Otipemisiwak Métis Government

Citizens' Council

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES	
DATE:	May 20, 2026 – 1:00PM
LOCATION:	DoubleTree by Hilton West Edmonton 16615 109 Avenue NW, Edmonton, AB T5P 4K8
ROOM:	Palisade Ballroom

Attendance – May 20, 2026

P = Present **V**= Virtual **A**= Absent ✓

Executive Representative(s):		P	V	A
President	Andrea Sandmaier	✓		
Secretary of Records	Sarah Wolfe	✓		
Secretary of Treasury	Jason Ekeberg	✓		

Representative(s):	P	V	A	Representative(s):	P	V	A
Secretary Rebecca Lavallee	✓			Representative Darryl W. Campbell	✓		
Secretary Joe Chodzicki	✓			Representative Catherine Schnell	✓		
Secretary Nelson Anthony Lussier	✓			Representative Trevor Ward	✓		
Secretary Kaila Mitchell	✓			Representative Jason Chernow			✓
Secretary Lisa Wolfe	✓			Representative Alfred L'Hirondelle		✓	
Secretary Aura Leddy	✓			Representative Shannon Dunfield	✓		
Secretary Karen (KC) Collins			✓	Representative Bobbi Paul-Alook	✓		
Secretary Barry Dibb	✓			Representative Joseph Noel Tremblay	✓		
Secretary Brooke Bramfield	✓			Representative Judy Ann Cardinal			✓
Secretary Valerie Quintal	✓			Representative Cindy Moore	✓		
Secretary Grant Lacombe	✓			Secretary Gabrielle Blatz	✓		

Officer(s) & Administration:		P	V	A
Chair	Garrett Tomlinson	✓		
Acting Clerk of Citizens' Council	Lindsay Henderson	✓		
Senior Executive Officer	Aaron Barner	✓		
Acting Chair	Tyler Fetch	✓		

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order

1:03PM The Chair called the May 20, 2026, regular meeting of the Citizens' Council of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government to order.

Agenda Item #2 – Opening Prayer

1:04PM Elder Doreen Bergum delivered an opening prayer.

Agenda Item #3 – Adoption of Agenda

1:05PM **MOTION #20260520-1:**
Moved by: Representative Shannon Dunfield
Be it resolved by the Citizens' Council that the Agenda for the May 20, 2026, Regular Meeting of the Citizens' Council be adopted as presented.
Seconded by: Secretary Gabrielle Blatz

No debate

Result: Carried by Consensus

Agenda Item #4 – President's Welcome

1:05PM President Andrea Sandmaier read onto the floor the President's Welcome Address and welcomed Secretary Gabrielle Blatz as Women's Representative and acknowledged Secretary Rebecca Lavallee's contributions to the role.

Agenda Item #5 – Chief Electoral Officer Introduction

1:13PM President Sandmaier invited Roxanne Carriere, Chief Electoral Officer, onto the floor for an introduction to Council.

Agenda Item #6 – Meeting Minutes

1:35PM **MOTION #20260520-2:**
Moved by: Secretary Sarah Wolfe
Be it resolved by the Citizens' Council that the Minutes of the April 23, 2026, Citizens' Council Meeting, be approved as amended.
Seconded by: Secretary Aura Leddy

Questions from the floor

Amendments to the Minutes as follows:
-Amendment to MOTION #20260319-11 changed from "next meeting for review and discussion" to "next meeting for review and direction".
-Amendment to MOTION #20260423-3 to add that Secretary Karen Collins inquired as to whether the March 18th Meeting could be retroactively moved out of camera.

Result: Carried by Consensus

1:54PM **MOTION #20260520-3:**
Moved by: Representative Shannon Dunfield
Be it resolved by the Citizens' Council that Council direct Cabinet to amend the Live Streaming and Recording Regulation to include a provision for Citizens' Council to review any redactions prior to those redactions being made.
Seconded by: Representative Cindy Moore

Questions from the floor

1:56PM Secretary Aura Leddy proposed a friendly amendment to change the motion after "direct Cabinet" to "to review the Live Streaming and Recording Regulation to address the concerns raised at the Citizens' Council meeting."

2:00PM Representative Bobbi Paul-Alook proposed a further friendly amendment to change the motion to add that Cabinet should consider amendments to the Live Streaming and Recording Regulation.

2:02PM The Chair provided a note from Legal Counsel advising that the motion as originally stated is likely out of order as it directs Cabinet to make a specific amendment.

2:05PM The Chair declared the proceedings of Council to be in recess.

2:18PM The Chair recalled the proceedings of Council back to order.

2:19PM **MOTION #20260520-3:**
Moved by: Representative Shannon Dunfield
Be it resolved by the Citizens' Council that Council direct Cabinet to review the Live Streaming and Recording Regulation to consider amendments that would address the concerns raised at the May 20th Citizens' Council meeting.
Seconded by: Representative Cindy Moore

Questions from the floor

Result: Carried by Consensus

Agenda Item #7 – Chair's Report

a.) Update on Actions from Citizens' Council Meetings – March 18 & 19, 2026

b.) Update on Actions from Citizens' Council Meetings – April 23, 2026

2:22PM The Chair presented onto the floor the April 23, 2026, and May 20, 2026, Chair's reports.

c.) Agenda Request(s)

2:23PM **MOTION #20260520-4:**
Moved by: Secretary Kaila Mitchell
Be it resolved by the Citizens' Council that the April 23, 2026, and May 20, 2026, Chair's Reports be approved as presented.
Seconded by: Secretary Aura Leddy

Questions from the floor

Result: Carried by Consensus

Agenda Item #8 – Unfinished Business

a.) Proposed Revised Annual Citizens' Gathering Gas Card Guidelines

2:39PM The Chair invited Taylor Masters, Events Manager, to present onto the floor the Proposed Revised Annual Citizens' Gathering Gas Card Guidelines.

MOTION #20260520-5:
Moved by: Secretary Sarah Wolfe
Be it resolved by the Citizens' Council that the proposed changes to the Annual Citizens' Gathering Gas Card Guidelines be accepted and implemented for the 2026 Annual Citizens' Gathering as presented.
Seconded by: Secretary Lisa Wolfe

Questions from the floor

2:52PM Representative Catherine Schnell proposed a friendly amendment to the presented information to add a category for over 1,000 kilometres.

The Chair called on the mover and seconder to confirm acceptance of the friendly amendment.

Result: Friendly amendment accepted.

MOTION #20260520-5:
Moved by: Secretary Sarah Wolfe
Be it resolved by the Citizens' Council that the proposed changes to the Annual Citizens' Gathering Gas Card Guidelines including the changes advanced by Citizens' Council be accepted and implemented for the 2026 Annual Citizens' Gathering.
Seconded by: Secretary Lisa Wolfe

Result: Carried by Consensus

b.) Service Standards for the Process of Citizen Payments

2:55PM The Chair invited Secretary Kaila Mitchell to present onto the floor an updated on the Service Standards for the Process of Citizen Payments.

RESOLUTION (by MOTION) #20260520-6:
Moved by: Secretary Kaila Mitchell

WHEREAS the Otipemisiwak Métis Government is committed to operating in a transparent and fiscally responsible manner, as established in section 13.2 of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government Constitution;

AND WHEREAS Citizens who submit invoices, expense claims, and honorarium requests to the Otipemisiwak Métis Government are entitled to timely, predictable, and clearly communicated payment processes that reflect the standards of a well-functioning government;

AND WHEREAS clear service standards for citizen-facing financial processes serve the interests of both Citizens and the Otipemisiwak Métis Government by setting reasonable expectations, reducing uncertainty, and enabling continuous improvement;

AND WHEREAS section 5(2) of the Financial Management Act provides that the Senior Executive Officer may institute and amend policies, procedures, and standards regarding the financial management of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government, and section 54 of the Self-Government Act provides that the Senior Executive Officer may institute and amend policies, procedures, and standards regarding the management of the operations of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government, provided such policies, procedures, and standards are consistent with the Constitution, Otipemisiwak Métis Government Law, and any resolutions adopted by the Cabinet or the Citizens' Council;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:
1. The Senior Executive Officer is directed to develop service standards governing the processing of Citizen invoices, honorarium requests, and expense claims (collectively, "Citizen Payments"), including:
a) defined processing timelines from the date of receipt of a complete submission;

b) identified common causes of delay and guidance for Citizens on how to avoid or address them;
c) clear explanations of how the Citizen Payment process works, including submission requirements, review steps, and payment issuance;
d) frequently asked questions and other plain-language resources to support Citizen understanding of the process; and
e) any other standards the Senior Executive Officer considers necessary to ensure Citizen Payments are processed in a timely, consistent, and transparent manner.

2. Upon finalization, the service standards developed pursuant to this resolution shall be published and made accessible to Citizens through the Otipemisiwak Métis Government's website and other appropriate channels.

3. Administration is directed to track performance against the published service standards on an ongoing basis following implementation.

4. The Senior Executive Officer is directed to report to the Citizens' Council on compliance with the service standards, including a summary of results and any instances of non-compliance, no later than six (6) months following implementation of the service standards, and bi-annually thereafter.

Seconded by: Representative Shannon Dunfield

Questions from the floor

3:00PM Aaron Barner, Senior Executive Officer proposed a friendly amendment to replace "bi-annually" with "semi-annually".

The Chair called on the mover and seconder to confirm acceptance of the friendly amendment.

Result: Friendly amendment accepted.

RESOLUTION (by MOTION) #20260520-6:
Moved by: Secretary Kaila Mitchell

WHEREAS the Otipemisiwak Métis Government is committed to operating in a transparent and fiscally responsible manner, as established in section 13.2 of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government Constitution;

AND WHEREAS Citizens who submit invoices, expense claims, and honorarium requests to the Otipemisiwak Métis Government are entitled to timely, predictable, and clearly communicated payment processes that reflect the standards of a well-functioning government;

AND WHEREAS clear service standards for citizen-facing financial processes serve the interests of both Citizens and the Otipemisiwak Métis Government by setting reasonable expectations, reducing uncertainty, and enabling continuous improvement;

AND WHEREAS section 5(2) of the Financial Management Act provides that the Senior Executive Officer may institute and amend policies, procedures, and standards regarding the financial management of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government, and section 54 of the Self-Government Act provides that the Senior Executive Officer may institute and amend policies, procedures, and standards regarding the management of the operations of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government, provided such policies, procedures, and standards are consistent with the Constitution, Otipemisiwak Métis Government Law, and any resolutions adopted by the Cabinet or the Citizens' Council;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Senior Executive Officer is directed to develop service standards governing the processing of Citizen invoices, honorarium requests, and expense claims (collectively, "Citizen Payments"), including:

a) defined processing timelines from the date of receipt of a complete submission;
b) identified common causes of delay and guidance for Citizens on how to avoid or address them;
c) clear explanations of how the Citizen Payment process works, including submission requirements, review steps, and payment issuance;
d) frequently asked questions and other plain-language resources to support Citizen understanding of the process; and
e) any other standards the Senior Executive Officer considers necessary to ensure Citizen Payments are processed in a timely, consistent, and transparent manner.

2. Upon finalization, the service standards developed pursuant to this resolution shall be published and made accessible to Citizens through the Otipemisiwak Métis Government's website and other appropriate channels.

3. Administration is directed to track performance against the published service standards on an ongoing basis following implementation.

4. The Senior Executive Officer is directed to report to the Citizens' Council on compliance with the service standards, including a summary of results and any instances of non-compliance, no later than six (6) months following implementation of the service standards, and semi-annually thereafter.

Seconded by: Representative Shannon Dunfield

No debate

Result: Carried by Consensus

c.) Self-Government Department

i. Transition Report – April 23, 2026

3:04PM The Chair invited Nicole Shepherd, Transition Manager, onto the floor to address the Transition Report tabled from April 23, 2026.

MOTION #20260520-7:
Moved by: Representative Catherine Schnell
Be it resolved by the Citizens' Council that the Transition Report for April 23, 2026, is accepted for information as presented.
Seconded by: Representative Trevor Ward

Questions from the floor

Result: Carried by Consensus

3:07PM The Chair declared the proceedings of Council to be in recess.

3:32PM The Chair recalled the proceedings of Council back to order.

Agenda Item #9 – Secretary Report(s)

3:33PM **MOTION #20260520-8:**
Moved by: Representative Grant Lacombe
Be it resolved by the Citizens' Council that Agenda Item 9b.) Trappers Survey Report be tabled to the next Citizens' Council Meeting on May 21st, 2026.
Seconded by: Secretary Gabrielle Blatz

No debate

Result: Carried by Consensus

a.) Harvesting and Culture Report

3:34PM The Chair invited Secretary Grant Lacombe to present onto the floor the Harvesting and Culture Report.

MOTION #20260520-9:
Moved by: Secretary Barry Dibb
Be it resolved by the Citizens' Council that the Harvesting and Culture Report is accepted for information as presented.
Seconded by: Representative Bobbi Paul-Alook

Questions from the floor

Result: Carried by Consensus

Agenda Item #10 – President's Closing Remarks

4:03PM The Chair invited President Andrea Sandmaier to present onto the floor the President's closing remarks.

Agenda Item #11 – Closing Prayer

4:04PM The Chair invited Elder Doreen Bergum to deliver a closing prayer.

Agenda Item #12 – Adjournment

4:05PM **MOTION TO ADJOURN**
Moved by: Secretary Kaila Mitchell
The Chair declared the Citizens' Council of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government stands adjourned until its next regular meeting scheduled for June 18, 2026.

Tracked Motions

20260520-1	20260520-2	20260520-3	20260520-4
20260520-5	20260520-6	20260520-7	20260520-8
20260520-9			

Pursuant to Section 11 of the Live Streaming and Recording Regulation 2025, redactions were made to the May 20, 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 Section (b).