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2 **Minutes**

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4 **Special Meeting of Members, PVNBGP, May 11, 2021**  
5 **via Zoom, 7 p.m.**

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7 1. Land acknowledgment

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9 The president states that he acknowledges that the land on which we are gathering is the  
10 traditional unceded territory of the Wəlastəkwiyyik, Mi'kmaq and Passamaquoddy Peoples.

11  
12 This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which the Wəlastəkwiyyik,  
13 Mi'kmaq and Passamaquoddy Peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1726. The treaties  
14 did not deal with the surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized the Mi'kmaq and  
15 Wəlastəkwiyyik title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between  
16 nations.

17  
18 2. Welcome and verification of quorum

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20 The president confirms quorum is reached at 7:04pm.

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22 3. Directives for online meeting

23  
24 Nicolas provides directives to best participate in this online meeting.

25 4. Adoption of agenda

26 Michèle Caron proposes to add an item 6, Linguistic Review, to the agenda.

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28 **SMM-PVNBGP-20210511-01**

29 **John Sabine proposed, seconded by Leslie Chandler, that the agenda be adopted as**  
30 **modified to include item 6 - Linguistic review.**

31 **Adopted**

32 5. Constitution and Bylaw amendments

33  
34 a. Discussion surrounding Constitution Article 3

35 The proposed amendments, to add "and the inclusion and fair representation of  
36 New Brunswick's diversity," aims at clarifying our desire to be more inclusive.

1 **SMM-PVNBGP-20210511-02**

2 **David Wagner proposed, seconded by Mitchell Simon, that the amendments to article**  
3 **3 of the Constitution be adopted as presented.**

4 **Adopted**

5 b. Discussion surrounding Constitution Articles 7.2, section 7.2.1 that would also  
6 affect 7.2.2.7 and “regional Counselors to a Maximum of eight (8)”.

7 The proposed change is a way to reflect the various regions of the province within  
8 our governing body. The question was raised as to why it needs to be in our  
9 constitution rather than simply a recommendation for the nomination  
10 committee. The intent is indeed to make it more official so that members are  
11 more enticed to propose themselves for their region, but certainly not to  
12 hamstring the nomination committee; Provincial Council will still be allowed to  
13 appoint councilors from those regions if a seat is not filled at the AGM.

14 **SMM-PVNBGP-20210511-03**

15 **Leslie Chandler proposed, seconded by Mitchell Simon, that the amendments to article**  
16 **7.2.1 and 7.2.2 of the Constitution be adopted as presented.**

17 **Adopted**

18 c. Definition is a new element in our bylaws.

19 **SMM-PVNBGP-20210511-04**

20 **Michèle Caron proposed, seconded by Claire Ephestion, that the Bylaws definition of**  
21 **diversity definition be adopted as presented.**

22 **Adopted**

23 d. Article 5 refers to the Candidates for Election

24 A member highlights that item 5.1.4 forces the leader to appoint a candidate in a  
25 district where there is no RDA. In the future, the Party may not want to appoint  
26 someone. Therefore the proposed amendment to 5.1.4 should then be “the  
27 Leader *may* [instead of shall] appoint a candidate in that district.” This  
28 amendment is considered friendly to the proposed amendment of article 5.

29 **SMM-PVNBGP-20210511-05**

30 **Michèle Caron proposed, seconded by Claire Ephestion, that the amendment to Bylaws**  
31 **article 5 be adopted as amended.**

32 **Adopted**

1 e. Amendments to Article 1.6.4 and 9.1.5

2 **SMM-PVNBGP-20210511-06**

3 **Stephanie Coburn proposed, seconded by David Wagner, that the amendment to**  
4 **Bylaws 1.6.4 and 9.1.5 be adopted as amended.**

5 **Adopted**

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7 f. Amendments to Article 2

8 The intent of this amendment is to better represent the province within our  
9 Provincial Council. Discussions took place to ensure the definition of the regions  
10 would ensure an approximately equal representation, in the sense of numbers of  
11 district and population, and that the bylaws can be relevant in the face of a  
12 changing legislation.

13 **SMM-PVNBGP-20210511-07**

14 **Stephanie Coburn proposed, seconded by David Wagner, that the amendment to**  
15 **Bylaws Article 2 be adopted as amended.**

16 **Adopted**

17 g. Amendments to Article 9.2

18 Provision 9.2 from an earlier version of the by-laws was accidentally truncated in  
19 the current version due to clerical error. By this amendment, that element is  
20 reintegrated with modifications.

21 After some friendly amendments were discussed, it arises that the entire process  
22 of the leadership review needs more precision.

23 **SMM-PVNBGP-20210511-08**

24 **Tom McLean proposed, seconded by Burt Folkins, that the amendment to**  
25 **Bylaws Article 9.2 be tabled and deferred to the governance committee.**

26 **Adopted**

27 6. Linguistic review

28 This proposition aims at ensuring that the French version matches the English version of  
29 the by-laws. It was noted that grammatical, spelling and syntactical errors occur in many  
30 instances. There was a discussion resulting in the group's clear desire that both linguistic

1 versions of the bylaws have equal weight in its application and interpretation, therefore,  
2 both versions are official.

3 **SMM-PVNBGP-20210511-09**

4 **Michèle Caron proposed, seconded by Susan O'Donnell, that the Provincial Council**  
5 **form a committee of three (3) persons to review the French version of the constitution**  
6 **and by-laws to ensure that they are written in correct French. Grammatical, spelling**  
7 **and syntactical corrections may be made without the need for adoption by the General**  
8 **assembly, but reported to the Provincial Council. Any corrections which in the opinion**  
9 **of the committee are substantial shall be submitted to the Provincial Council.**

10 **Adopted**

11 7. Motions from the floor

12 The question is raised as to whether the article 5.1.4 is clear about the need for a vetting  
13 process and the time frame involved in accomplishing the vetting.

14 **Burt Folkins proposed, John Sabine seconded, that “after a vetting process, if time**  
15 **allows” be added at item 5.1.4.**

16 Not submitted to a vote

17 A member pointed out that the important question at hand is whether a vetting process  
18 is required or not, rather the time needed and the constraints it involves to accomplish  
19 the process.

20 **SMM-PVNBGP-20210511-10**

21 **Tom McLean proposed, Sarah Colwell seconded, that the proposition at hand ( that**  
22 **“after a vetting process, if time allows” be added at item 5.1.4.) be forwarded to the**  
23 **governance committee for consideration.**

24 **Adopted**

25 8. Tom McLean moved to adjourn the meeting.

26 Meeting adjourn at 9:02 p.m.

27

28 *Minutes submitted by Marco Morency*