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## The District Council of Calgary Elbow Métis District

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### Meeting Minutes

<b>LOCATION:</b>	In Person Royal Canadian Legion Centennial Branch 285 Virtual via TEAMS (Recorded) 2 hours 18 minutes.
<b>Date:</b>	May 8, 2025
<b>Attendees:</b>	<p>In person: Captain Carmen Lasante, Councillors: Rhonda Baglot, Charlette Vivier , Peter McPherson, Javan Belcourt.</p> <p>Knowledge Keepers: Art Cunningham ; Grant Britton</p> <p>( Online):</p> <p>Citizens Rep : Jason Chernow , Councillors: Samaria Cardinal, Randy Fedderson.</p> <p><b>Part Two of meeting :</b></p> <p>May 10<sup>th</sup> 2025 : TEAMS</p> <p>Attendees: Captain Lasante , Councillors: Rhonda Baglot, Samaria Cardinal, Peter Mcpherson.</p>

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**Public Guests are welcome.**

**Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order**



## Otipemisiwak Métis Government

7:18PM District Captain Lasante called the May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025, meeting of the Calgary Elbow Métis District Council of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government to order.

### Agenda Item #2 – Opening Prayer

7:19PM 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 May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Regular Meeting of the District Council be adopted as **presented or amended**.

**MOTION #2025-05-08-1:**

**Moved by:** Councillor Belcourt

**Seconded by:** Councillor McPherson

**Debate/No Debate:** Amendment to Agenda: We will REPLACE the CARYA connector report for a Citizens Rep report ( Jason Chernow).

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

**For:** Unanimous

**Against:**

**Abstain:**

### Agenda Item # 4 – Approval of Minutes from 2 previous meeting

7:15 March 2025

Be it resolved by the District Council that the motion to accept the March 19<sup>th</sup> 2025 , Calgary Elbow Métis District Council minutes as administered and deemed accepted by the Calgary Elbow Metis District Council effective this day.

**MOTION #2025-05-08-2:**

**Moved by:** Councillor Vivier

**Seconded by:** Councillor Baglot

**Discussion :**



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**Vote: All in favour.**

**For:**

**Against:**

**Abstain:**

Be it resolved by the District Council that the motion to accept the March 19th 2025 , Calgary Elbow Métis District Council minutes as administered and deemed accepted by the Calgary Elbow Metis District Council effective this day.

**MOTION #2025-05-08-3: Adopt April 9<sup>th</sup> minutes.**

Be it resolved by the District Council that the motion to accept the April 9th 2025 , Calgary Elbow Métis District Council minutes as administered and deemed accepted by the Calgary Elbow Metis District Council effective this day.

**Moved by:** Councillor McPherson

**Seconded by:** Councillor Belcourt

**Amendment to previous minutes :** Agenda item 10: Please note a correction needs to be made to discussion. The name change for banking purposes is not to “ limit financial approvals”. The purpose of the name change amendment is to change the name used “ Calgary Elbow Metis District “, for banking purposes. See policy.

**VOTE: All in favour.**

**Discussion :**

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

Elder / Knowledge Keeper Overview of Activities:

**7:18- 8:20 pm ART CUNNINGHAM :**

Is a knowledge keeper with the City of Calgary ( Supply Chain Management) .



## Otipemisiwak Métis Government

( AREBA) Discussed “Energy Equity pilot program. This is to alleviate energy inequality. He is asking for networking and consulting firms to energy projects.

Discussion: Councillor McPherson asked if enough Indigenous businesses are aware of this program . Is there any mentorship to Indigenous businesses ?

Metis WORKS to be further explored as a possibility to expand Metis participation.

Captain Lasante will distribute further information.

### **CALGARY PARKS :**

Is on the Elders Guidance Council . Art has suggested to the City that Dawn Piche , Metis Archaeologist, be involved in signage projects / QR codes/ information project. Metis will get two signs and every Nation ( Treaty 7) in area will have a sign and are also contributing.

Was honored to open the Silver Tips Lacrosse game in Crossfield recently with a blessing .

Art commented that he appreciates the Calgary Elbows District dedication to including Elders in all council meetings and decision making . Also, the traditional Rules of Order for our meetings.

He wishes for more **youth** involvement in all aspects of Metis government. He hopes all districts will implement this .

An Elders council may be forming provincially.

**Discussion** : Council is working on creating a skills matrix- where we get to know our Elders better which would allow us to better utilize their skills, depending in the individual or community need. This is a sub committee that is in progress. Captain Lasante is working on a google document that she will share. It is about the Elders list with a preliminary skills matrix .

We must look at the traditional model as well as who the community recognizes.



## Otipemisiwak Métis Government

Councillor Cardinal talked about honoring our Elders as knowledge keepers and honoring them. Had some concerns about Data Sovereignty.

Councillor Belcourt discussed – how are we passing on the knowledge to our young people?

Captain Lasante discussed a formalized effort to get to know and find our Elders in the community. Have discussed a video project where we record their stories.

### **8: 26 pm Knowledge Keeper, GRANT BRITTON:**

Discussed the importance of preserving the historical knowledge of our elders. This should take priority .

Calgary Events/ Scotia Place Centre Project :

Grant suggested that we have portfolios ready to have Elders cultural information. “ Bundling Information”, including cultural bundle information that are ready for distribution when REGULARLY planning for events .

### **PARKS CANADA**

Attended meeting today. There are many significant Metis contributions in the National Parks.

### **CITY of Calgary**

Has a meeting in June regarding affordable housing. Will report back.

### **Metis Business Mixers**

Will continue to invite business associates to our mixers for the purpose of Networking.

Economic development and self sustainability will take time to build. This will include continuing to build and make new community partnerships. Has been working to increase participation with Metis



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business people and to expand our networking base. He is also connecting large businesses to the Mixers to meet Métis citizens.

**Discussion :**

Captain Lasante suggested an additional meeting next week to discuss contributions to the Event Centre or other projects. She would like to include members of the Rockyview District. The idea is to have some ideas, designs and stories ready for various projects. A resource of representation that can be used readily.

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

**SELF GOVERNMENT TEAM**

Met with Edmonton team to discuss citizen concerns, particularly about District 5 and the progress of Local 87's to prepare for the decision and citizen vote about joining the Otipemisiwak government.

Captain Lasante has been contacted by many citizens concerns about not understanding the transition, how Local 87 is involved and what the next steps are. Captain Lasante has requested a community session regarding where Nosehill District 5 is in the process of Transitioning.

This meeting has occurred before, however it has been a considerable amount time. People want to know when they can elect a Captain.

Captain Lasante has requested a formal letter outlining all options and procedures regarding a locals options regarding transitioning to the larger Otipemisiwak governing body.

Discussion: Community needs update and outline of procedural options. A " refresher " session would be beneficial to the general community.



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### **Calgary Catholic Separate School District ( CSSD)**

Was invited to the Indigenous Graduation Ceremonies . ( Paul Bercier and Doreen Bergum were also in attendance as knowledge keepers).

### **King Charles the Third Award ceremony**

Attended ceremonies in Edmonton.

### **Business Mixer**

Continues to plan , host and MC mixers.

Attend meeting with **Apetogoason** LTD

Networking , Business Mixer planning etc.

### **District Captain Meeting**

Monthly meeting that has recently begun to connect Captains in Battle River Territory.

### **Canadian Energy Regulator**

Participated in Red Dress Walk this month . Gave opening remarks at ceremony .

### **MEDICINE HILL / City of Calgary project**

Attended with Citizens Rep Nelson Lussier from District 5.

If the Captain receives an honorarium ,she will forward to the District council bank account .

### **Finances**

Captain Lasante has provided an itemized list of all expenditures/ assets to council via email today that she has purchased since becoming Captain. Council members to review . This will be available on Google Drive.



## Otipemisiwak Métis Government

All Pre council expenditures : were reconciled with Edmonton.

Post Council elections / Bank Account setup in 2025 . We are detailing , so the pre election and post election accounting are accurate, as this is the first year of the transition and creation of council.

Please review Asset List . ( No debt for these assets ).

The Red River Carts were donated to the District. One is at the Local 87 property on Display. Captain is storing other .

Discussion:

Can this list and all documents be put in the District Google Drive for everyone to review? Yes.

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

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

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

Treasurers Report will have a quarterly review

#### **Financial Authority Policy Update**

The original document has been revised and previously distributed to council members for review.

#### **Motion ; 2025 -05-08-04**

To accept the updated Financial Authority Policy, drafted by councillor Baglot.

Change:



## Otipemisiwak Métis Government

Move : Javan Belcourt  
Second Councillor Cardinal

Discussion :

How are we keeping track of the changes ?  
Updated from December 2024. Will be available on One Drive.

### **Vote:**

All in favour.

Councillor Belcourt left meeting.

### **Other discussion:**

Offset compensation. Councillor Baglot would like to discuss Edmonton's financial policy. She has requested the policy currently used by Edmonton.

Councillor Cardinal has requested that out of town expenses be considered for volunteers who are asked to travel to Edmonton for Nation meetings.

This will be an ongoing discussion. We have not received 2025/2026 budget.

Councillor McPherson asked if we have a financial statements of spending since District Six pre -council election and September 2024 – present .

Pre council elections : All purchases were reconciled with Edmonton and can be cross referenced with her account and budgeting. Captain Lasante has not received written documentation the financial transaction/ summary or remaining budget from Edmonton. Will request.

Post Council elections / Bank Account setup in 2025 .



5 Transactions are on new District bank account. All future expenditures require council adherence to financial policy procedures.

Captain Lasante was running her expenses through Edmonton office . ( prior to District formation and a formalized bank account ) . Detailed asset list sent via email to council and will be on One Drive.

Councillor McPherson requested that we have April 1- 2024 – March 30 2025 financial reporting reconciled in writing from Edmonton . For information and documentation purposes.

Captain Lasante will cross reference her spending accounts. She estimates a total of \$ 40 thousand of the Interim budget was spent over 18 months. Captain Lasante will have detailed report of District spending and will request letter / summary from Edmonton by next meeting.

Captain Lasante indicated that we have 5 transactions on our bank account for 2024/ 2025 in total.

**Budget 2024:** No balance was provided by Edmonton ( Head Office ) regarding the theoretical 80 thousand budget ( 2024- 2025 ) . What was released to District Six in 2024 ?

DECISION : Council has requested that all financial spending to date is clearly documented . We have the asset list . Further details will be required.

Written conformation / auditing information regarding the initial . transitional funds that were dispersed before council was elected.

Captain Lasante indicated that she has no knowledge regarding how the upcoming funds will be dispersed by Edmonton ,Main OMG government.

As we are in the new fiscal year, Calgary Elbow council members hope to hear very soon .

Council members would like to see a written procedure regarding disbursement and procedures regarding district budgets.



## **Agenda Item # 8 – Community Connector ( Tabled )**

### **Amended Item # 8 – Citizens Representative Jason Chernow**

Acknowledged council questions and concerns. Elders Council creation in progress.

Provided general overview of some provincial updates.

His role includes reviewing and drafting policy.

Encourages citizens to become more involved. Is the citizens advocate.

### **Discussion**

Section 15.3 Constitution : Citizens Right to attend meetings .

Section 43 Self Government Act are policies that council and citizens should be aware of.

## **Agenda Item #24 – Adjourn Meeting**

### **Moved forward.**

9:24 PM **PLEASE NOTE:** The meeting room / time has been reached. The remaining Agenda items will need to be reviewed ASAP.

Captain Lasante will send meeting times . Agenda Items 9-22 remaining.

**No motion was made to end meeting .**

**MOTION #2025-05-08-5:**

**Moved by:** Councillor

**Seconded by:** Councillor

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

**Debate/No Debate**

**Vote: None.**

**For:**

**Against:**

**Abstain:**



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**Signed :**

**Captain Carmen Lasante**

**Secretary Charlette Vivier**

**Part Two . Continuation of May 8<sup>th</sup> District Council meeting.**

**SAME AGENDA**

**May 10<sup>th</sup> 2025 : TEAMS**

Attendees: Captain Lasante , Rhonda Baglot, Samaria Cardinal, Peter Mcpherson.

**7:04 pm**

**OLD Business**

**Agenda Item # 9 Hybrid Rules of Order TABLED ( Captain Lasante)**

The document is under review.

Public: Invited to attend. In camera needs to be added. What is the deadline for citizens contributing to the agenda?

Captain Lasante would like to add an opportunity to speak, ask questions .

Questions related to the Agenda items, then another time for general questions .

Will consult with Councillor Belcourt.

**Discussion :** Councillor Baglot received confirmation of the Citizens Reps meeting on May 13<sup>th</sup>. The code of conduct should be reviewed by us for consideration (in part) .

Captain Lasante attends Citizen Rep meetings, so that she can receive updates .



Have we had a Citizens Townhall?

### **Agenda Item # 10 – Protocols for Elders Update**

Councillor McPherson has been working in meeting with and talking with our community knowledge keepers.

**Discussion:** We need to consider who is an “ Elder “ vs knowledge keeper . Relative vs Community appointed Elder .

#### **KNOWLEDGE KEEPERS**

All ages. Have areas of speciality. ( Darcy Mcrae (Geneolgy) , Kaylen Kodiak ( Land based/ Plant Life) , Matt Hilterman ( History) ).

Can we have further discussion ?

Council to vet who we recommend, utilize as an ongoing discussion.

The separate committees need to meet when it comes to Elder protocols as they apply to all sub committees.

Discussed our various community partnerships for different purposes . Shared ceremony / cultural / meeting places.

-Do we need a Board of Governors ( Provincially)

-Vs Judicial Branch

This project is ongoing.

### **Agenda Item # 11 Finance Committee Update**

Finance Committee “Terms of Reference” Approval



Councillor Baglot wrote policy to clarify roles, responsibilities, and procedures. It is foundational policy.

A separate meeting is required to discuss protocols and team building.

**MOTION #2025-05-10-1:** To accept the updated Finance Committee’s “ Terms of Reference” for council approval. These to be reviewed annually by council.

**Moved by:** Councillor McPherson

**Seconded by:** Councillor Cardinal

Be it resolved by the District Council that Calgary Elbow Métis District Council accept the updated “ terms of Reference “ as submitted.

#### **Debate/No Debate**

**Vote: All in Favour.**

**For:**

**Against:**

**Abstain:**

See Treasurer report for balances.

#### **Agenda Item # 12 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

Captain has completed poster for event. Shared poster to council for distribution.

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

Councillor Baglot, Councillor Mcpherson and Cardinal previously volunteered to help with planning.

Looking for dancers , fiddlers, entertainment.



Bi weekly meetings are suggested as we move forward.

Cultural Funding Budget: \$ 8500 annual budget for events is the budget. This is separate from the overall budget.

Many projects will be cost shared with other Districts , including Metis Week.

Captain Lasante discussed keeping many activities welcome to “everyone”. We also want to Showcase Metis culture to all visitors .

Captain Lasante has inquired about Stampede Parade application.

### **Agenda Item # 13 Marlene Lanz Memorial Fundraiser ( TABLED)**

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.

### **Agenda item # 14 New District Emails**

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.

One councillor cannot access District email.

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

### **Agenda item # 15 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. Captain will set out working document to group for further discussion.

**Discussion :**

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

Are contributions from other districts included in the budget?

If not , lets be specific and show it for transparency. ( Who is contributing , how much ).

We may start charging for some activities.

Updated Financial Authority Policy and our Terms of reference to be sent to Edmonton .

Captain Lasante will forward budget again to council for further discussion.

Councillor Baglot discussed reimbursement protocol for council members .

We have no policy regarding reimbursement yet. All council expenditures are pre approval only.

We can have hard copies available to council members who cannot print . Captain Lasante will print for whoever needs) . Having notes in advance is helpful.

Binders : Council members are creating binders to organize all documents .

**Annual Gathering** : Needs to happen before August 15<sup>th</sup> 2025. Will request volunteers to assist with planning by next meeting.

**Agenda item # 16 : Moose Hide Campaign**

**MOTION #2025-05-10-2:** To approve a \$ 325 honorarium for “ Knowledge Keeper” Karen Acuna , to speak at Moose Hide Campaign Day Walk. This will be recorded as a \$ 325 donation to campaign. The campaign disperses funds.

**Moved by:** Captain Lasante

**Seconded by:** Councillor McPherson

Be it resolved by the District Council that Calgary Elbow Métis District Council approve a \$ 325 donation to the Mose Hide campaign.

**Debate/No Debate**



**Vote: All in Favour**

**Discussion :** That is a high fee. 9:30 -2:30 pm. We would like to reexamine this fee. We have concerns about this fee.

This is a one time only . We will create our own protocols.

Elders are supposed to give back to community. Council members had concerns that a fee is being charged at all.

**Agenda item # 17** City of Calgary Invite for Residential School Memorial.

Emailed to council. Please share .

**Agenda Item # 18 HBC Seconds Blanket Purchase ( wool)**

Captain Lasante is looking into these . She would like to purchase 10 Queen blankets for gift or craft use ( Capote making workshop). Minimum order is 10.

The prices are reduces as they are flawed and have no HBC logos.

Captain Lasante is willing to purchase on her credit and get reimbursed.

The amount will be \$ 2500 to purchase. Reimbursement for Carmen.

**MOTION #2025-05-11-03:** To approve a \$ 2500 purchase of HBC “ 2nds” blankets. Captain Lasante to be reimbursed for the purchase .

**Moved by:** Councillor Cardinal

**Seconded by:** Councillor Baglot.

Be it resolved by the District Council that Calgary Elbow Métis District Council approve a \$2500 HBC “ seconds” blanket purchase.

**Debate/No Debate**

**Vote: All in Favour**

**Agenda Item # 19 Questions from Gallery**

**Agenda Item # 20 In Camera**



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

### **Agenda item # 21 Action ITEMS**

### **Agenda Item # 22 TABLED Item**

### **Agenda Item # 23 DATE for next meeting**

**Thursday June 12th, 2025 , at 6 pm** next date for meeting. Location TBD. Councillor Vivier or Captain Lasante to send a TEAMS invite to everyone if applicable. HYBRID. IN person .

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

### **Agenda Item #23 – Closing Prayer**

### **Agenda Item #24 – Adjourn Meeting**

9:18PM **MOTION #2025-05-10-03:**  
**Moved by:** Councillor Baglot  
**Seconded by:** Councillor McPherson

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:



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**Signed :**

**Captain Carmen Lasante**

**Secretary Charlette Vivier**