co-chairing a committee with this organization . ( Reconciliation Action Team) . They offer wonderful training .

### **Agenda Item # 6 Captains Report Captain Lasante**

#### **Rideau Hall Grant**

Attended meetings in Edmonton April 19<sup>th</sup> regarding Rideau Hall application Grant .

Empowering Teachers to bring Metis heritage and knowledge into schools. If successful, several learning (lesson and land based learning ) curriculum for teachers will be created.



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This is part of the Indigenous education Advisory Circle

Captain also attends a joint meeting / interest with Mount Royal and University of Calgary Education , Calgary board of Education, departments. They will apply for a grant supporting culturally appropriate education tools for teachers regarding Metis History. The focus is the geographic area of Battle river / Southern Alberta.

Calgary Elbow Metis District will be part of the funding grant, if approved.

**Discussion :** Councillor Cardinal discussed that Rupert's Land Institute was providing some teacher training on the past. She further asked about the language , culture, dialect and knowledge to be taught.

Councillor McPherson inquired if there was an existing connection with the existing Post secondary advisory circle and Rupert's land institute ?

Councillor Mcpherson inquired about the funding details if grant is approved.

The University received the Canadian Arts and council grant. ( Digital Story project that council is involved with ) . Our council wrote a letter of support for this grant. Council will advise on this project.

The Rideau Hall grant is a separate , pending grant application.

Elder Bercier reminded that we need to ensure historical and cultural accuracy.

Dr. Yvonne Poitras Pratt is one of the professors involved in the projects.

### **Moose Hide Campaign**

Captain Lasante is a part of the event day WALK . Has taken training and attended meeting planning events.

Indigenous grass roots movement – Bringing awareness to violence prevention . MAY 15<sup>th</sup> Campaign Day.

Council members are invited to learn more.

### **City of Calgary Meeting**



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Bears paw water treatment plant area regarding land consultation and the environmental monitoring . We may need to put names forward of professional, Metis Environmental monitors to have Metis present.

### **Metis Winter Festival**

Captain Lasante assisted with planning and set up. She also brought the Red River Cart to Airdrie for presentation. Some members of council attended.

### **Provincial Human Trafficking Network Meeting ( Ongoing)**

Meeting in Red Deer. Captain Lasante has been involved with this group.

### **Edmonton / Nation meetings**

Following PICS leadership conference in Edmonton in March, Captain Lasante met with Aaron Barnham.

Council must have an AGM before Nations annual gathering in August.

All Monies must be spent in budget every year or it is lost.

An emergent expenditure was conducted by Captain Lasante. She bought a Trappers tent , chairs , tables , speakers and other supplies that can be utilized by districts for public events. Captain Lasante has submitted the receipts to Edmonton.

This was a decision she made as the funds were going to be lost . ( End of fiscal year ). Captain Lasante has previously provided a list of supplies that were “ wishes” for the district to all council members.

This was an emergent decision as this occurred March 26<sup>th</sup> and the Grant was expiring on March 30. This information was not previously provided to Council by head office in Edmonton.

Captain Lasante will provide a detailed list if this expenditure to council for next meeting.

Captain Lasante indicated that there will be a detailed report outlining all expenditures that occurred before council was elected in December



## Otipemisiwak Métis Government

2024 and of the expenditures in general until March 31 2025. This will be needed to review before councils Annual General Meeting. ( Date not yet determined). She estimates she has spent 30k to date.

Discussion: Councillor Baglot asked of receipts were sent to Edmonton. Yes. Additionally, c. Baglot requested a comprehensive list of expenditures.

Councillor Mcpherson asked for clarification:

As of last meeting, council was not aware of any set budget for 2024-2025. ( up to March 30 2025).

How did Captain Lasante know how much to spend?

Captain Lasante indicated that she had only spent 4-5 thousand up to the recent purchases.

Captain Lasante indicated that she spent 20 k in total to date.

The remaining budget ( 2024-beginning of 2025) was " lost" according to the Edmonton office. The district lost over 60k in budget information that was delayed from Edmonton.

Councillor Baglot :

Raised concerns that the districts are consistently receiving information late or in a confusing manner from Edmonton.

Raised concerns about gaps in communication as a council. Council was not aware that the money had to be spent by March 30 2025.

Next, Councillor Baglot requested that our Captain advocate for council member allowance similar to elected members : \$ 1500 devices over 4 year term and \$ 200 allowance for communication devices – all used for council business. Councillor Baglot would our leaders to advocate for this and other items.

In future : All financial decisions and spending to be run by council. ( Financial policy and new drafts address this for future).



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Councillor Cardinal : Raised concern about the delay regarding information from Edmonton.

Also raised point that are budgets based on population ? Higher amounts should go to increased populated areas. It appears that Districts are getting flat rates – some districts have very few citizens.

Captain Lasante raised many basic questions with Aaron in Edmonton :

When will new budget be received, business cards for council members. Not all questions were answered.

Councillor McPherson : asked of we could have purchased gift cards.

Elder Bercier: Did Edmonton confirm the budget amount ?  
If Aaron does not respond, do not hesitate to correspondence to Andrea Sandmeir. The president is included in correspondence. Encourages council to demand transparency and exact budget amounts.

Captain Lasante finds that in person questions are best with Edmonton bureaucrats.

5000 Citizens are in Calgary Elbow District. ( Over 5000 in the North ).  
We still do not have a list of citizens. ( We have been waiting for months ) . Captain Lasante will follow up next week.

We will require this for all aspects of communication.

Ongoing: Advocating for clearer, factual budget information.

Councillor Fedderson :

Clarifying – Did we lose about \$ 40 thousand in funding ? With only 4 days notice from the Edmonton ? ( March 26<sup>th</sup> 2025) .

Captain Lasante informed that the District will likely **not** get the \$ 80 thousand as a new fiscal year budget as was previously discussed.

Captain Lasante has escalated this to the Citizens rep Jason Chernow and Nelson Lussier.



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Elder Bercier- Reminded that we have southern Alberta Caucus to deal with Edmonton. ( Councillor McPherson has researched – it has to be elected officials to join forces).

Citizen Reps are working on advocacy and policy creation. Council will be updated.

Council members wish to see Jason Chernow at a district meeting and / or provide updates . Captain Lasante will continue to invite him .

Elder Bercier reminded that we will request his presence at our meetings regularly.

Hosted 2025 Business Mixer: 45 Businesses were in attendance, including some new businesses .

### **HOUSING**

Met with City of Calgary – Capital and Urban Metis housing.

Last year , Captain Lasante and Citizens rep Lussier applied for a grant land purchase . They were not successful . They plan to redo application with Edmonton Housing head office .

Captain Lasante is researching historical land areas. Requested council members to generate additional ideas.

Councillor Cardinal reminded that we must respect Treaty 7 area.

Councillor McPherson reminded that the city of Calgary authorized land sales annually, including an Indigenous specific focused sale.

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 5 and 6 with community building. This is a trial project that will end December 31, 2026.



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Lisa Hunt was the successful candidate. Lisa Hunt is currently in training for this role. Her task is to identify all community resources and people. She will be invited to future meetings this year.

### **Agenda Item # 7 Treasurer's Report Councillor Baglot**

Balance after last meeting : **\$2900.** Three transactions in the last month. Two related to the Business Mixer and purchasing of Gift Cards for Bingos and Mixer. The Mixer is a sponsored event. Last month was "Auction Depot" was the sponsor.

**ATB Bank Balance today: \$ 2575.94**

Council is awaiting annual budget / operating funds from the OMG / Edmonton office.

Treasurers Report will have a quarterly review,

### **Agenda Item # 8 – Hybrid Rules of Order Update**

8: 15PM Councillor Belcourt and Captain Lasante will have draft for May 2025 meeting.

Update :

**TABLED TO MAY 2025 MEETING**

### **Agenda Item # 9 – Protocols for Elders Update**

8:15 pm Councillor McPherson and Councillor Belcourt

**TABLED TO MAY 2025 MEETING**

**Discussion:**



### **Agenda Item # 10 Banking Update Councillor Baglot**

TABLED, Last approved minutes need to be brought to ATB to limit approvals.

See Treasurer report for balances.

### **Agenda Item # 11 –Accounting Update Councillor Baglot (CFO)**

8:29PM Councillor Baglot (CFO) continues to research CPA, CPA/ Bookkeepers including discussing with Edmonton head office what software they are using.

Discussion :

Tabled to May 2025.

### **Agenda Item # 12 – CARYA Community Connector Update**

See Captains report.

Lisa Hunt is the community connector that has been selected. Further details to follow next meeting. The goal is for the 5600 Metis citizens in Calgary and area to be more informed , the citizens to know each other , know what organizations, businesses and activities are going on in the community.

Please refer to previous minutes regarding job description and role. More information will be provided at future meetings.

We discussed having Lisa Hunt present at monthly meetings,



## **Agenda Item # 13 Upcoming Events**

### **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. Captain Lasante asked for volunteers to help plan. Councillor Baglot and Vivier volunteered.

### **Metis Stampede Festival.**

Booked for July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at the Confluence Historical Site and Parkland. Captain Lasante will need help with planning and Councillor Fedderson said he will assist with this. Captain Lasante will request volunteers again to assist with planning and volunteering

Would like to start meeting with council members and volunteers, including Nose Hill and Rockyview district.

Councillor Baglot and Councillor Mcpherson volunteered to help with planning.

Captain Lasante has worked on so far:

Looking for dancers , fiddlers,

### **Agenda Item # 14 Marlene Lanz Memorial 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.

Activities still to be determined. A dinner was suggested, though other ideas are welcomed . Please think of ideas.



Proceeds to go to cultural fund, scholarship, and to subsidized cultural events.

Please contact Captain Lasante to volunteer for the committees.

TABLED to next meeting.

Discussion: Councillor Baglot suggested that Jason Chernow and Lorelei Lanz take the lead on the charity endeavour and we SUPPORT as a district.

### **Agenda item # 15 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.

Please log in and begin using. Please see Captain Lasante for assistance.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Agenda item # 16 Budget 2025.2026**

Please offer suggestions for spending. Captain Lasante and Councillor Baglot have worked on budgets. Some are ideals as there is no history as we are new. Some items are projected. After our first year running, we will be able to review and edit.

New Budget : 80 K for upcoming year. This is now tentative and we are awaiting final approval and release of funds by Edmonton.

Discussion :

No funds have been released to Calgary Elbow District as of April 2025.



Councillor Baglot has requested to the Nations policy ' Travel and Expense reimbursement policy ". We may then adopt or utilize for Nation council business. Councilor Baglot continues to develop financial policy.

Captain Lasante will forward.

This is to clarify when council members are asked to events meetings, events and particularly when we travel. What is we are asked to miss work to attend Nation business ?

Council ( Captain Lasante) has applied for the reconciliation ( Catholic Diocese) . We have reached a first level of approval and are awaiting the second level . An update will be provided next meeting.

Discussion : Should we receive a donation or honorarium when we are providing a letter of support to organizations regarding their grants ?

Grant: Captain Lasante is researching a grant for operating costs . Councillor Mcpherson volunteered to research.

Councillor Fedderson is pursuing a grant writing course. Councilor Baglot will look into her notes that the Government of Alberta may have a grant.

Board training: Councillor Mcpherson has found some trainings . He will forward to the group the EVENTBRITE .

[www.albertabdp.ca](http://www.albertabdp.ca) is where Board development information can be found.

### **Agenda item # 17 Finance Committee Terms of Reference**

Councillor Baglot discussed roles of the Treasure. She has created a draft for the finance committee. Captain Lasante will forward to the elders and council members to review.



TABLED

**Agenda Item # 18 – Update Financial Authorities Policy TABLED**

The original document has been revised. Please have read and prepare for a Motion at the May 2025 meeting.

**Agenda Item # 19 In Camera**

In camera policy regarding executive council only discusses at meeting to be further developed. TABLED.

**Agenda item # 20 Action ITEMS**

**Agenda Item # 21 TABLED Item**

- 1) Minutes will be sent an an email motion .
- 2) Agenda 17 and 18 from this meeting are tabled to MAY meeting.

**Agenda Item # 22 DATE for next meeting**

**May 8, 2025 , at 7pm** next date for meeting. Location TBD. Councillor Vivier or Captain Lasante to send a TEAMS invite to everyone if applicable. 2<sup>nd</sup> **Location to be determined.**

Captain Lasante would like more in person meetings. Elder Art Cunningham has contacted the Haddon Road legion for use . We can eat there as well.

**We would change meeting to 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday every month if we use the Legion.**

Please review minutes and agenda for items to read, prepare or to speak to.

**Agenda Item #23 – Closing Prayer**

Councillor Baglot delivered the closing prayer.

**Agenda Item #24 – Adjourn Meeting**



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9:18PM

**MOTION #2025-04-09-3:**

**Moved by:** Councillor Baglot

**Seconded by:** Councillor Fedderson

Be it resolved by the District Council that Calgary Elbow Métis District Council adjourn the meeting.

**Debate/No Debate**

**Vote: All in favour of motion.**

**For: Unanimous.**

**Against:**

**Abstain:**

**Signed :**

**Captain Carmen Lasante**

**Secretary Charlette Vivier**



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