Citizens' Council Meeting – April 23, 2026

Unofficial Transcript

[Acting Chair Tyler Fetch]
9.32, we'll call the meeting to order. Just obviously, I'm your acting chair as your chair is unable to be here in person dealing with personal matters, but is online where possible. We'll move on our agenda right now and we'll look to our Elder Doreen Bergum to start us off in a good way. Doreen.

[Elder Doreen Bergum]
Here we go. I'm ready.

Taansi kiiyawow, Doreen Bergum dishinihkaashoon. Ols Otaytan. Nipâpâ Ambrose dishinihkaashoon. Métis le fami Boudreau Dumont. Nimâmâ Mary dishinihkaashoon. Métis le fami Dufresne Vaness.

My grandfather, Daniel Vaness, was born in Calgary, July 19th, 1885. My great grandparents, Baptiste and Catherine Vaness, homesteaded on Section 15 in Calgary where the Saddle Dome sits today. So I'm going to share my Four Directions prayer with you.

So first we have to find the East Direction. You see the sun? God our creator, bless all who have gathered here.

Keep their families safe and healthy. Today we stand tall with gratitude and great pride in the spirit and footsteps of our ancestors. God our creator, we first acknowledge the East Direction, the direction of the sunrise and new beginnings.

The East is the direction of the child. So if we pray for the youth of the world, help our youth find the balance between past and present in tradition and spirit. We pray We pray for all the Metis, First Nations and Inuit children found in the cemeteries of residential schools.

Now we'll turn to the South. God our creator, we now acknowledge the South Direction, the direction of summer warmth and abundance. South is the direction of the women and we honor them as the gateways through which our spirits come to earth.

We ask that women everywhere be protected for they are sacred. We acknowledge the color yellow and the yellow race that it represents. We pray for our missing and murdered Indigenous women and children.

Now we'll turn to the West. God our creator, we next turn to the West Direction, the direction of the setting sun and the autumn season. West is the direction of the elders and we honor our elders as the keepers of wisdom and teachers of patience.

West is also the direction of our ancestors. We proudly acknowledge those who have gone before us. We acknowledge the color red and the red race it represents.

We pray for our elders and knowledge keepers. Give them long lives for we need their wisdom. Now we'll face North.

God our creator, we now turn to the North, the direction of the winter that covers the earth. North is the men's direction and we honor men as the providers and protectors of the family. We acknowledge the color black and the black race it represents.

We pray for the Indigenous men involved in our justice system. God our creator, we ask our creator to be with us today as we do our work. We also pray for peace among the four races of humankind.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you so much for that and starting us off in such a good way. Next item on our agenda is the adoption of the agenda. You should all have a copy in front of you.

I would look as I would for any comments and I see Secretary Leddy.

[Secretary Aura Leddy]
Yes. I was just wondering if we could move from in-camera items into public session.

[Acting Chair]
So for discussion on that matter, if there's any other inputs or any opposition to moving. Representative Dunfield.

[Representative Shannon Dunfield]
Thank you, Mr. Chair. No, I don't know opposition to that. I agree that it should be moved out of camera.

[President Sandmaier]
Yeah, I agree as well. I don't think there's any reason for it to be in camera anymore. I think that we've worked out the details on things that needed to be in camera, but I think it can come off of that part of the agenda for sure.

[Acting Chair]
Seeing there's obvious work for that, we'll move so it's item 11C will move and we'll make 10B. Okay. Any other items?

Representative Dunfield.

[Representative Dunfield]
Thank you, Mr. Chair. I would like to add to the agenda the Chief Electoral Officer Nicole Latour's resignation letter for discussion in camera.

[President Andrea Sandmaier]

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As you can see, the agenda is really packed. I'm not sure if we're going to have time. Jason Madden is here in person today and has a very large package of information that he needs to present to us.

I think that if we need to have a conversation regarding the resignation letter, I think it could go on to the May in-camera session. We don't get Jason's time very often and there is a lot of information that he has to go over with us.

[Acting Chair]
That was my consternation around it. I was just thinking, is there time?

[Representative Dunfield]
Respectfully, Mr. Chair, there was a lot of information and allegations made in that letter that as a citizens council, we should be discussing especially when it concerns some of the areas that were discussed in that letter. We want to make sure that we are addressing those concerns, especially when it comes to our elections office and the elections that are going to be coming up and wanting to make and wanting to ensure for our citizens that our elections are without prejudice, without bias. I do feel that it's really imperative that we do discuss it immediately and I understand that we have a full agenda, but the last meeting when this discussion came up, we did agree that if anything came out, that we would have a discussion on it.

[Acting Chair]
So, this letter, I'm not in that circle necessarily, so I didn't get the letter. I'm not sure when this letter came, but I'm assuming that it came in time to recommend it as an agenda item request. I'm curious as to why that didn't happen.

[Representative Dunfield]
The letter did not come. What happened was there was an email that was sent that we accepted as resignation. The letter came during the meeting and the request at the time was if there was something in the letter that we needed to discuss, that it would be discussed.

That was agreed upon and that was something that was supported by the Director of Human Resources and our legal.

[Acting Chair]
So, a month ago.

[Representative Dunfield]
But this is not regarding personnel. It's regarding the specific contents of the letter that need to be addressed.

[Acting Chair]
Is there any other discussion? I do see Secretary Lacombe. Oh, President Sandmaier.

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[President Sandmaier]
I agree that the letter does need attention, but it can't be accommodated today. I look at the agenda and as I said earlier, we don't get Jason Madden in the room very often and there is a large amount of information that is very important and timely that we need to go over today. I just don't see there being time to throw this into the agenda and I'm not sure why when a month ago that letter was sent to us and there is a deadline for adding things to the agenda, why it wasn't done at that time.

[Acting Chair]
Secretary Lacombe.

[Secretary Grant Lacombe]
I'd like to make a request to start the agenda.

[Acting Chair]
Representative Paul-Alook.

[Representative Bobbi Paul-Alook]
Just hoping to speak to some of the agenda item requests that I had submitted prior to the deadline for submission for requesting and it's kind of skipping ahead a little bit because it is addressed in the Chair's report, but I don't want to miss the opportunity to talk about it and possibly have it added to this agenda today. So in regards to my second request, which was a request to have an update on at the time I had termed it the Traveling Jamboree in my request because there wasn't an official name for it, but it has since been publicly announced on our social media platforms as the Kitchen Party Tour. So my request was regarding the Kitchen Party Tour for an update on that just so that we can be informed and I'm hoping that it can be added to today's agenda because it really shouldn't be deferred to a future meeting.

The tour is scheduled to start beginning on May 2nd, which if I'm correct is the day after our earliest upcoming Council meeting. This request was brought forward so that the tour can be properly promoted within our communities and so that elected officials can work collaboratively with administration to support its success. As it's been raised many times at this table, events and programming are too often planned and delivered in our communities without meaningful collaboration or at times even without communication with our local community representatives or district councils and this creates real challenges for us in promoting the important work that's being done through the programming when we're not informed.

As the community facing representatives of this government, our citizens expect us to be aware of what's going on and to be able to speak to what's happening and I think that it would be really great for us to actually hear about it today just really quickly so that we can help to ensure its success in our communities. Thank you.

[President Sandmaier]

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I will speak to that. So it is not on the agenda because it was already in my opening remarks so we'll get to that in my opening remarks. That's why it wasn't added as an agenda item because I have it all here in my opening remarks and a briefing note will be going out and I know that Alex Kusturak has reached out to all of the district captains and has been working with them and has a plan so it is in my opening remarks and that's where it will be discussed.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
Thank you. It's just that's not the information that was provided in the Chair's report so I'm basing my request and my comments on the Chair's report that we received. The Chair's report says that the request is directed to a future regular meeting of the Citizens' Council.

[Acting Chair]
I had seen Secretary Lisa Wolfe's mic was on.

[Secretary Lisa Wolfe]
Yes it was. I just wanted to make sure that we're just getting into the adoption of agenda and moving ahead with that and as I know we have a packed agenda today. So if we can do that and keep within our time constraints Mr. Chair I would sincerely appreciate that.

[Acting Chair]
We do have one amendment to that agenda. I will entertain Representative Dunfield.

[Representative Dunfield]
Thank you Mr. Chair. So for the record I do want the Chief Electoral Officer's letter of resignation added to the agenda for May for a full discussion in camera with Citizens' Council. Secondly Mr. Chair I understand that we do have a full agenda but I think it's really imperative that we do also have a discussion about the closing of the RLI offices in the Northwest. I have had multiple concerns from citizens in the Northwest regarding this closure and then the subsequent information that has been provided to us about the centralization of services of RLI. I understand that we do have a packed agenda but those are major concerns coming to me from our citizens specifically regarding the closure of the office in Grand Prairie. I'm assuming based off of the agenda and based off the comments that were made before that this probably won't be discussed today but if it's not going to be discussed today I respectfully request that it be added to the agenda for May.

[Acting Chair]
It is already set for the in-camera conversations in May I'm told. At the next regular meeting of Citizens' Council. Secretary Collins.

[Secretary Karen Collins]
Good morning Mr. Chair. Good morning everyone. This happens almost every meeting and the more we grow as a government the more we realize we have more and more work to do.

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I will once again raise the idea of having a two day Citizens' Council meeting so we can address the business of our citizens. We have tried to abide by deadlines etc. to get on the agenda.

Those continually get bumped. I think we're growing as a government and it's time that we look at expanding our time as government to do the work of government. I'd like to and I don't know because I've suggested it and numerous others have suggested it also.

If it needs to be done in a motion then perhaps Mr. Chair you can decide when a motion can be brought forward so we look at extending our meeting dates so we can actually do the business of government. I would also ask Mr. Chair that we have a very and I agree with Madam Chair that we have a full agenda and Jason is going to present a great deal in his session. So I would also suggest Mr. Chair that and I know and I'll do respect to the folks who organized the event for tonight but I would rather see that we go through our full agenda and not have a full stop at 4 o'clock or 4.30 so we can go to that event. I understand it's going to run a little bit later anyway so should we have to go a little bit later and still want to make an appearance at the event we can do so but we have to start focusing on doing the work of our government. Thank you very much.

[President Sandmaier]
I understand the issues that we have with our agenda. I think that there's things that we can do around this table to make sure that some of the parts of the agenda that are regular items can be gone through more swiftly. As far as the event tonight it was planned we had to move our meeting so just circumstances led it to be that way and I have let Lisa Saville know that we might not be there on time.

Some of us might not be able to go at all and that we have a very full agenda today that we need to get through.

[Acting Chair]
Okay so the conversation and we know this is a very loaded agenda. We're asking our legal counsels here in person to share information. We're not able to really shift a lot to try to make things work noting Secretary Collins recommendations around making sure we have the time to do what we need to do to govern.

It is noted for sure and I know that was a conversation that came up in the past. It was a timing. It was often trying to find the time to hold the two days for some people's schedules but it is noted and we can consider that once again to try to get through the work that we have to do.

I will look to Representative Paul-Alook once again but we really need to get moving.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
Thank you. I just wanted to say that I am very much in support of KC's suggestion to move to two day meetings and I'd also like to move that the agenda be accepted with the amendment brought forward by Secretary Wolfe.

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[Acting Chair]
Do we have a seconder?

[Secretary Aura Leddy]
Yes I would like to second that.

[Acting Chair]
Is there any opposition? Seeing none the agenda is adopted with the changes. Next on our agenda.

Mr. Chair. Secretary Collins.

[Secretary Collins]
I'm just wondering if I should be making a motion that we move to two day governing meeting dates because I know you said it's been recommended a few times. If we need something stronger than a recommendation I'm prepared to move a motion as such.

[President Sandmaier]
I'd just like to speak to that again and I've mentioned this to everyone. I would love for us to be able to meet for the two days and do the work that we need to do but there's a lot of things going on right now that I don't think committing to every month having a two day meeting can work. There's INAN coming up again.

There's our self government agreement. There's treaty negotiations. There's so many things going on to try and guarantee that we're going to have a two day meeting every month is very, very difficult for my schedule.

I know that. Just looking at the next until September or October actually, there's no way that I could fit in two days.

[Acting Chair]
President's welcome is next on our agenda so I would hand it over to Madam President to provide a welcome.

[President Sandmaier]
Good morning everybody and welcome to all the citizens that are here in the gallery. We have a really full gallery today so that's amazing. Thank you all so much for coming and those that are online on our live streaming, thank you so much for tuning in and I just want to also thank Elder Doreen for opening us up in such a good way this morning as you always do.

I thank you very much for joining us today as well. It means a lot to have you here so thank you so much. I will start off right away on our upcoming kitchen party tour.

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I want to start by giving some updates on some exciting initiatives that we have coming. This summer we'll be visiting 14 communities across the province during our kitchen party tour. The tour is rooted in who we are as Métis people.

For generations our families have gathered in kitchens, in barns, in yards and community spaces. After long days we would pull up chairs, play the fiddle, dance and share stories. These were moments of celebration of our Métis identity and history.

They were also how we carried our culture forward, how we stayed connected and held on to our identity even when it was not always safe to do so. The kitchen party tour is about bringing that spirit back by creating space for Métis citizens to come together and in some cases to reconnect, to share our stories and to celebrate who we are as Métis people. While we can't reach every district I encourage you to attend a gathering near you and to help promote this to citizens.

We need your help to make sure the citizens in your districts know about these events. Promotional materials will be sent out and I strongly encourage you to make use of them so our citizens can come and celebrate. Part of this tour will be gathering stories from Métis citizens who have deep ancestral ties to Alberta's historic Métis communities.

These stories will be gathered throughout the summer and a documentary will be made to premiere in the fall at our rights conference that we are planning for October. More details about both initiatives will be sent very soon in briefing notes. We've talked around this table many times and I see that Representative Chernow is on the call this morning online and this comes from all of those conversations around making sure that not only are stakeholders, our partners, government, non-Indigenous citizens know who we are but also connecting and making sure that citizens that are just finding their roots now know who we are as well.

So it's very important that we are making sure that we are allowed and proud and going out in the community talking about who we are as Métis people and our inherent rights, talking about our historical communities in Alberta. All of these things are so important and we've talked about making sure that we're doing more out there, making sure that we're educating people more, that we have more media and all of these things. So this is part of that and I'm really excited about the tour and about the documentary that's being made.

We will be contacting you. We've actually hired a project manager. All of you know Bailey Oster.

She has come back as a contractor to lead the way on this, on the Métis Rights Conference and to assist Alex Kusturok and Taylor on the Kitchen Party tour and the important documentary that we'll be making about who we are as Métis people. So I'm very excited about it and there will be more information coming. We're working in collaboration with our legal team, Jason Madden, as far as the Rights Conference goes and what kind of breakout

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sessions there will be but there's lots of exciting ideas going around right now so we'll keep you in the loop on that as well.

Next thing that I want to chat about is Bill 21. So that is the legislation that has been read, second reading was yesterday in the House of Commons and that is the MMF Treaty legislation. I want to start off by saying that we are, this is a huge milestone for Métis people that there is a Métis self-government treaty that has been signed with Canada, that is you know, legislation is coming, it has been read and it's very exciting.

The next steps for this, the second reading was yesterday, it did not go to a vote yesterday so that will be coming, we're not sure of the timeline yet. We anticipate the study will happen either, the INAN study will happen either close to the end of the parliamentary session or in the fall depending on the House schedule. I've been meeting regularly with INAN members, senators and members of Parliament and recently met with Minister Alty regarding the legislation.

Throughout those meetings I've been very clear we absolutely support Métis governments advancing their journeys of self-determination. We are putting forward some amendments to the bill that will make jurisdiction more clear. We will be making submissions to INAN and advocating for these changes during the committee process.

So lots going on. The next thing I wanted to chat about is Batoche. So Batoche is coming up very quickly in July and looking ahead to that we will be having a delegation going back to Batoche in Saskatchewan and we will host Alberta Days on the Saturday.

Sadly our day has been cut short so I believe it's from, we'll be providing the entertainment from 10 to 2. 10 to 2, so you know back in the day we had the whole day and the whole night and now we're 10 to 2. But we will be providing entertainment for that.

Council members if you have not been to Batoche yet please let me know, please send me an email so that we can make sure that you have the opportunity to go this year. This month we recognize the anniversary of the 10 year anniversary of the Daniels decision which was made by the Supreme Court in 2016. This landmark case addressed whether the Crown owes the same fiduciary duty to Métis and non-status Indians as it does to treaty Indians.

I penned an op-ed that was featured in the Hill Times that recognized even though we have made significant progress there is still a long way to go. The gaps made by colonial governments continue to be lived realities for our citizens and our communities. Without sustained commitments and investment progress is fragile.

The federal government needs to remain serious about reconciliation so we can continue to build on what we have put in place. As Métis people we are used to roadblocks being put in front of us but we will continue to overcome them as we've done in the past. It's exhausting but we've done it.

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We can do anything when we work together and when we support each other. We are our strongest as a nation when we stand together. As we've said a few times already this morning we have a very busy day ahead of us.

Our legal counsel is here in person so they will be presenting this afternoon. So now I will turn it over to the Chair.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you Madam President. It's a lot happening obviously, it always is, which is a good thing. It means we're doing the work we need to be doing.

Next item on the agenda is our meeting minutes and I will pass it to our Secretary of Records Secretary Sarah Wolfe to lead that discussion. Secretary Collins.

[Secretary Collins]
I've seen Grant's name before mine, Mr. Chair. But I do want to say we have some business with the opening remarks if we have any questions and I also believe Mr. Chair that we'll probably be looking for a motion to accept her verbal report for information. Can I ask my question?

[Acting Chair]
Yes, absolutely.

[Secretary Collins]
My question is with regards to the Bill 21 information and the INAN process. Madam Chair, are we looking to, will we be asking again for any participation from individuals, whether it's individuals as citizens or any of the elected officials to perhaps have a written submission in support of the process for moving forward as a treaty and if so, could I'm suggesting that perhaps we start moving ahead of the game and getting that briefing note and information out to folks so we can start thinking about what it is that we may want to submit as individuals.

[President Sandmaier]
Yes, so definitely we want to be able to go to INAN as witnesses and for sure I will be participating in that and written submissions are always welcome and important. I will speak to the team unfortunately Nicole is not able to be here today but we will be meeting early next week with Métis National Council as well to talk about the plan going forward. We've already, like I said in my opening remarks, we've already preemptively started those conversations because we knew it was coming with the different members of INAN and as well worked on the amendments but yes, having submissions from citizens, from others is really important so we'll come up with that plan and perhaps even before the May meeting we can have a virtual meeting to discuss what the plan is going forward.

[Secretary Collins]
And if I could Mr. Chair, thank you so much for that, that will be great advice and direction for individuals but as well as given the Liberal government juggling their participants on the

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committees that if we can get an updated, once they finish doing that, an updated list of the INAN committee so that should any of them be in our I don't know so much in Alberta but if any of them should be within our realm to reach out to them and I do want to say Madam Chair that I personally and I imagine many of the Métis that were involved with the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples during that time it was what could we dream about that we could put as Métis perspective where we could see our people going and it just gives me goosebumps when I think about, we dreamt about self-government agreements, we dreamt about modern day treaties with Métis and here we are. It's amazing, it's taken us a long time as a nation but I have to say rather quickly, I never thought I would see it in my time but here we are and so it's just very, very exciting. Thank you.

[Acting Chair]
Yeah and I think Secretary Lacombe, Mike was on to let you know that he had to step away for a medical appointment for 10 o'clock but he'll be back. Any other comments or questions about the report? And I hear you'd like to entertain a motion to just accept the President's welcome for information.

Is there a mover? Secretary Chodzicki moves, seconder? Representative Schnell?

I'm going to look for opposition as we do. Seeing none, that's carried. And now we'll move on to agenda item number 5, the meeting minutes and to Secretary Sarah Wolf, Secretary of Records to lead us through that discussion.

[Secretary Lacombe]
Thank you so much Mr. Chair. So there's two sets of meeting minutes from the 18th and the 19th. I would like to do the 18th first.

They're very short and succinct so Mr. Chair, I would like to make the motion to accept the March 18th meeting minutes. Thank you.

[Acting Chair]
Secretary Sarah Wolfe moves. Is there a seconder? Secretary Leddy was the first hand I saw.

I have Secretary Bramfield first on speaking.

[Secretary Brooke Bramfield]
Thank you. Just for the for page 2, it was I brought the amendment forward to change from Intergovernmental Affairs to Constitution Commission presentation but right now it just says Constitution Commission and then in the agenda attached it is still reading as Intergovernmental Affairs so if that could be changed to Constitution Commission presentation and I'm just wondering to ensure it's accurate if the presenter is changed to the commission on the agenda as well.

[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]
We can definitely make those changes, Brooke. Thank you.

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[Acting Chair]
Secretary Collins?

[Secretary Collins]
Mr. Chair, we had a very informative session last week training on in camera and out of camera and all of those wonderful things. I'm requesting Mr. Chair because we had a presentation from our Constitution Commission and they brought forward information that people asked questions to and stuff so my request is that we take this piece out of camera because now that we learned that there was really nothing in here that was in any of those categories that we take it out of camera so that as we proceed should any of us need to refer to any of that information on a go forward basis that we can use the information provided to help us facilitate future discussions and yeah that will be helpful because it was something that had been requested that we hear from the commission.

They did so and I don't think that's something that should be kept in camera. Thank you, sir.

[Acting Chair]
So I'm not like I have to really think about that one just because this is about the minutes and the minutes are reflecting what actually happened and it wasn't in camera session even though I understand what you're saying I think we'd have to table the request to the next meeting just to make sure because it's a minutes issue like we're talking about the minutes and it was an in camera item when it was done so it is reflected correctly in the minutes but I'm not sure if process to be able to take something that was in camera out of camera. That's already been done and recorded.

So I think your request just needs to be tabled so that we can come back with information and proper process to make sure that we do things correctly. That's all.

[Representative Dunfield]
Mr. Chair, it's a simple motion that is supported by a vote to bring something out of camera. When it's in camera. So what I would suggest is that we accept the minutes as presented and then after the minutes are accepted then we have a motion from Secretary Collins to take those minutes out of camera.

So that would be my suggestion because that would be due process.

[Acting Chair]
At this point I would rule the motion out of order and it's because we need to be able to go back and look at do a more comprehensive review of what was done and said to make sure that there isn't anything that is in camera. And then we would provide the record to council to reconsider the motion, the entire situation to bring it back out. But to just simply move it from the minutes to another or to a different state within the minutes that was already done, I don't think it's a simple motion.

Because the motion was to bring going camera, come out of camera, the entire session was done and now we're talking about the minutes. So it's just a need to review and table it for

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now and come back with more information to provide a more clear assessment of the request and then we can move forward with that. Secretary Collins.

[Secretary Collins]
Mr. Chair, I'd call a question to the motion that you're wanting to do about the minutes and I think I didn't make a motion so you can't rule it out of order. I would like to speak to my request once you deal with the motion that's on the floor.

[Acting Chair]
And that would affect the motion that's on the floor. Yeah, right. Did you see a question?

Okay, I was making sure you have another question. Okay, so we have a motion on the floor to accept the minutes of March 18, 2026 with an amendment to reflect the previous request for change that it actually reflect the Constitution Commission presentation and that the Constitution Commission was the person doing it or the body doing it. So that's the motion.

And it was accepted by the mover and the seconder.

[Representative Dunfield]
Mr. Chair, just for clarity on that amendment and this is something for Secretary Bramfield. Did I hear correctly that Secretary Bramfield was the one who made that motion on the minutes that says Lisa. So I just wanted to clarify that.

[Acting Chair]
No, Secretary Bramfield requested an amendment to the minutes to reflect a previous request and it was the mover was Secretary Sarah Wolf and the seconder was Secretary Leddy and they both agreed to the change. So I have questions called so I would look for any opposition to the motion as drafted. Seeing none.

[Secretary Lisa Wolfe]
Mr. Chair, can you just rephrase the question that we're voting on?

[Acting Chair]
So we're voting on the adoption of the Citizens Council meeting minutes of March 18, 2026 as amended. At this time that's where we are. And so I would go back with that clarity and seek consensus.

Not seeing any opposition. That motion is carried. And so I believe Secretary Collins wanted to discuss the matter that was in discussion before.

[Secretary Collins]
So Mr. Chair, and I don't know because you said you're going to have to go and get counsel or something with respect to that. My point is so whichever way you deal with it, whichever way procedurally you want to deal with it, my point is the information that was shared by the commission during that session was information that would help us in our process as we

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move forward. Should we need to rely on any of that information today, in the future, going forward I would like it to be free to us as information given to us that we can use.

So procedurally whatever decision or whatever way that you need to do, that is my request. And I just would not understand and I don't understand why it was even in camera to begin with because the commission's information is for the nation. If we could have filled a room with citizens, we probably could have.

That is free information to us as a growing government. That's my point, Mr. Chair.

[Acting Chair]
Noted. And yeah, we'll do a more comprehensive review of that session and be able to provide that to you for consideration at a future meeting. Secretary Sarah Wolfe.

[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]
Thank you. I just actually wanted to just discuss that a little bit further. When the individuals who came forward to us for that information session, they were no longer members of the Constitution Commission.

They were individuals coming forward as past members of the Constitution Commission. And I also wonder if they were there knowing that they were in camera. So I would wonder if we would have to seek consent from those individuals or anything like that.

It's just a question alongside that.

[Acting Chair]
That's fair. I think that needs to be part of the future discussion around whether it is viable to move it in as requested. That's all.

Secretary Collins.

[Secretary Collins]
Mr. Chair, I hear what Sarah is saying with respect to the process and procedure. If those people, including myself, are deemed individuals, then why did we invite them as a Constitution Commission?

[Acting Chair]
Fair. I'm not the one to answer that. I have Representative Dunfield.

[Representative Dunfield]
Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just wanting to voice my support of moving that out of camera in regards to the session that we had last month, really looking at whether it falls within those three topic areas. And I don't feel that that session did.

I think it's really important, as Secretary Collins stated, that that is information that is there for our citizens. Nothing was discussed that wasn't in our What We Heard report or in our

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Constitution Commission report. So I think that I would absolutely support you moving forward with the concerns that you raised in looking into it.

But I don't feel that anything that was in that session falls within an in-camera session. So thank you.

[Acting Chair]
And again, we will do what we need to do to make sure we have the information for consideration at the next meeting of the Council to be able to discuss whether that can be moved and how it's moved in and out. And to your point, Secretary Collins, you're armed with that information as well. Understood.

And so on to the next set of minutes, I'm assuming. So Agenda Item 5B, Secretary Sarah Wolfe.

[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]
Thank you. So before you see our second minutes, March 19th, I do notice a couple things here. So in the actual adopted meeting agenda, on the second page where we have the in-camera items listed, I know that there is an inconsistency with how we usually have our agenda prepared.

So I just wanted to let Council know that that will be redone to reflect what some of those items were as long as they still remain in that kind of realm. Not too many details, but what they were in the previous agenda so that citizens can see that. On page 3, just a slight correction.

At the bottom for 1026AM Motion 2026-0319-4, the result carried by consensus is italicized. It will be unitalicized. And then if you flip all the way to the very last page where we have the list of all of the motions, I just wanted to read that we do have the statement about the live streaming and recording regulation and any redactions, so I just wanted to read that out.

Pursuant to section 11 of the live streaming and recording regulation 2025, redactions were made to the March 19, 2026 Citizens Council audio-visual recording by the Chair in consultation with the Secretary of Records and the President. These redactions are hereby documented and reported as identified under Schedule A of the regulation, specifically sections A, C, E, and H. And then on the actual meeting minutes themselves, there is, you can see it's highlighted in blue, but there will be a link for citizens to click directly to the regulation should they wish to see what those sections are.

And Mr. Chair, I would like to move my minutes, please.

[Acting Chair]
And I would look for a seconder. Secretary Leddy again. Discussion?

I see Secretary Bramfield. Secretary Wolfe, you'll need to turn your mic off.

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[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]
Thank you.

[Secretary Bramfield]
I have two items. For the redactions, just for our citizens in the gallery and who are watching online, could we please identify what sections A, C, E, and H are?

[Acting Chair]
Secretary Paul-Alook, I have you noted in the speaking, but in response, Secretary Wolfe could provide that list.

[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]
Thank you. So in Schedule A of the regulation, section A is personal information relating to an individual, including an employee. Section C is information that may be harmful to intergovernmental relations. Section E, information that may be harmful to the corporate or financial interests of the Otipemisiwak Métis government.

And section H is any information directed to be redacted upon legal counsel to the Otipemisiwak Métis government or the judicial branch.

[Secretary Bramfield]
Thank you. And to follow up on that is the recording online now?

[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]
Just due to a couple technical difficulties, the recordings were delayed. The February one is up, and the March one I don't think will take too long to be up as well. We did follow the procedure when there was not, when there was a breach of the regulation, which is not within that 30 days.

So we have followed that procedure to make sure that we can get it up as absolutely soon as possible.

[Secretary Bramfield]
Okay, thank you. Just because there were some motions, including the one I made from that discussion. So just if citizens do want to watch back, I guess I'm wondering how much information they're missing.

But I do understand the reason for it. So my next one is, let me just find it. My motion that was during the Ombudsman report was on page 7.

So right now it reads, be it resolved by the citizens council that the legislative priorities briefing note be brought back to the agenda in April for discussion. But I don't think that captured the motion I made exactly. It wasn't a prepared motion.

I think I spoke to it twice because it did come from the presentation prior. So I would like to amend it to be resolved by the citizens council that the November 2024 resolution and

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briefing note titled Legislative Proposal Regarding Comprehensive Review of Otipemisiwak Métis Government Laws and Regulations be brought back to council at the next meeting for review and direction. I believe that's much more of what I said during that discussion.

[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]
I would like to look to my clerk and see if she captured that. Perfect. Thank you so much.

[Acting Chair]
Any other discussion? Comments or amendments? Yes, that is correct.

Representative Paul-Alook, thank you.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
Thank you. On page 6, I believe there are some missing pieces of the record there. And I'm not sure exactly where they would fit time-wise in here.

But regarding some of the questions that were asked where it says question from the floor, there was also an additional motion I believe from President Sandmaier to move into camera as well in that sequence of the conversation that isn't included in there that didn't receive consensus. And then on the motion and I think that might be on page 7, sorry. The motion moved motion 20260319-12 at 12.15 p.m. moved by Secretary Joe to accept that report. It's also missing that there was an action item. So as it reads right now, the motion is to accept the report as presented. However, there was an action item requested by President Sandmaier with a direction to the ombudsman to remove portions of his written report, specifically regarding the appointment of a citizen's representative to the Ombudsman.

And that isn't included in the minutes and it's also not reflected in that motion as it currently stands. As it reads right now, the motion is to accept the report as presented. But there was a direction that was provided to the Ombudsman from President Sandmaier to edit that.

[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]
Okay. So to speak to your first point, the motion to move into camera session was done by Secretary Leddy and then that consensus was not found. There was not a third motion to go into camera by President Sandmaier.

So I just wanted to let you know there was not a third one. As for the presentation, the quarterly Ombudsman report be accepted for information as presented. I do not believe that was recorded as an action item.

It was a suggestion from President Sandmaier in which we could change it to say accepted for information as amended if that would be sufficient. But I do not recall it being spoken to as an action item.

[Representative Paul-Alook]

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I'm happy to have the recording reviewed to help assist with better wording to actually reflect the meeting as it occurred.

[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]
If you would like, we can definitely review that and make sure that the minutes will reflect what happened. But I do know that that specific section was an in-camera item. Even though the report spoke to it publicly, it is a confidential matter.

So we would just have to review it further to make sure that it is sufficiently recorded in the minutes. That is what I had in my notes as well.

[President Sandmaier]
My recollection of it was that that was discussed in-camera as a personnel matter. I think we're probably, even right now, crossing the line as to what is in-camera and what is out of camera. So I would ask that the Secretary of Records and the Clerk can, of course, review the recording again.

But we just had our session on what is in-camera and what is out of camera. We need to make sure that we're protecting personnel. I would ask that we refrain from speaking about what was talked about in-camera.

Thank you.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
Thank you. I absolutely respect the boundaries of discussing personnel matters within camera. The matter that I have brought forward that has been not captured accurately in the minutes happened in public session, in open session, not in camera.

As I said, I would like to request that that be reviewed and included appropriately in our meeting minutes. Thank you.

[Acting Chair]
What I'm hearing is that the issue is that it isn't, there isn't, it's a recollection. So I do think that we need to review to make sure that what was discussed out of camera, that it was brought out of camera, because I also have a similar recollection that it was mentioned, something was mentioned in-camera and I don't remember it coming out. So I just think it needs to be reviewed to make sure that we're not crossing some lines.

Representative Paul-Alook.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
Thank you. I'm not referring to details of the conversation that were, there was two parts of related conversations. I'm not referring to the in-camera sections at all.

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Just in the sequence of events, it's not clearly recorded in the meeting minutes and the report that we received was accepted without the redaction that President Sandmaier had directed the Ombudsman to take out of there. So that's all I was bringing forward is that that was missing from the meeting minutes.

[Acting Chair]
And I'd say it sounds like it's not a shared recollection across the board, so there's a need for a review to make sure. But I understand what you're saying. There was a motion made and there may not have been an amendment to what you're accepting that was recorded in the minutes.

Secretary Collins.

[Secretary Collins]
Mr. Chair, I'm not quite sure I'm following this because the minutes that I'm reading at 1140, we came out of camera. Then there was a request to, a question of order to go in-camera. There was a motion on the floor.

At 1054, the motion failed. We proceeded to do that report, and I'm not seeing us going back into camera with respect to that report.

[Acting Chair]
No, what it is is there was something that was mentioned that needed to be changed about the report, and the minutes aren't recording reflecting that as a requirement of that document. And we need to go back and look to make sure that we're actually recording it properly and that it isn't something that was not brought out.

[Secretary Collins]
Mr. Chair, I am following. I am following what the request was and what the action is. But in the minutes that I'm having here, the in-camera request actually failed.

So if we're talking about this happened in-camera and we don't know if we should take them out or not, take that certain piece out. That's where I'm having a hard time because it's not showing me here, but if it's going to be a review of Bobbi and Sarah to have a look at it so that it becomes clear, I'm on that page. I'm just seeing that we weren't in-camera.

[Acting Chair]
And that's what we should do probably, try to do that over lunch and try to bring it back so that we can get these minutes approved after lunch.

[Secretary Leddy]
I was going to ask if we could table this so that the record could be reviewed during a break and to continue with our agenda as we are behind time.

[Acting Chair]

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Yeah, I didn't use the word, but I'm saying tabled until such time as we can bring that information back and ensure that we're moving forward correctly. Representative Dunfield.

[Representative Dunfield]
Thank you, Mr. Chair. On page 3, agenda item number 5, there was the action item to provide the Judicial Tribunal review. I'm asking that that Judicial Tribunal review be added to the meeting minutes so that our citizens understand what the request and question was regarding.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you.

[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]
You're just asking for the review to be appendixed to the end of the minutes? Yes, please. I would just have to double check.

I'm pretty sure judicial rulings are public? Yeah. Yeah, that's no problem then.

We can do that. Thank you.

[Acting Chair]
So we will table these minutes for now until we can get the information and make sure that we can justly undertake the changes that are being requested. With that, we are kind of at our break time, and it's been a long morning, so we will recess until 1045. Call everybody back to your seats.

Let's settle down and we'll move on with our agenda. Let's get going, folks. I know.

Okay, everybody. Let's get back to our seats so we can get moving, please. We'll wrap up our conversations and we can move on with the rest of our agenda.

We've got a long day. We're going to start again. We'll call the meeting back to order.

It is 11. There's a couple of things. So Secretary Mitchell is...

Hello? Excuse me. Thank you.

At the back of the room, if you could take your seat and finish up your conversations, it would be great. Thank you. Mr. Barner, I can hear your voice. So there's a couple of things. I've been in conversation with Secretary Mitchell, and she has a board meeting she has to attend at noon. So she's agreed to table her item on the agenda, which is 9B, to the next meeting.

And the chair is indisposed at the moment, and he can present the report, but he won't be able to answer questions right away, but is more than willing to take questions and answer

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them later, if that's acceptable. Otherwise, we'd have to try to find a time and move it so he can actually be available to answer any questions there may be. Secretary Collins?

[Secretary Collins]
Mr. Chair, I'd be prepared to table the chair's report to the main meeting, when he can be present and he can present it. We can read through it and we see stuff, and if we have any questions, well, we can save them. It's quite procedure for this item.

Thank you.

[Acting Chair]
So moved. Are we making a motion to table the chair's report and the briefing note on service standards for the processing of citizen payments to the main meeting of the Citizens' Council?

[Secretary Lisa Wolfe]
That's correct.

[Acting Chair]
Okay. Moved by Secretary Collins, seconded by Secretary Lisa Wolfe. Is there any objection?

Seeing none, that's carried by consensus. And at the break, I know that Secretary Sarah Wolfe was able to review the recording, and we can actually maybe wrap this item up. So I'll pass the mic over to Secretary Sarah Wolfe.

[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]
Thank you. All right. So as stated, I did review the recording alongside some others.

The specific section about the president's correction to the report wasn't asked. It was not an action item or anything else. So it won't be recorded as an action item in the minutes.

However, I'm happy to change the motion to accept as presented to accept the report as amended.

[Acting Chair]
Does that answer your question, Representative Paul-Alook?

[Representative Paul-Alook]
It's not really in keeping with the precedent that has been set in our previous minute keeping. Typically if there's an amendment, it's recorded in the minutes of what the amendment was and not just in the motion that it was recorded as amended. So I don't know if that actually fits, like the solution actually fits with our current process.

[Acting Chair]
Secretary Sarah Wolfe?

[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]

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We have had instances in the past where we have asked staff or asked other people to make a change or do something that wasn't necessarily an action item. And the specific wording that was in the recording is that President Sandmaier asked the Ombudsman to remove something that was a confidential matter from his report because it was a confidential matter. Usually when there's an action item, it is spoken to by the Chair or we say we would like to have an action item for this which it wasn't in the recording.

But we can, like I said, amend the motion to say accepted for information as amended.

[Acting Chair]
Representative Paul-Alook?

[Representative Paul-Alook]
Again, I'm not sure that that actually clearly represents I guess what amendment is being made and that it's in keeping with our current process. If we could actually have that table so that we can move on.

[Acting Chair]
Secretary Collins, you wish to speak to this item?

[Secretary Collins]
Mr. Chair, I kind of agree with Bobbi, but I'm coming from this angle. I don't know and perhaps we need to look at this, I don't know if it should go to our procedures piece that we are still needing to work on, but I don't think we should get into the practice of amending officers' reports. We put those officers in place so that they can report to the government from their perspective on their work and their actions.

I'm not comfortable at this moment to support something that says we're going to amend an officer's report. So, Mr. Chair, I'd just like to raise that during the time that you're wanting to seek more clarity with respect to this. I would not want to see us get into precedent or start changing officers' reports to the government.

Thank you.

[Secretary Lisa Wolfe]
Go ahead.

[Acting Chair]
The Canadian problem.

[Secretary Lisa Wolfe]
Thank you very much. I think in this particular matter, because it is a personnel matter, it should be dealt with right now. It really should just be dealt with.

The other thing is on this particular Ombudsman matter, who is he accountable to that that report should have actually been reviewed prior to it actually coming out, so something

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could be stricken from the report, because it's not applicable to what the actual reporting is. He's supposed to apply a report that was not included in a report, has nothing to do with actually the reporting, and he's caused all this grief at this table, and we're not dealing with it and pushing it off and pushing it off. If anything, that item should have been struck and off his report.

That's my thought on the matter, but I would like to be done as amended as Secretary Wolfe has said, so that we can move on off the minutes, and there has been other precedented areas.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you. President Sandmaier.

[President Sandmaier]
All I'm going to say is this, again, is that there was not an ask to change his report. There was one piece, I think it was on the front page of his report, where he identified personnel, people that he should not have identified as to people that helped him write his report. That's all it was.

He should not have had that on there. That is what was the concern for me, is that he was presenting something, making it look like two people assisted him with that report when they did not.

[Acting Chair]
Representative Paul-Alook.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
The section that I was actually referring to in the piece that I had brought forward as missing from the minutes was regarding a statement made by President Sandmaier directing the Ombudsman to remove the sentence. That was the section I'm just clarifying what I brought forward. That's it.

It's just a really simple matter of process that it was brought forward. If it's being accepted as amended, especially because it's an arm's length officer report, as Secretary Collins had mentioned, it's even that much more important if it is being amended that we clarify why. For that reason, if the suggestion from Secretary Wolfe is that the minutes or the motion reads as amended, it's that much more important that we actually include that piece as to why it's amended.

As Secretary Collins mentioned, it's not typically good practice for our council to be amending reports from arm's length officers. Thank you.

[Acting Chair]
Representative Dunfield and Secretary Collins.

[Representative Dunfield]

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Thank you, Mr. Chair. I really appreciate this. This is an important conversation.

I don't disagree that we do need to move on, but I think it might be beneficial for us because I think there's some real misunderstandings around what's personnel and what's not. I think I would respectfully disagree that the section is personnel, but I would also suggest that we bring the ombudsman back because there seems to be some information missing that he could potentially provide to us in terms of how his report came about. I think it might be more beneficial to have the Ombudsman here for us to ask those questions instead of making assumptions that he was or was not directed on how to do his report.

My suggestion is let's table these minutes. We've done it before. It's happened in the past.

Let's table these minutes to May 2026. Let's bring the Ombudsman back to have that discussion, but I also would request further clarification on the personnel piece, as President Sandmaier stated, because I'm not seeing how that's a personnel issue when it was a piece in there of what the ombudsman clarified as an appointment to his position. We need to clarify that, whether or not it was personnel and also to bring the ombudsman back to provide further information for us.

So my suggestion is table the meeting minutes until May 2026, bring the Ombudsman back, have this conversation so we make sure we have the right information for us to move forward.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you. Secretary Collins?

[Secretary Collins]
Mr. Chair, I just want to again speak to an officer's report, arm's length officer's report. I do not believe that a process is that he gives his report to someone to review it because if he gives it to someone, it's no longer arm's length because someone else gets to amend his report. So I don't agree with that process to begin for our officers that they send a report to someone so they can change his report.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you. And it isn't for the ombudsman to weigh in on minutes, and I understand what you're saying Representative Dunfield, but we are talking about the minutes and the amendment to the minutes is not for the Ombudsman to speak to. I would say that to request that would be out of order.

And I will say also he is scheduled for next meeting for his report. So there could be some adjustments made to the conversation or the discussion points that are being brought to him. I have Secretary Lisa Wolfe.

[Secretary Lisa Wolfe]
Thank you very much Mr. Chair for clarifying that. I am in agreeance that if he comes next week, fine. But at this time, like I said, personnel matters are personnel matters.

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Yes, he is in arm's length, but if there's something that's personal that names you in a document for whatever reason, and they start naming you, well then that sets a precedent too.

[Acting Chair]
I have Representative Paul-Alook, then Secretary Leddy.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
In the interest of time, I'd like to move that these are tabled to our next meeting.

[Acting Chair]
I'm just curious as to we could go to a vote and deal with these minutes. The amendment has been requested. I understand Secretary Collins' point.

You're not amending, I would say to correct a mistake in a presentation is not the same as changing the report. Because it was deemed, it was recommended or it was brought up as an error, not changing the actual report. Nothing about the phone calls or anything that he did bring as statistics to his job is being changed.

Just one item that was already recommended to not be in there as a mistake to be included. It isn't really a part of the job necessarily. It was a direction of, as I recall, a direction of Council to be able to provide that.

So I'm curious just to understand better the reason for wanting to table. I would just put it back to Representative Paul-Alook and then Secretary Leddy had her mic on.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
I would like to table for more thorough review of the recorded meeting.

[Acting Chair]
Yes, Secretary Leddy.

[Secretary Leddy]
Sorry. My understanding of the record is that it is of things that have happened. I would be in support of potentially, I hear the concerns happening regarding the Ombudsman.

But I believe that it's not necessarily relevant to the minutes themselves. As to the direction, ask that front, I'm happy with the changing the motion to being as amended as Secretary Sarah Wolfe has brought forward. Otherwise, I think this conversation has strayed far from the topic at hand of the minutes and the records of decisions what happened.

We can't go back and change how the conversation went. And at this point, I'm becoming quite frustrated that we can't get to our agenda at hand.

[Acting Chair]
Okay, so Representative Paul-Alook.

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[Representative Paul-Alook]
I agree that I would like to see this move forward and I would very much like to get to the rest of our meeting. The comment that I had that was brought forward that required tabling to recess to review was just that the minutes don't accurately reflect what occurred in the meeting. If you'd like to change the motion to say as amended, then there needs to be something added to the minutes as to how it was amended.

And if you review the minutes, there's other pieces in there where that has occurred. And in previous minutes, that's always the way that it's been done. We wouldn't just say as amended if it wasn't brought up.

And I think especially if we are amending an arm's length officer report, we need to be able to justify as accountable to our citizenship why we made that suggestion or why it was supported. And so I'd like to be able to speak to that if it's questioned as to why we've amended a report.

[Acting Chair]
We'll finish with who we have here right now. So Secretary Lisa Wolfe and then Secretary Sarah Wolfe.

[Secretary Lisa Wolfe]
I think if we go down the road of talking about the Ombudsman and we push it forward, we're also going to have to talk about the whole reasoning why it was put into this section and how it came to be this particular report and not the first report because this council agreed that the second report was required due to the lack of information on the first report and that some things were needed substantially to actually add in his report, therefore the second report. And I think we're losing sight of the whole process of what the Ombudsman is. He was new.

He had to learn the process. I'm seconding also Secretary Leddy's motion to move forward.

[Acting Chair]
To be clear, it wasn't a motion. It was a request. Secretary Sarah Wolfe.

[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]
So Representative Paul-Alook, if there was as like when we do the meeting minutes where we have a little section underneath where it says what the amendment was, if we accept the report as amended and then come up with wording that still reflects the confidentiality of the amendment to his report and had that as the amendment, would that be sufficient?

[Acting Chair]
Question to Representative Paul-Alook.

[Representative Paul-Alook]

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Yes, that would more accurately reflect why there was an amendment made to his report because I do agree with Secretary Collins that this council should not generally follow the practice of amending an arm's length officer's report, but if we have then I think our citizenship deserves to know why. Not in detail, but at least a reference to that because it's not good governance practice for us as a council to interfere with his reports. And if we are, then I'd like for people to know at least that there was a reason for that.

[Acting Chair]
Secretary Sarah Wolfe.

[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]
Thank you. So as long as it is reflecting the confidentiality of that amendment, I don't see any problem with having that underneath listed as an amendment and then I would like to pass these minutes as long as that is recorded.

[Acting Chair]
Representative Paul-Alook.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
Thank you. I agree with that.

[Acting Chair]
So where we're at is we have a motion from Secretary Sarah Wolfe, seconded by Secretary Leddy to adopt Citizens Council Meeting Minutes March 19, 2026 as amended and adding to that the description of the amendment considering necessary confidentiality.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
Sorry, your motion to accept the minutes as amended?

[Secretary Lacombe]
Within as amended, that amendment that we are making to the Ombudsman's report to add that confidential description is included in the amendments.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
Okay, would that change at all the actual motion that's recorded in there? Or is that just the motion on the floor about accepting the minutes?

[Acting Chair]
That's the motion on the floor to accept the minutes as amended and then the amendment would be to that motion that would say as amended and then there's a description underneath about the amendment itself. Thank you for that clarification. There's a couple of discussions of amendments.

Okay, so that's what we have. And the motion's on the floor so I would look for consensus for that motion that we're adopting the Citizens Council Meeting Minutes of March 19, 2026 as amended and adding to the motion and we'll note the actual motion it's not in front of

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me but we'll note the actual motion a description to the amendment to that motion considering all confidentiality. Sounds good.

Any opposition? Raising your hand when you're eating and I ask for opposition. It's like you're at an auction.

This is passed with consensus. So the next item on the agenda is the Citizen's Proposal Number 5 and this will be called upon Self-Government to speak to this. I see Representative Dunfield.

[Representative Dunfield]
Yeah, just a quick question, Mr. Chair. I know that you guys reviewed the agenda beforehand to potentially table some things. I'm wondering if there's anything else that we could table considering that we are at 11.30 so just a quick review of the agenda if there's anything else that we can table so we can move on in the agenda. Specifically, I was thinking agenda item number 8, the Chief Electoral Officer report for 2025 late fall if that could potentially be tabled to May and I think that was the only one. But just a quick review and taking a look and see if there's anything else we can table so we can move on.

[Acting Chair]
So the CEO report is actually legislatively required today?

[Secretary Lisa Wolfe]
Yes.

[Acting Chair]
So we can't table that. Secretary Lisa Wolfe.

[Secretary Lisa Wolfe]
Yes, sir, and no disrespect, Representative Dunfield, but I think the Chief Electoral Officer is very important that we hear it today because the elections will be starting forthwith on some of these issues and we do need to have that. As part of the District Transition Relations Committee, we need to have that.

[Representative Dunfield]
Thank you, Mr. Chair. I think I was just one of the things that it is legislated, but my point was that the legislation, it's supposed to be 30 days after the fall election and we're already 3-4 months out later, so that was the only thing. My suggestion was if it's one more month, does it impact anything?

That was the only part. The other one I wanted to ask is the self-government 10A, is that something that we can table or just read for information on the transition? Is that something that we can just table or just read for information as well?

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[Acting Chair]
I don't believe that is legislatively required. I think that's just a constant update to Council on progress made in transition. I'm looking for anybody to tell me differently.

Yeah, okay. So it can be tabled and we can keep it for information? Absolutely.

I'll tell you what my thinking was, that we would go as far as we could and then we have in-camera after lunch. So ideally, and I do agree, needing to get to things that we need to get to and then making sure that we have that time to go through all of those things we need to go through in-camera. Thank you, Mr. Chair. So, item 10A will be tabled for information. That will be noted. I'll pass this over right now to our self-government team to talk to the citizens' proposal.

All right.

[Policy Analyst Maddie Aldridge]
Good morning, everyone. I have a briefing note for you all today that discusses the legislative feasibility of recommendations received from the Promoting and Increasing Cultural Safety Report relating to the citizens' proposal number five received last year at the gathering that the Citizens' Council consider to create a specific representative to spirit role in our Métis government. So even though we can't do that exactly as the Constitution is right now, there are some other options presented for how to address it.

I'll draw your attention to the motion options, which would direct more research and analysis on the options provided and add to a table for future discussion. So it's not binding. It would just be a request for more information or discussion in the future.

And I can go over the options in detail if anyone would like, or we can move to a motion or go towards a motion.

[Acting Chair]
Representative Blatz.

[Representative Gabrielle Blatz]
Good morning. So I know that the question was if you wanted them in detail or if we wanted to go straight to the motion, so I'm just jumping ahead and going straight. Earlier this year, I had the opportunity to attend the Promoting and Increasing Cultural Safety Summit that happened on my birthday, so I felt like I was part of the youth, too, still.

So that was nice. While I was there, I heard directly from many of our citizens about their lived experiences and where they felt our government was working and also where they saw some gaps. What stood out to me the most was citizens asking in different ways how they can feel safer, feel better understood, and more connected within their own government.

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When I reviewed the report that came forward to us, I appreciated the recommendations, particularly around governance. I think the idea of advisory committees is a strong and practical starting point. It allows us to hear directly from citizens in a structured accountable way so that decisions we make are informed by lived experience.

So I know a lot of the discussion came from a proposal from last year's citizens gathering, and as mentioned before, the constitution can't be changed until 2028, but I do want to address that there are real concerns, especially around safety, that a lot of our citizens feel aren't being addressed yet, and so I feel like this is a good way to go about dealing with those issues in a more expedited manner. So an advisory committee would address multiple recommendations within the PICS report, and I circled a whole bunch of them, but specifically something that I noted in this was that there was a recommendation around hosting events and activities in safe and accessible locations as well as live stream and record events, and I think that while I see the motions that we have before us, I'm going to be making a different motion, just tweaked to give it to the clerk so it's not a jump scare. It is to include online options for this advisory council, and it also helps address a part of the report that speaks to rural and remote cultural opportunities, especially because a lot of people can't drive or they don't have access to cars, they don't have access to public transit in a lot of these rural areas, including Wetaskiwin, so I think that giving online options is something that would help even raise the inclusivity of these programmings that we could have. Queer-orientated programming is another one that's on this list, and creating space for more youth and 2SLGBTQQIA plus to be involved in Crown consultation process.

Noting all of those different parts of the report, I also wanted to note a couple parts in the Constitution that speak to this as well. In 13.2, in H, I, J, and K, there is to enable citizens to pursue their best life based on their own personal choices and spirituality, to improve the quality of life of citizens by providing social, economic, spiritual, cultural, public safety, justice, and health supports that are specifically designed and tailored for their unique needs and realities, and to ensure citizens have meaningful ways to be consulted and participate in initiatives of the Otipemisiwak Métis government at all levels.

So with noting all of that, my motion would read, I'd like to move that Citizens Council direct administration to bring back a cost analysis, including potential funding sources and delivery options, online, in-person, and hybrid, for a 2SLGBTQ plus advisory committee to be considered at or before the September Citizens Council meeting.

Thank you.

[Acting Chair]
Okay, so there is a motion. Is there a seconder to that motion? Secretary Leddy, and Secretary Lavallee speaking to the motion.

[Secretary Rebecca Lavallee]
Yeah, so this is just a cost analysis for these options, correct? Okay, yeah. Then, I don't see any problem going through with this.

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I mean, this is something that I know we had talked about at the beginning of the year following the citizens gathering. When we got this proposal, we said that we were going to wait until the PICS report was out, and we had the PICS conference, and I think, like, reading through it and, like, being at that thing, I think these recommendations are fair, and they do hit the points that a lot of our citizens, a part of the 2S community, have been really advocating for, and I know, like, we can't, like, they're really advocating for a dedicated 2S representative, and I know we're kind of bound by the Constitution not being able to change that, but these are kind of really easy recommendations that we are able to do, and especially the establishment of an advisory committee. I know across the Métis Nation, every other Métis Nation has an advisory committee for their 2S community, so I feel like that's also aligned with what the other governments are doing to help out in any way that they can. So, yeah, I think it's fair, and I think it's great to finally be getting some movement done for the community, because they've been really, like, as it states, that I have the gender equity portfolio, so a lot of it has to do with listening to a lot of the citizens that have concerns and want something that helps support them, just like all the rest of our citizens are supported, so yeah.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you. Secretary Leddy?

[Secretary Leddy]
Yeah, I'm also in support of getting that cost analysis and really diving into having something like that, and I just wanted to read a bit from the PICS report, because it's very moving, and it's clear what our citizens are saying that they want and need.

So, on page 55 of the report, it said, participants noted that the absence of visual support for Métis, 2SLGBTQQIA+ citizens amplifies concerns about feeling respected and welcomed, and thus discourages them from attending. They emphasize that it is essential to engage with 2SLGBTQQIA individuals during event planning to ensure that their unique needs are being met. Simply stating that queer people are welcome at events is not enough.

Intentional and tangible actions, such as providing gender neutral bathrooms are crucial. And a little later on, on page 56, it said, participants also express that bodies such as the Otipemisiwak Métis government need to be firm and not entertain harmful debate on the legitimacy and existence of 2SLGBTQ community members. And I think that really points that they're very clear of what they're wanting, of what they're needing, and it would be a disservice to the amount of work and effort that went in with getting this research of talking to our citizens to just ignore clear things that they're stating us.

Additionally, I missed it on page 55. It says, furthermore, participants emphasized that to gain an understanding of 2SLGBTQQIA+ experiences, there is a need for elected officials to be educated about the history of two-spirit and queer individuals in Métis communities prior to and following colonization. So, I'm very happy to hear Representative Blatz bring forward and move the motion for an advisory council.

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I think it's a first step and a really important step to ensuring that we're starting to address the very clear ways that our citizens are telling us they need support. And one more thing I'm going to add is in chapter 12 of the constitution, at 12.4, it says the Otipemisiwak Métis government shall engage with and be responsive to the needs and ambitions of its citizens in keeping with the Métis tradition of meaning we will talk. And I think that this is in our constitution.

It is clear that that is what our government is supposed to be doing, and this is one way that we can achieve that.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you, Secretary Leddy. Secretary Lisa Wolfe.

[Secretary Lisa Wolfe]
Thank you very much, and I appreciate Representative Blatz and Secretary Leddy for bringing on their comments today. I am going to ask that administration read out the new motion being put forward, and that also when we look at this again, I think it's for next month, right, that I would like the quotes that you have talked about in regards to the constitution and also the PICS report be amended and added as an annex to here so that when we get the whole report, we can actually read those particular documents as the whole motion piece.

I have my Constitution. I attend the PICS conference, and I'm very aware of them, but I think for everybody's awareness here that as long as they see where they're noted in the constitution and where they're noted as what Secretary Leddy brought up in the PICS manual, I think those are important for people to make a good conscious decision of where we're moving. So I think that was about it.

Thank you very much.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you. Secretary Sara Wolfe.

[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]
Yeah, thank you so much. I believe we are getting the motion brought up forward by Representative Blatz up on the screen here shortly so we can all read it, but I fully support your motion, especially the addition of the online portions. Accessibility is so important for our citizens, especially with the current cost of gas for any types of things that come up where they would potentially have to travel to attend the one or two or three events that we have that support to us LGBTQIA plus citizens.

Having that online portion is really, really important and potentially hybrid, as you stated. So I'm in full support of the motion, and I'm just looking forward to when we can have it up on the screen to fully support it.

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[Acting Chair]
Thank you. Secretary Collins.

[Secretary Collins]
Mr. Chair, I am in support of the direction of this motion. I am, however, requesting that we might keep it consistent to our proposal and consistent to the many conversations that people reference that we keep it to 2S as per the proposal as well as the recognition of our communities in the past that address 2S. I'm very comfortable with that.

I also need to share because I would be remiss if I didn't bring it forward. I've had a couple of parents and some elders come to me, and they are rather uncomfortable with what's happening in some of our schools with regards to the cat and the dog piece that in some of our schools back home, they are putting litter box in the class, and some parents are pulling their kids out of the school because of that, and so I'm trying to be conscious of what the elders are bringing forward and what parents are bringing forward, but they do say they know and understand the 2S piece because we have people in our families and our communities that belong to this greater community. I'm just suggesting that because we know there are the additional letters to the piece. As a matter of fact, some of them said they don't even know all the letters.

They understand and can embrace 2S, so I'm just bringing that forward, Mr. Chair, because like I said, when citizens and elders bring things to my attention, I try to be responsible to bring forward that they have some difficulty with the plus because they don't know what that embraces. Thank you.

[Acting Chair]
Representative Paul-Alook?

[Representative Paul-Alook]
I'm also speaking in favor of this motion, and I'd like to call question on it.

[Acting Chair]
Director or Senior Executive Officer has some questions.

[Senior Executive Officer Aaron Barner]
Just in respect to the parameters that I'm going to go to on this, are we talking one per district?

[Acting Chair]
I need a little bit more guidance on when I'm costing things out. That's it.

[Representative Blatz]
Sure. I think when we're talking about an advisory council, I think it should be large enough that it can include members of a member from most districts. The reason why I'm more

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leaning towards the online option, though, is because you can have more participation without worrying about going to the lengths of setting up something in every district.

That would keep costs low as well.

[Secretary Collins]
Then just one other question.

[Acting Chair]
I do see references to 2S and then 2SLGBTQIA+. Is this costing for 2S or 2SLGBTQIA+. Representative Blatz.

Secretary Collins, I have you on the list.

[Representative Blatz]
In my motion, it would be 2SLGBTQ+.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you. I think, I won't say this, Secretary Collins was kind of without actually directly asking for amendment to 2S.

[Secretary Collins]
Right, Mr. Chair, and that's why I put my hand up because I would like some kind of response so that I have some kind of response to the people that are going to ask how we've addressed this.

[Acting Chair]
I would go to the mover and the seconder on their thoughts on that. The request is that it's amended from 2SLGBTQIA+. for the reasons that the Secretary put forward.

Then that's a request for friendly amendment. Seconder go first.

[Secretary Leddy]
I'm hesitant to agreeing to that. The only reason being is 2-spirit does end up becoming kind of an umbrella term, but there are a lot of people who are Métis or Indigenous broadly who may not feel that 2-spirit is the correct term for identifying their queerness. I think in an inclusive way, the LGBTQQIA allows for that more broader span of it.

Now if the concern as Secretary Collins has brought up regarding litter boxes and such, I can very confidently confirm that the furry community in which that may get tied to, and some of that rhetoric does get tied to, is not part of the 2SLGBTQ and the letters that are added on there, so I have no concern on that level. But I do hear the concern on access to reliable and correct information regarding, again, such a vulnerable community within our nation.

[Acting Chair]
Representative Blatz.

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[Secretary Leddy]
Thank you.

[Representative Blatz]
Yeah, so I think that keeping it at 2SLGBTQ plus is important to me. I was part of starting the Pride community in Wetaskiwin when I was on council, and it became a very safe space for people to go to. I think especially in the setting that we are creating, it's making sure that everything is appropriate, it's making sure that everything is respectful, and a safe space for people to go to, because it is a committee of the Otipemisiwak Metis government, and also within the report for the PICS conference, it is specifically the asks are coming specifically from the whole community.

It's not just the 2S community, so it would only be addressing matters that come from the 2S community and not the larger queer community as a whole, and that's what I would be concerned with, with changing the name.

[Acting Chair]
I know that Representative Paul-Alook had asked a question at the end of her statement. However, there was. Yeah, I was trying to make sure, because I was sure that I heard her request for an amendment, and so I wanted to put that back, and it's obvious that it's no.

I'll just be blunt, but Representative Paul-Alook?

[Representative Paul-Alook]
I'm wondering if there is a willingness to consider alternate language, not to exclude certain individuals that would identify outside of the 2S, but to just broadly state gender and sexually diverse, or diversity, or however, that is a term that's becoming more widely used, just because the 2SLGBTQIA plus is such a like an evolving term. Do you know what I mean? In my lifetime, I've seen a lot of letters added to that, and I don't know if there's question from our citizenship, especially in regards to what does the plus mean, and is it going to be anybody that kind of about what their identity is and stuff, if we say gender and sexual diversity, if we say it in that term, that terminology, then it doesn't exclude anybody from that acronym, but it also limits it to just people within that community.

Wondering if there is any willingness to consider that friendly amendment.

[Acting Chair]
Representative Blatz?

[Representative Blatz]
Thank you for that representative. I accept that friendly amendment, but I would also like to tack on that I think that two spirits should be first, and then those two terms that you just stated.

[Acting Chair]
Secretary Lavallee?

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[Secretary Lavallee]
I'll be fine with whatever you guys do, but I think one of the things about the acronym for 2SLGBTQ+, it was the queer community that created that acronym for themselves, and they created it for themselves, and one of the things, I found it in the PICS thing, but when it comes to cultural safety, because that's ultimately what we're trying to create, one of the quotes they have in there is cultural safety is defined by those receiving the care, not those giving the care. So I think when it comes to the acronym, that's what the queer community identifies with.

That is the term that they have given themselves, and so I think we need to be hesitant about trying to change it to not include that when that's something that they put forward themselves. And like we said, we're trying to be culturally safe, so we have to understand that we should not be trying to impose different labels on them when they created that for themselves. You know what I mean?

So I think we need to think about that as well. And you may not understand it, and that's okay, it may be a mouthful for people, but I think when it comes to things like these, it's kind of hard to put yourself in their shoes, but it's kind of like, I think I would put it in par of people calling Métis people Indians, right? We don't necessarily call ourselves Indians, we're Métis, right?

So it's kind of on par of that being the same thing, if trying to put it into a perspective that people might understand.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you. So with that, do we have a friendly amendment to the motion to say to us, and I didn't write it down, so gender, gender and, was it gender and sexual, sexually diverse, was that what it was? So gender and sexually diverse individuals to replace 2SLGBTQIA+.

So that's where we're at. I have, Secretary Lisa Wolfe.

[Secretary Lisa Wolfe]
Yes, thank you very much, and I have to say I agree with Secretary Rebecca Lavallee about keeping the whole acronym in there. I know it evolves and it changes, but it is the LGBTQQ, so you're even missing a Q in there, IA plus 2 in there, these two Qs, and it just gives the credence to the community that's there, and if we have to adopt it in another five years, we add another letter or subtract a letter, that is for the community to identify and for their PICS conferences, but I know it's a mouthful for a lot of people, but as this has evolved, many nations have evolved that way, many departments have evolved that way, I know we have some things in here, I'm really not in favor of changing the actual sexually diverse portion, because it's very, it can be anything, but it's the people themselves here that have identified themselves to be such, and I think we need to keep and honour what they request for themselves, and yeah, it's always going to be the full term of letters, but you know what, they're all inclusive and they all mean what they mean to those people, so I don't think we

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should lay it down to just try to put in sexually diverse, I'm sorry if the amendment goes against that, but for working for that community, and I've worked that community for many, many years as a police officer, and also sitting on the Premier's Council, we keep the acronym that's there. Just saying, that's my thoughts.

[Acting Chair]
Fair enough. So we have an amended resolution on the floor. I will try to get this out, so be it resolved by the Citizens' Council that Council direct administration to bring back a cost analysis including potential funding sources and delivery options, online, in person, and hybrid, for a 2S, right, 2 spirit, that's what I thought, it clicked as I was saying it, 2 spirit and gender and sexual diverse, it doesn't roll off the tongue, advisory committee to be considered at or before September Citizens' Council meeting.

That's the motion that we ended up with.

[Secretary Lisa Wolfe]
Is that a confirmed motion, Mr. Chair?

[Acting Chair]
So there was a motion, then there was a request for an amendment to 2S, and then there was a friendly compromise provided that put us where we are now with this one, with the 2 spirit and gender and sexually diverse, and then now that's what we're talking about. So I will go to the mover who has her microphone on. Representative Blatz.

[Representative Blatz]
Secretary Wolfe, I completely get where you're coming from and I completely support what you're saying. The reason why I'm able to come to a compromise is that I want to see this work being done and I think that if we have to change it to language that still encompasses what the committee would be, I'm okay with that because I still want this work to be done and I don't want it to be that, I just don't want to get stuck on the wording but not the meaning, if you know what I mean. So I want to make sure that this is something that passes and if I have to come to compromises based on wording, I think I'm okay with that because I do want to make sure that this is something that becomes a part of our government.

Thank you.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you. So I'm going to go way back to Representative Paul-Alook's question and we'll see consensus on the motion as has been had at the Friendly Amendment. Is there any opposition to that motion?

Do you need me to read it again? Seeing none, carried by consensus. Secretary Leddy.

[Secretary Leddy]
Alright, seeing as there were multiple options within this briefing note for a motion, I would also like to have a separate motion directing administration to provide, sorry, a motion for

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mandatory training for elected officials regarding the series of topics including Métis culture, cultural safety and the two-spirit LGBTQQIA community. Just as in the PICS report, it does have that as something citizens are asking for and I think it is good information for us to have under our belt as we move forward.

[Acting Chair]
And that's a new motion? Have you provided wording to our recorder? No?

Okay. Secretary Collins.

[Secretary Collins]
I'm prepared to second Aura's motion but it was really long so you might want to make sure that the clerk gets it properly because I do appreciate your comments and I was just actually asking Rebecca if she could find something to send to me so that I can help to provide clear and better information to the citizens who are bringing that to my attention because I don't want to be misunderstood. I embrace what we're doing. However, you still have to be responsive to citizens so yes, Mr. Chair, I'm seconding her, whatever the motion ends up being.

[Acting Chair]
Okay. Representative Paul-Alook.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
I'm also in favour of this motion. I had put on my lid to second it but KC beat me to the punch. Just want to clarify that it's for elected representatives and staff.

[Secretary Leddy]
I would be open to increasing that to staff. However, I do understand that would get into SEO Barner's kind of more realm in that front. But I think at minimum elected representatives should have this training.

[Acting Chair]
Representative Ward.
I just want to make sure that I just looked down and I have a list.

[Representative Trevor Ward]
When you're talking elected representatives that it's also including districts councillors as well as district captains.

[Acting Chair]
And Representative Paul-Alook.

[Representative Paul-Alook]

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Sorry. The reason that I had brought up staff is because that was the actual specific recommendation that was taken from the PICS report. But I'm happy to leave that with SEO Barner's at his discretion, I guess, if that's feasible.

Yeah. And I agree with the inclusion of district councils as well.

[Acting Chair]
Secretary.

[Secretary Lisa Wolfe]
Thank you, Mr. Chair. I had asked earlier for information to be provided in regards to this briefing note. Has that been accepted that will pull the relevant constitution and the information regarding the PICS conference that both these people here at the conference were quoting so that we may have that as information just as Secretary Collins had asked for to build that.

Thank you.

[Acting Chair]
And we'll make a note and add that as an appendix to the motion to that section. Representative Dunfield.

[Representative Dunfield]
Mr. Chair, can you read the motion that Secretary Leddy in full?

[Acting Chair]
I'm looking to record. Do you think he captured it? Okay.

We'll give it a shot. Can you read it out?

[Clerk of the Citizens' Council]
Be it resolved by Citizens Council that mandatory training is provided to Citizens Council on a series of topics including Métis culture, cultural safety, and the 2SLGBTQQIA+ community.

[Representative Dunfield]
Is that the full? No? Okay.

[Acting Chair]
It's being crafted further. Yes.

[Secretary Collins]
Mr. Chair, can I make a comment while it's being crafted?

[Acting Chair]
Okay. Secretary Collins.

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[Secretary Collins]
Yes, Mr. Chair. As a second to that motion and while it's being crafted, can you juggle it around a little bit so Métis culture is not the first part there? Because that can be a whole different direction, right?

And it can be a whole lot of many days to do orientation on Métis culture. So if you can craft it so it juggles more appropriately to what we're gearing for.

[Representative Dunfield]
And Mr. Chair, before we go into that, my question is does Citizens Council have the authority to direct district councils in this regard? If district councils have their own bylaws and policies and procedures, I'm not sure if we have the authority to direct district councils. I know we can bring it up as Citizens Council and say Citizens Council, but I don't know if we can direct district councils.

[Acting Chair]
That's a really good question. I'm just looking around. I'm going to have to look at that to see to make sure that we have that authority.

That's a really good question. Thank you for bringing that up. Representative Paul-Alook.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
Just in response to that, can we just add a friendly amendment to that motion to make it available for district councils?

[Acting Chair]
As opposed to mandatory? Right.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
Because I think that Representative Dunfield is correct that we do not have the authority at this table to mandate training at the district council level.

[Acting Chair]
I would just look to the mover to are you okay with that friendly amendment for mandatory to make it available just recognizing that we aren't.

[Secretary Leddy]
Could we have it as mandatory for Citizens Council and make it available for districts?

[Acting Chair]
I believe so.

[Secretary Leddy]
I would be comfortable with that.

[Acting Chair]
Secretary Bramfield. While we're doing some research, please go ahead.

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[Secretary Bramfield]
I was just going to agree. I don't think we have the authority to mandate district captains or councils. They are a separate and distinct branch of our government to mandate any training on them, but of course we should open the invitation to them.

[Acting Chair]
Noted. So we're changing. The original piece that you had, the mandatory for Citizens Council, but also made available to district councils, district captains and district councils.

Or other elected officials. They're all elected. Just district councils.

I guess the captain is part of the district council. Just district councils. We think so.

[Clerk of the Citizens' Council]
So it now reads, be it resolved by Citizens Council that mandatory training is provided to Citizens Council and that training is made available to district councils on a series of topics including the 2SLGBTQQIA+ community, cultural safety and Métis culture.

[Acting Chair]
President Sandmaier.

[President Sandmaier]
I have to ask one difficult question, not necessarily about this council that sits around this table, but of course we are building this government for future generations. When you say mandatory, what if a council member refuses to take the training?

[Acting Chair]
Secretary Collins.

[Secretary Collins]
I'm sure we can make another word for mandatory. Because even if someone is sick and they're not available to come and make it there, they haven't reached the mandatory piece. But I'm good.

I just want it there for everybody to be able to do it. And if mandatory is the issue, then perhaps we could have a different word.

[Secretary Leddy]
It is a very good question and one that I'm definitely having to put some thought into. And I don't know if I have a good answer for that. I guess my question then would be, is there other mandatory training that we're required to do within this role?

And this is me being on the spot and memory freezing. And then if that's the case, what is the consequences of not doing that currently?

[President Sandmaier]

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So as far as I know, there isn't, again, mandatory training. I know there's onboarding when elected officials start their role. And currently there's no mandatory training.

I mean, I'm going to speak with my old banker's hat on. When you work in a corporation, as far as Aaron and his role in making sure that staff goes through certain training, it was the same for us at the bank. There were certain courses that we had to take every single year.

They were virtual courses. And Respect in the Workplace was definitely one of them. I'm not sure.

Personally, I think the training is very important in anything that we do, whether it's Respect in the Workplace or cultural safety or any of these things that we are going to be putting together over the next number of years as we build this government. But as soon as you use that word mandatory, what will happen if someone does not refuse us to take it? Is it as simple as they are sent to the Judiciary Council as they haven't complied?

I'm not sure.

[Acting Chair]
Representative Paul-Alook.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
I actually agree that I think all of the training opportunities that have been provided, out of all of them, I don't recall any of them being mandatory, other than I think actually the Respect in the Workplace was a mandatory training, but I believe that's the only one that Council has been mandated to complete. So I don't know if was there a plan as a consequence for that mandatory training? If there was somebody who didn't take it, I'm not sure.

[President Sandmaier]
I can't recall right now if there was a consequence to not taking it, but I think for future going into the future that there should be something. Because Respect in the Workplace and anything else that makes our jobs safer and makes our citizens safer, our staff safer, is really important. So we might have to have more discussion on this one.

[Acting Chair]
Secretary Collins.

[Secretary Collins]
Mr. Chair, I'm just going to suggest that perhaps we do our break for lunch. We have a bit of a conversation and see what would be the most applicable word that we could use in that instance. If that's all right with my mover, I'd suggest that we do that.

[Acting Chair]
Yeah, it is 1210. I think I can smell lunch. And I think that's a really excellent recommendation.

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We would recess for lunch and come back and hopefully we have some conversations that help us get to a good place with it. So we'll do that. We'll recess at 1210 for lunch and I'll look to our Elder Doreen to provide us a blessing before our meal.

[Representative Dunfield]
Director Fetch, will I be on the list for speaking?

[Acting Chair]
Acting Chair Fetch right now. Oh, sorry. It says Director Fetch on my thing.

I'll put you on the list.

[Senior Executive Officer Aaron Barner]
With humble hearts, in a world where so many are hungry, may we eat this food with humble hearts. In a world where so many are lonely, may we share this friendship with joyful hearts. May the Lord give us blessings for the food we are about to receive.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

[Acting Chair]
We still have one thing to finish up and a couple things we have to do. So if we can get back, we can get going. Thank you.

Okay. Well, there's a couple people still not here. But in the interest of time, I'm going to call the meeting back to order at 108.

And we were discussing Agenda Item 7 still and trying to add an attachment to the agenda item, I believe. To kind of come up with some wording for Okay, so now we do have to wait. The mover is not sitting at the table.

Here she comes. Okay, so the discussion was to take lunch, get some food in our bellies, and then at the same time, hopefully there was conversations around trying to craft something that would work to avoid any issues related to mandatory. So I will pass it to the mover to bring us up to speed.

[Secretary Leddy]
Yes. So I spoke with Secretary Collins as well as Self-Gov to just work on how the consequences with mandatory and not complying would work out. Kind of the solution that Secretary Collins and I came to was that that might be better served within the rules of procedure of what would happen with noncompliance and to more refer that to that process.

And in our discussions, it also came up of like, what about future councils? So we did decide on adding a portion to the motion regarding future councils and adding it to onboarding. So I believe the motion is up for folks to see on the board. Yeah.

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[Acting Chair]
There you go. So that's what you see in front of you is the motion being presented as amended be it resolved by Citizens' Council that mandatory training is provided to Citizens' Council and included in onboarding for future Citizens' Councils and that training is made available to District Councils on a series of topics including 2SLGBTQQIA+, community, cultural safety, and Metis culture.

[Representative Dunfield]
Thank you, Mr. Chair. I think it's really important for us to consider. I do agree that this training is really important and it is something that we should be doing.

I do still I'm not comfortable with the word mandatory and what I'll come down to is we've talked about cultural safety, we've talked about feeling safe in spaces, we've talked about the importance of respecting others' opinions and values and morals, etc. I think if we use the word mandatory then we are imposing a view on others and one of the concerns that I would have and I think back and I look at just a short story, I look at when I was the manager for Indigenous Health for the North Zone with Alberta Health Services and at the time I was told I had to do mandatory Indigenous training. I was very against it because I'm Indigenous, I know what I'm talking about, I know my values, I know my morals, I know my culture.

How my director came back to me on it is she said that it is important for you to do this training so you can have a context of what we're doing and be able to provide information back to others. My concern is around this piece, I think it is important for us to do this training so we can provide feedback back to others around 2SLGBTQ but I'm really concerned about imposing this on others, imposing this on our elected officials because the whole intent and purpose is that we're not supposed to be imposing anything on anyone. The whole intent and purpose is that we understand that our community feels like we need to do more and I absolutely respect that because we do need to do more but we also shouldn't be imposing things on others that can be made to feel like they're not safe, they're not culturally safe.

So I think I would really recommend that we do change the word mandatory and I'm not sure, I assumed the discussion was going to go to other words besides mandatory so I haven't looked at some of what those other words can be but maybe that training is provided to Citizens' Council and is included in the onboarding for future Citizens' Council and I think that if we take out the word mandatory, in my mind it's still reading that Citizens' Council has to do that training because it is, it's really important for all of us to take that training, I don't disregard that but I don't think we should use the word mandatory and I don't think we should start implementing pieces into rules of procedure around how we're going to you know, I guess the word is go after people that don't do the training because as a Citizens' Council representative even if you take out the word mandatory on there, I am

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obligated to take that training and I will take that training and I would think future Citizens' Council members would take that training.

[Secretary Leddy]
Would you would it be agreeable to change mandatory to obligatory?

[Representative Dunfield]
If you look at the definition of obligatory it's still mandatory it's the same thing so I think we should just take mandatory out and just leave it as be it resolved by Citizens' Council that training is provided to Citizens' Council and included in onboarding for future Citizens' Council and that training is made available to District Councils on a series of topics including 2SLGBTQQIA and community plus community, cultural safety and Métis culture. I think we just take mandatory out of there.

[Acting Chair]
So there is a request for an amendment to remove the word mandatory from the motion as written to the mover which is Secretary Leddy and the seconder Secretary Collins. Representative Schnell.

[Representative Catherine Schnell]
I just wanted to concur with Representative Dunfield that I really appreciate the word being taken out and again I fully believe we all should take this type of training but the word mandatory takes it to a different level and it doesn't sit right in my heart that way so I really appreciate the words that she put forward and I 100% concur with her. Thank you.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you. Secretary Leddy.

[Secretary Leddy]
At the end of the day it's really important that this training happens and that Citizens' Council takes it seriously if folks are being true to themselves and true to the words they're speaking right now and will take it as a serious obligation I would be content with removing the word mandatory at this point but I think it's really important that in removing that it doesn't remove the seriousness of what that training is.

[Acting Chair]
Okay so acceptance and I look to the seconder do you accept that amendment?

[Secretary Collins]
I do Mr. Chair and I concur with Aura's comments. I hear what the representatives are saying. All I want to see is let's just do this training because even if we do it online how are we going to know if somebody doesn't just turn it on and they go do something else anyway.

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Thank you.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you. So be it resolved by Citizens' Council that training is provided to Citizens' Council and included in onboarding of future Citizens' Councils and that training is made available to District Councils on a series of topics including 2SLGBTQQIA+ community cultural safety and Métis culture. So I look for consensus.

Do we have any opposition from the table to the motion as read? Seeing none it's carried by consensus. Thank you.

One administrative matter that I do have to bring forward is just time. Again we're in a time crunch and we do have to be out because the hotel staff need this room. So it's not a matter of do we continue on.

I'm sure they'll come in and strong arm us. So there are items that are on the list that are not mandated or legislated. So I would recommend that we table now what is remaining in item 9 and 10 to the next meeting of the Citizens' Council which is the proposed revised annual citizens gathering gas card guidelines and did I do better?

I'm getting it right? We had a talk about that yesterday. So that's the recommendation that we table those just given time and move on to the Chief Electoral Officer's reports for the Chief Electoral Officer.

Representative Dunfield.

[Representative Dunfield]
Thanks Mr. Chair. I'm wondering if we might want to flag for the May meeting that we may need to make a motion for the SEO to do a cost analysis for this training and what it potentially could look like whether or not be online, in person, etc. So I just want to flag that for the May meeting that we probably do need to make a motion of some sort to have administration do a cost analysis for that or whatever that could potentially look like.

[Acting Chair]
Okay. Secretary Collins and then we'll come back to that. Secretary Collins.

[Secretary Collins]
Mr. Chair, I just need to make a comment. This morning I raised the issue about extending our meeting so we could do our business. We're not bumping more to the May meeting.

We know our May meeting agenda is going to be twice as long as this one. We're only going to have it for one day. We go to hotels that tell us we have to be out of there by 4 o'clock.

When are we ever going to get an opportunity to do the business of the nation in a timeline that we can do the business rather than bump three or four things every time to the next agenda to the next meeting and Mr. Chair, it's just getting very, very frustrating. Thank you.

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[Acting Chair]
Thank you. Okay. So we'll move on and we'll bring the acting CEO, Chief Electoral Officer Marta.

She's got some handouts.

[Acting Chief Electoral Officer Marta Szylko]
Thank you. Good afternoon, Council. I'm here today to present the 2025 late fall election report to all of you.

This report was submitted to the Chair of the Citizens Council on March 31st, 2026. The deadline was April 2nd so it is not late. I think that was mentioned earlier so I just want to reference that the report is not late.

And I'll go over some key aspects of the report and then I'll answer any questions at the end of my presentation that any of you might have. Next slide please. I just realized the deck's not up yet.

One moment while we get the deck up.

[Acting Chair]
Sorry. There's a question or comment.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
I apologize. Just in the interest of time, is it possible to just give us five minutes to review the report so that we can then quickly review it ourselves so that we can hopefully move this item along quicker?

[Acting Chair]
If that's what you would like to do, absolutely.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
And then if we don't have any questions, we can just move to accept it.

[Acting Chair]
Sure. We can do that. We'll do the process.

We'll recess for five minutes. Give you time to review and we'll come back at 127.

[President Sandmaier]
I believe that the report, maybe not the PowerPoint that was handed out, but the report is in the package that was sent out.

[Acting Chair]
I'm seeing nodding heads so we'll go back to order at 124. Representative Dunfield.

[Representative Dunfield]

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Thank you, Mr. Chair. In response to the comment that I made this morning and the acting chief electoral officer stating that the report was provided to the chair, it clearly states in our legislation that the report is to be provided to Citizens' Council within 30 days, not to the chair of the council. So according to this, the election results were March 3rd.

The report should have been provided to Citizens' Council within 30 days of that, not to the chair of Citizens' Council.

[Acting Chair]
And Representative Paul-Alook

[Representative Paul-Alook]
I'm not finding any discrepancies between the PowerPoint and the report that was in our packages, so I'm happy to move it to be accepted as presented.

[Acting Chair]
For information. Okay, so Representative Paul-Alook moves to accept the Chief Electoral Officer report on 2025 late fall elections as presented for information. Looking for a seconder, I have Secretary Lisa Wolfe.

Just making sure there's no questions to the report. Representative Dunfield, Secretary Wolfe.

[Secretary Lisa Wolfe]
Well, I was going to say something. To our past Chief Electoral Officer, Del, of course, thank you very much for your service and I want to thank you very much for stepping in, Marta. I'm looking forward to your report for the next elections.

[Acting Chair]
Representative Dunfield.

[Representative Dunfield]
Yes, thank you so much for the report. I think it's really important that we have this information, but I would like it flagged for the meeting minutes and for the record that this report is not following our legislation, that it actually hasn't been provided in the 30-day timeline. That was my whole point, is that we weren't actually following our legislation.

[Acting Chair]
I see Mr. Tomlinson online has his hand up. Mr. Tomlinson. He does not have his hand up, but I got a message.

The pathway for communications to council is through the chair. Okay.

[President Sandmaier]
I would agree with that as well, that the pathway to get the report to council is through the chair and as you can see in the PowerPoint and the presentation that Marta has done, the

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results were not certified until March 3rd, so she could not even start her report until March 3rd.

[Acting Chair]
So I'm going to go to Secretary Chodzicki.

[Secretary Joe Chodzicki]
Yeah, I just want to flag page 4 here where it says for the Red Deer District, the maximum minimum is 4 and the max is 6. I just read the bylaws as 5 and 7, so now I'm confused.

[Acting Chief Electoral Officer Marta Szylko]
I can look into that and get back to you.

[Secretary Chodzicki]
Yeah, because this causes us a lot of grief right now with the 5 and 7. If it was 4 and 6, we would have no problem.

[Acting Chief Electoral Officer Marta Szylko]
Okay, I will double check. I will mention that I was not the chief electoral officer when the notice of vote went out putting the minimum and maximum, but I can double check on that.

[Secretary Chodzicki]
I think that was the first bylaws that we passed here and then they were redone and we passed them a second time. I think that's where we got into this mess. Okay, thank you.

[Acting Chief Electoral Officer Marta Szylko]
Yeah, I'm happy to provide that information to council outside of this meeting if that's okay.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you. Secretary Leddy?

[Secretary Leddy]
Yeah, I just have a question when it comes to Appendix E on page 58 and I see that it has the district breakdown with votes per district and then it has to each candidate. I'm wondering if I guess I have a concern when it comes to these districts that are smaller or have quite small amounts of people voting that having it where it's showing where those votes directly went within this appendix creates a concern around maintaining the secrecy of the ballot and I'm wondering if it would be better just to have the total amount of ballots that came in from each district and instead having it a bit more broad.

[Acting Chief Electoral Officer Marta Szylko]
Absolutely. We can definitely do that. I will say I didn't have any concerns with the secrecy of the ballot because the only person that has access to who voted, like the names and who actually went in would be myself and that's not shared with anybody else.

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So I didn't have any concerns with that and that is typically with other elections management bodies. They will share information like this to help candidates in the future to understand where the votes are kind of broken down.

[Acting Chair]
Representative Dunfield.

[Representative Dunfield]
Thank you Mr. Chair. Just to go back to the comment made by Chair Tomlinson. Just a review of page 42 of the Elections Act where it's page number 118 says within 30 days of the announcement of the results a chief electoral officer must submit a written report to the conduct of the election or the referendum to the Citizens Council and nowhere does it say that the Chair is a conduit to the Citizens Council and unless that's in our rules of procedure, which we haven't adopted yet, I think right now we need to make sure that it comes to Citizens Council and that's clearly laid out in our minutes.

[Acting Chair]
Noted. I don't have an answer for you right now. I'm trying to open things up.

Mr. Tomlinson.

[Chair Garrett Tomlinson]
Yeah, I can speak to that. So we did stamp the submission when it comes in for Council.

They do come to the Chair. The Chair consolidates and the Clerk disseminates them. It comes to the next meeting thereafter.

That has been the practice for every electoral report that you have received in Council to date. It will continue to be the practice unless you explicitly direct otherwise. But having officers send out a report to 25 separate people when it's not going onto a Council agenda, that would just be nonsensical and unfeasible.

So this has been the practice and that's how we've moved it forward. And it is compliant with the Act, as it said.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you. Secretary Bramfield.

[Secretary Bramfield]
Thank you for providing this report. On page 7, it does review the number of rejected mail-in ballots and I see that there's multiple reasons for it. And I'm just wondering if any of the policies or procedures that the Chief Electoral Officer implement if it's on a website available for citizens to see.

Citizens have asked me about certain election processes or how do you check if someone's already voted in person or if they've already voted online or mail-in and how do you prevent

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that duplication of votes? It would be great to actually get more information about the policies and the procedures so that if citizens ask me, I can answer or they can just look them up on the website. Because I think I did look at the website before and I couldn't find them but that might have been a while ago.

And I do have another thing but maybe you want to respond first.

[Acting Chief Electoral Officer Marta Szylko]
I will say there is a section of the Elections and Referenda Act off the top of my head, but there is a section titled General Procedure at the polling station and that guides us through how to check who's eligible to vote. We keep a voters list as well as an electronic voters list and a poll book and that's referenced in the legislation as well so that we make sure that nobody's voting twice. And so that's the section that guides us with our internal policies and procedures.

[Secretary Bramfield]
But are they publicly available? Like the internal policies and procedures?

[Acting Chief Electoral Officer Marta Szylko]
Yeah, and as the previous Chiefs didn't have that information put on our website that's something that we could definitely look into if that's something that a direction that Council would like us to take. I think that that's not a bad idea to have our processes and procedures up there for sure. It would, I think, create more transparency and fairness to our citizens.

[Secretary Bramfield]
Yeah, for sure. Thank you. And then I guess my other comment was I'm not sure I agree with all information flowing through the Chair to Citizens Council.

We do have a group email where you can type in Citizens Council and it comes directly to our inboxes. I think officers should be able to provide information directly to Citizens Council and that and like we typically do get Council just with the comment about it being compiled into a Council package. There's no reason why we can't receive reports in advance and that typically we do get our Council packages days before a Council meeting, which I know has been brought up before, but I do think that, and that's something we can look at in our rules of procedure, but I think officers should be able to directly email Citizens Council, especially when there's infrastructure or group emails to do so. So we're not sending emails separately, it's to a group email.

[Acting Chair]
Secretary Collins.

[Secretary Collins]
Thank you so much for both the report and our kits as well as the overview. And I'm in support of accepting this report for information. Mr. Chair, however, I'd like to bring it to the attention of our elections office that our numbers are showing that we are having some,

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I'm going to just say glitches. That's a large number for mail-in ballots and I have to support the appendix E that's in there because this tells me we have one district that absolutely did not participate. We need to stop and have a look at what we're doing within our election system if indeed these kind of stats are actually being reflected back to us without taking a stop and having a look back and say, what is going on? What can we do to make it better?

How do we get our people there? And I know we have voter fatigue, but that's not an excuse to have 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0. That just is not in my view.

And so perhaps it's something that we need to look at like that. Maybe it is something that we even have to look at with respect to our process of doing the elections. Are there some things that could be delegated down to districts and do a provincial vote when it's a provincially required position?

We need to stop and have a look at that because it's very costly to do all of this, to have any elections, and some of these numbers are showing us the same thing every time we get a report and we don't seem to be stopping. We just keep running in the same pattern. So I just want to raise that so that the Chief Electoral Officer will hear that and perhaps the staff or whoever else that you need to chat with that we begin to start looking at these things very seriously because at some point people may want to have a look and see how is our Métis government actually doing in regard to electing our own membership just like it says in our self-government agreements and going forward, right? How are we doing that? Are we doing it in the best and a good way where it is inclusive of our citizens irrespective of the perhaps small numbers that we have in some of our districts.

We still have to look at that because it's a collective piece of our government. Thank you. Thank you.

[Acting Chair]
So there is a, we do have a motion still that was put forward by Representative Paul-Alook and seconded by Secretary Lisa Wolfe to accept this report as presented for information. I'm going to look again to the floor to see if there's any opposition to that motion as presented. And seeing none, it is carried with consensus.

The next piece is the in-camera item. So I'm going to take, you know, give yeah, we'll need a motion to go in-camera and a seconder so I'd look to Secretary Sarah Wolfe and Secretary Leddy. So we're now going to move in-camera so I'd ask those who are not privy to the conversations that will be coming to please exit the room and then once we get that settled we'll come back and we'll have to do the online declaration.

So the live stream has started again. Coming back we had, I have three motions that we need to discuss. So the first was the motion on the Nominations Committee, or the resolution on the Nominations Committee.

Do you want me to read them or are we okay? We've read them before. Okay.

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The mover was Representative Blatz and the seconder was Secretary Sarah Wolfe. Do we have a mover, a seconder, do we have a, oh I'm sorry, Representative Paul-Alook please.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
Sorry, just for the benefit of any citizens that might be watching the live stream if you could read it out that would be great.

[Acting Chair]
So wait, did we change this one? Okay, so the resolution is be resolved by the Citizens Council that Roxanne Carriere That's the motion.

[President Sandmaier]
Okay.

[Representative Blatz]
I think we have a solution.

[Acting Chair]
It's looking, okay. Be it resolved by Citizens Council that the candidate for the Chief Electoral Officer role be appointed. Wait, let me review that.

Be it resolved by the Citizens Council that the candidate be appointed to the role of Chief Electoral Officer for the Otipemisiwak Métis Government for the remainder of the current term ending within 12 months of the 2027 General Election as per Section 19 of the Elections and Referendum Act. Moved by Representative Blatz, seconded by Secretary Sarah Wolfe. Secretary Collins.

[Secretary Collins]
Mr. Chair, I'm just wondering if, do we want to include that it is the recommendation of the Nominations Committee because it looks like it just pulled out of Be it resolved by the Citizens Council that the recommendation from the Nominations Committee be appointed to something to that effect so it says where we got it from.

[Acting Chair]
Right. I appreciate that very much. Thank you.

So that would be it. Be it resolved by the Citizens Council that the recommendation of the Nominations Committee be appointed to the role of Chief Electoral Officer for the Otipemisiwak Métis Government for the remainder of the current term ending within 12 months of the 2027 General Election as per Section 19 of the Elections and Referendum Act. Good.

Do we have opposition to that? Seeing none. Carried by consensus.

And then I look to Secretary Collins. We didn't. You had a motion that you wanted to put forward.

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[Secretary Collins]
Yeah, there was a second motion. I don't know if Did you get the wording in the first? Do you want me to just remind?

[Clerk of the Citizens' Council]
So I think I've got the wording. I'm just going to double check with you. So it was about the letter in item B and I had be it resolved by the Citizens Council that Council direct administration to have a letter sent to the successful candidate for the role of Chief Electoral Officer from the Senior Executive Officer instead of from the Senior Director of Self-Government.

[Secretary Collins]
I don't think we need to write the instead of and all that kind of stuff. But all that preliminary stuff, but that the letters go to the candidate from the President and from the SEO.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
And I'm seconding that.

[Acting Chair]
Representative Paul-Alook seconds. Do you need to read again with the changes? Are you okay with should we read it again to make sure that we captured it?

Nobody cares. Go ahead. Just to make sure we know what we're putting into the record.

[Clerk of the Citizens' Council]
Be it resolved by the Citizens Council that Council direct administration to have letters sent to the successful candidate for the role of Chief Electoral Officer from the President and the Senior Executive Officer.

[Acting Chair]
I see the mover. Thumbs up. Seconders.

That's what you're seconding. Okay. Looking for the table for consensus.

Any opposition? Seeing none. That's carried by consensus.

And the third motion was the motion on the budget. And I don't know that we crafted anything, but I had thought it would be resolved by Citizens Council that the 2026-2027 annual budget of the Citizens Council is adopted.

[Representative Dunfield]
No. Sorry, Mr. Chair. It was that the 2026-2027 budget for core governance activities of the government be adopted.

[Acting Chair]

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Perfect. Thank you for that wording. And the mover was Representative Dunfield, seconded by Representative Ward.

Are you good? All right.

[Representative Dunfield]
Mr. Chair, I do have a question in regards to the budget. When will we be posting that for our citizens to review?

[Acting Chair]
Yeah, I don't know. My initial assumption was at the minutes, but I don't know when that would get posted.

[Representative Dunfield]
Do we need a motion for sharing with citizens?

[Acting Chair]
I don't know that you need a motion to share it. You adopted it. And that moment becomes public record.

It's not to be edited through the minutes. You already adopted this budget, right?

[Representative Dunfield]
Okay. So just as long as it's in the meeting minutes and it's shared for public record? I'm just wanting to confirm because I don't think we've had that request before.

[Acting Chair]
And a motion to include it in the minutes.

[Representative Dunfield]
So you want me to add that?

[Acting Chair]
If we added it to that and that the budget that was passed be included attached to the minutes.

[Representative Dunfield]
As an appendix?

[Acting Chair]
Yeah. As a separate piece. Just to make sure that it is included.

[Representative Dunfield]
Just want to make sure everybody's okay with that too.

[Acting Chair]
I would look to the table. And seconder first. He's nodding his head.

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Perfect. So Representative Dunfield. Okay.

So it was Secretary Bramfield.

[Secretary Bramfield]
Thank you. And because we've approved the budget and it will be in the minutes, I think we should also make a news release of the approved budget like all other governments do and share with our citizens on our official social media channels and in the Voyageur Voice. I mean, I think so it's accessible and it's transparent.

It's easily available versus citizens needing to go find it in the minutes.

[Acting Chair]
Yeah. Key messages. Thank you.

The key something. We could include that in the key messages. And then that way it goes out as an accomplishment of this of the council.

So on that motion, look to the table for consensus. Do we have any opposition? I'm seeing none.

That motion is carried with consensus. Excellent. I think we'll move right into closing.

The president's closing and we have our big key message, I think. And then we'll move to the president's closing. So I pass it to the president.

[President Sandmaier]
All right. I'm going to be really quick on this. Great discussion today.

Thank you so much, Jason Madden, for coming out to Alberta and updating us on all of the wonderful things that have been going on. I just want to remind everybody about the official opening invite for the Voyager trades program and just a reminder of the address. If anybody does want to go, I'll write down.

I'm going to read out the address again right now. It should be in your schedules, but it is at 101 17940 106 A Avenue. Way, way over there.

That is where it's at. I have been to the building in the program and they're going to be doing some great work over there. So it would be nice to check it out if you can.

That's all I got.

[Acting Chair]
Excellent. And with that, I would look to our esteemed elder Doreen to close the circle.

[Elder Doreen Bergum]

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I just want to thank everyone for having me. It's been an eye-opener. Caught up on a few things and thank you, Mr. Madden for coming and giving us all that information. I'm going to share my angel prayer with you today. Pray for Métis Nation in a time of great need. Holy Angels, you whom God has sent to watch over and guard our nation, we ask for your help in intercession during this time of great national need.

Inspire our leaders with wisdom so they may choose the right path. Protect all the people of this country, especially the children, from every danger to spirit and body. May we seek to serve one another's needs and so build a society that will lead to the civilization of truth, love, and where God will reign over all.

And safe travels.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you, Elder Doreen. And I'd look for a motion to adjourn. Secretary Lavallee had her hand up first.

Thank you. So the Citizens' Council is adjourned until the next regular meeting.

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