Citizens' Council Meeting – July 30, 2026

Unofficial Transcript

[Acting Chair]
To another meeting of our citizens council. I will now call the meeting to order. It is 9 32 and we'll start with our opening prayer to start us off in a good way.

So I look to our elder Dianne to to do so provide us that.

[Elder Dianne Ludwig]
Good morning everybody. It's nice to see cheery faces this morning. Welcome, welcome back to our second day of meeting.

Creator, thank you for today. Thank you for the sunrise that we seen when we got up. For the breath and life within me and for all of your creations.

Creator, hear my prayer and honor my prayer. As the day begins with the rising sun, I humbly ask from my heart, Spirit Keeper of the East, Brother Eagle, be with us. Fly high as you carry our prayers to the Creator.

May I have eyes as sharp as yours. Guide my steps and give me courage to walk the circle of my life with honesty and dignity. Spirit Keeper of the South, help me to remember to love myself and for others, for the four-legged, the winged ones, the plants, and all creation upon Mother Earth.

Show me it is right for me to make decisions with my heart, even if at times my heart becomes hurt. Help me to grow and nurture my self-worth in all ways. May we always bless the water with love, understanding that we will be blessed with clean drinking water one day for our Grandchildren.

We must remember to give tobacco and bless it whenever we can and to protect the land and trust it to us. Always speak with kindness, don't ever speak with hatred. Spirit Keeper of the West, Brown Bear, be with me.

Bring healing to the people that walk on our Mother Earth and to myself. Bring balance into the physical, the mental, and the spiritual, so I am able to know my place on our Mother Earth. In life and in death, heal my body, heal my mind, and bring light, joy, and awareness to my spirit.

Spirit Keeper from the North, the White Buffalo, be with us as each day passes. Help me to surrender with grace the things of my youth. Help me to listen to the quiet and find serenity and comfort in the silence as it becomes longer.

Give me wisdom so I am able to make wise choices in all things which are put in front of me. And when it's time for my change of worlds has come, let me go peacefully and without

regrets for all the things I neglected to do as I walked along my path. Mother Earth, I thank you for your beauty and for all you have given us.

Remind me never to take more than what I need from you. Remind me to always give back more than I take. All my relations.

Walk softly on Mother Earth.

[Acting Chair]
Okay. Thank you so much for starting us off in such a good way with your beautiful words and this and hopefully embodying the spirit of what you've said. So next item on our agenda, number three, is the adoption of the agenda.

So you've had the agenda in front of you. So I'll look for any comments or updates and I see a recognized Representative Paul-Alook.

[Representative Bobbi Paul-Alook]
I'm just moving for an addition to the agenda. A discussion of the letter that was collectively sent on behalf of the district captains by Captain Myers that we all received on July 27th. It was a letter bringing forth concerns.

[Acting Chair]
Sorry, I'm just looking through to see if it fits anywhere or if it's a separate piece. We do have a pretty full agenda as you can see.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
I think that it is a topic of, you know, specific importance. I think that if the captains have taken the time to write us, 12 out of the 16 captains to collectively voice their concerns, that we owe it to them to at least talk about them.

[Acting Chair]
Yeah, I just don't, I'm just thinking it doesn't really seem to fit in any one category. So could we add it as, there's people on time too. If we add it as maybe number 10?

[Representative Paul-Alook]
And then move in-camera items to 11?

[Acting Chair]
To 11.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
Sure, thank you.

[Acting Chair]
Okay, anything else? Secretary Bramfield.

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[Secretary Brooke Bramfield]
Thank you. I'll second Representative Paul-Alook's motion to amend it as the agenda or to accept the agenda as amended.

[Acting Chair]
So I just, I would look back because I didn't catch that. So just turn your mic on and confirm that you do so move.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
I so move.

[Acting Chair]
Okay, and seconded by Secretary Bramfield. Secretary Collins.

[Secretary Karen Collins]
Mr. Chair, I didn't, I thought we were just having discussion to the agenda, so I didn't know they were going to put a motion forward. But I recall that, was it last meeting or the meeting before, the letters that we received around RLI, we were told would be on the next agenda and I don't see it on this agenda. So I'm wondering, is it yet to be another agenda going forward?

Or is it something that we're going to be discussing? It is year-end and there's passing of the report and the auditor and stuff like that, that boards used to do or shareholders or any of that, that's where I'm going with it.

[Acting Chair]
Yeah, I don't have the answer. So I'm kind of looking to see if somebody could come and support that question. I'm not sure, to be honest, where, about previous, like I wasn't able to attend previous meetings, so I don't have that memory or history.

So I'm just going to take a second here and see if and confirm to make sure.

[Secretary Collins]
Yeah. So just in response to the question on RLI, in my report yesterday at the cabinet meeting, I had talked about the need to come back with actually a full picture on that and that we only have a partial picture in that. So when I bring that letter, or at least when I bring information about that letter back, I would need to have everything.

And so I've spoken to the director about that. And at this point in time, do not have that all the information that I would need to support a proper conversation on it. But that, as I mentioned yesterday, is a priority.

I'm pulling that together already, getting people to pull the pieces together so that we can have a properly supported conversation.

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[Acting Chair]
Thank you. Any other discussion? Okay, so we have a motion moved by Representative Pollock, seconded by Secretary Bramfield.

And I would just add that yesterday, Secretary Bramfield, you brought up gas cards for the gathering, and I just made a note in here, it already is a part of, there's something in the agenda, and we'll just make sure that you can ask the question, or they're aware that there's questions about gas cards, and then we can bring it up under, it's 5A. Okay, just wanted to note that I already thought about it, but put it on the record for you. Anything else?

Okay, so I will look for consensus from the floor. Is there any opposition to accepting the amendment as agenda? The agenda, amendment as agenda.

It's like cement or aluminum, okay. The agenda as amended. None?

Okay, so we have an agenda. Number four on the agenda is the President's Welcome, so I'll turn it to the President to provide that.

[President Sandmaier]
Good morning, everybody. I did give a full President's Welcome yesterday, but I just, just because we do have District Captains in the room today, I will, I will read it again if that's okay with you guys. So, I just want to begin on providing an update on our government-to-government work.

On July 17th, I met with the Crown Indigenous Relations Minister, Rebecca Alty, during Back to Batoche days. It was great to be able to spend some time with her at our Alberta cabin to discuss the strength of our nation-to-nation relationship and the shared priorities that we're advancing together, most notably the self, our updated self-government agreement. During our discussions, I pressed the Minister to continue making progress on our self-government treaty negotiations, and we look forward to further dialogue as I, I announced yesterday and actually just had a chat with Captain Janai that, that Minister Alty has officially confirmed that she will be attending the gathering in Slave Lake, which is very exciting, and she will be coming to the barbecue Thursday evening, which is hosted by Slave Lake District. Awesome, awesome that she's coming.

During our discussion, I made it clear that Métis rights in Alberta cannot be sidelined, and we called for immediate consultation on the West Coast Pipeline, just as the federal government has had done with TMX, which was a really good process. They engaged on TMX very well with our government. I let her know that rights holders have, have the right to be consulted and that we would be affected, and that means we must be meaningfully consulted.

The Minister confirmed that Canada intends to be a strong partner for the Métis government, and she is looking forward to continuing that important work. I just also want to again thank Tyler and his team for an incredible, the incredible work they did on our Alberta cabin. It was great.

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They, they were, they hosted cultural activities, including sash weaving, bag charm workshops, and beating circles. We had our languages team there. Métis housing was there.

It was spilled out into the back of, of the cabin, and we had great participation and lots of great comments from our own citizens, as well as citizens across the homeland. So I'm very grateful for everyone's contribution, as well as Alberta Day. So on Saturday, we host part of that day.

As for entertainment, we had some wonderful performers, and it was a fantastic day. The pavilion, music pavilion was, was full. This past weekend, we completed the final stretch of our province-wide kitchen party tour.

We brought music, dance, good conversation, and Métis culture to communities from north to south to east to west across Alberta. In total, we visited 13 communities. Unfortunately, we were unable to have our kitchen party in Grande Prairie due to weather, and in Conklin due to the passing of a beloved elder.

As part of our ongoing efforts to advance Métis rights in Alberta, we have been filming a documentary throughout this tour. We've been interviewing elders, knowledge holders, youth, harvesters, and community members with deep familial and historical connections to Métis communities across this province. Through this documentary, we aim to share the rich history of our Métis communities in Alberta and establish their unique place in the broader story of the Métis Nation.

So I'll end it there, and we have a packed agenda, so I think we need to get to work. Thank you.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you, President. Just to make sure nobody's had a question or anything. I think y'all were here yesterday, actually, so excellent.

So on to item number five. This is OMG Administration Reports, and there's a number of items here. The first one is the 2026 Annual Citizens Gathering Update.

So I'll call on, I believe Taylor Masters is here. There she is. So call her up to speak to you about this item.

[Event Manager Taylor Masters]
Good morning, everyone. So before you, you have a update just on the planning process of Citizens Gathering as well as our promotional plan thus far. The motion before is be it resolved by the Citizens Council that the updates on the 2026 Citizens Gathering be accepted for information as presented.

So our committee has implemented several planning components of the gathering, including implementing a communications plan to promote and highlight the gathering and

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the different aspects of the event. I also just want to make a note that as we prepare for the event, we're also developing a health and safety protocol in case of wildfire and or poor air quality. So that is something that is a concern for us, and we will be bringing that forward to you as soon as we have it.

So as of right now, our promotions do include, so we have had the newspaper advertising that was the 21-day notice was advertised July 13th to the 30th all across Alberta. So newspapers throughout the province did get the 21-day notice. Our social media campaign ongoing promotion includes the Save the Date, our general RSVP promotion.

This includes the promotion of camping, so we are providing camping spots for those who would like one on a first-come, first-served basis. It's part of the RSVP. Thus far, we have 197 folks who have RSVP'd with 46 who want camp spots, so we have plenty still available.

And of that, we do have, we did calculate how many gas cards or how much money in gas cards as of right now. We have $26,000 in gas cards in folks that are qualifying for gas cards. Our promotion also includes all of the gas card information as it has been shared throughout social media and our website.

We did publish the call for special resolution and the 21-day notice. As I mentioned, we did a call out for artists for our market. This part was overseen by our artist collective and their social media team.

And then our upcoming promotions is the artist market. We'll be publishing our banquet details as well as government reports and system proposal details. We have published the poster throughout social media and our website.

We will be publishing the general event agenda. It is in development and will be released early August, pending approvals. The government reports and system proposals agenda is in development.

Our live streaming information, so the information regarding the live streaming is being made available on our general event promotion through postings and through comments. So we have been letting people know that it will be live streamed. It will be available.

The link will be finalized and shared during the week leading up to the event. So we can't share it right now, but we will be sharing it. And we have let our folks know that it's something to keep an eye out for.

As for the website, the website is ongoing in development and is expected to be completed by August 8th, 2026. The events communication and self-government team have coordinated to ensure that notice of meeting includes the special resolution notice, the submission deadline, as well as rules of procedure, the guidance for proposals and special resolution document, as well as system proposal worksheet. So that's all been made available throughout our website.

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And then you can just see the attached appendix, appendices is the poster that we have shared and the website link is on there as well.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you, Taylor. So I look to council if there's any questions or comments. I recognize Secretary Blatz.

[Secretary Gabrielle Blatz]
Thank you. And thank you, Taylor, for the report. Mine is more of just a statement slash concern for the emergency management portion of it because he did mention the wildfires and air quality.

But I think that we should also look into tornadoes and flooding just given what kind of season we've had so far since there's been a weird amount of tornadoes this year. So I think that just adding that to our emergency plan is a good idea.

[Event Manager Taylor Masters]
I believe we do have a section on in the emergency response plan on like what to do in case of tornado and flooding, but we will take a second look at that and do a risk assessment. Okay, thank you.

[Acting Chair]
I have Secretary Dibb.

[Secretary Barry Dibb]
Good morning, Taylor. I was just wondering if you get an overflow of campsites, the ones that aren't accepted, are they going to be notified that they don't make it? I guess that's the question I'm getting.

But I see you got lots of room. I didn't know that. But that was a question you asked.

So I thought, well, I better bring it to you. So thank you.

[Event Manager Taylor Masters]
Yes, of course. So I do have two accommodations coordinators on my committee. They will be going through our RSVP list and assigning campsites.

If we do suddenly get an influx where we're turning people away, they will be notified for sure. As it stands right now, they're going through and notifying people as the updates come in. We're doing RSVP updates about twice a week.

So we are letting folks know where they're assigned. But there's still lots of campsites available if your people want them.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you. Secretary Sarah Wolfe.

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[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]
Thank you so much, Taylor, for the update. This is really great to hear. This is also just a quick question in regards to all of the social media updates that you guys have been doing.

I know in the past there have been quite a few issues with links associated with those posts. I was just wondering if that has been resolved or if like we do have somebody working looking into it to make sure that our citizens can access those RSVPs and all of those things.

[Event Manager Taylor Masters]
Yeah, I do know there have been a number of issues with links in our posts, comments sections, all of that. As it arises, we do try get our digital comms team to assess and fix as soon as possible. And we just try our best.

But it is something that we are aware of and are actively working on.

[Acting Chair]
Secretary Bramfield.

[Secretary Bramfield]
Thank you for the update. As discussed during yesterday's meeting, I would like to move, just given just for some background, there's been a lot of concern about gas cards in the first come, first serve. And I know previously we had asked for a cost analysis, but we didn't actually receive one.

So I would like to know, based on the historical data of attendance and where people were traveling from, and based on this year's categories, because last year, I think in the year before it was $50 per gas card, but now we're offering 50, 100, 150 and 200. And I'm sorry, Taylor, you said about 150 people have RSVP'd and $26,000 has Yeah.

[Event Manager Taylor Masters]
So as of right now, we have 197 folks who have RSVP'd. And of that, those who do qualify for gas cards have taken up around $26,000. With our budget being 50, I think we're in very good shape.

[Secretary Bramfield]
Yeah. I would still like to do a cost analysis based on previous year's attendance. I know in Edmonton, obviously, there's going to be more attendance.

Métis Crossing, there maybe there wasn't as much as attendance just due to the accommodations. Seamlessly, I'd like that there's not as many accommodations as compared to Edmonton. So maybe there won't be as many people, but I do want to get more information and make sure that we're increasing the budget because there were a lot of concerns about the first come, first serve.

So be it resolved that Citizens Council direct administration to conduct a cost analysis using attendance records from previous years and the existing travel distance categories to

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determine the funding required to provide gas cards to all eligible citizens. And report back to Citizens Council with the estimated budget required to provide gas cards. Sorry, with the estimated budget required.

So I move that motion.

[Acting Chair]
I see Representative Dunfield's hand up on mine. So go ahead, Representative Dunfield.

[Representative Shannon Dunfield]
Thank you, Mr. Chair. Can you hear me okay?

[Acting Chair]
Yeah. I was gonna say, are you seconding?

[Representative Dunfield]
Oh, sorry. Yes, I'm seconding. But I also wanted to share, you know, one of the concerns that I'm getting from citizens, especially some of our elders is if they don't RSVP, will they still qualify?

And, and some of our citizens just miss it all together. So wanting to make sure we capture those, but I will second that motion.

[Event Manager Taylor Masters]
I would like to speak on the difference between the RSVP and the registration because I know that has been a big point of confusion for many citizens. So the RSVP is meant to inform the events team, myself in particular, on how many folks were expecting and how that helps me inform our food numbers as well as the numbers for gas cards. So if you don't RSVP, you're still welcome to come.

You're still able to. That is totally, it's not an either or situation. But for registering, if you want to register to vote, you need to be there the day of, provide your government issued ID as well as your citizenship.

And that is how you register to vote. If you don't RSVP, you're still, you do still need to register to vote. If you do RSVP, you do still need to register to vote.

The RSVP is simply for planning purposes and to sign up for campaign.

[Acting Chair]
Just looking at my list, first the Secretary Leddy and then back to Representative Dunfield. So Secretary Leddy, go ahead.

[Secretary Aura Leddy]
When you're talking about, with those who have RSVPed and gas cards, is the number of like 26,000, just if all of those folks ended up showing up and registering and going through

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the process to pick up those gas cards, that right now the max number of dollars that would be taken up in that is 26,000?

[Event Manager Taylor Masters]
Yes, that is correct.

[Secretary Leddy]
Also, I just, have we received before, I'm unsure if my memory is faulty right now, but I recall us having a document that was looking at attendance numbers over the last few years and did that include information as well already on like gas card amounts that were going out or just general numbers of who's attending, who that we see are showing up to citizens gathering?

[Event Manager Taylor Masters]
I believe it was general numbers with who was coming from where to show which district and who was getting the gas cards.

[Acting Chair]
And Representative Dunfield.

[Representative Dunfield]
Thank you for that clarification, Taylor. So just so I'm clear, when citizens register the mornings of, does that make them eligible for gas cards if they have not already RSVPed?

[Event Manager Taylor Masters]
Yes, if they register the day of, regardless of their RSVP status, if they register the day of for voting, they have their wristband and they qualify for the radiuses as we have set and they come back that day during the gas card distribution time, yes, they will get gas cards.

[Representative Dunfield]
Okay, thank you.

[Acting Chair]
Secretary Bramfield.

[Secretary Bramfield]
Thank you. I believe what we received a couple months ago was we had requested a cost analysis, but what was brought back was a number of how many people have returned over a few years. That's what council received.

It wasn't actually a cost analysis based on I think what in Métis Crossing we had five to six hundred and Edmonton, I think we had eight hundred. But the number that we received was based on people who came back over previous years, I think was around 200. So I would like to move forward with my motion because I don't want people to be turned away from gas cards because we haven't properly prepared for it.

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[Acting Chair]
Thank you. And Secretary Bramfield, do you have a written version of your motion just so we can make sure we've recorded it properly? You spoke pretty fast and I don't know that we captured it all.

Okay, let's do that.

[President Sandmaier]
Brooke, if you could read it again, that would be great.

[Secretary Bramfield]
Be it resolved that Citizens Council direct administration to conduct a cost analysis using attendance records from previous years and the existing travel distance categories to determine the funding required to provide gas cards to all eligible attendees and report back to Citizens Council with the estimated budget required.

[Acting Chair]
You need to slow down. Just make sure let's just make sure we capture and then we can read it back. Yeah, that's what I was asking if you had written it down.

We'll read it out again before we vote on it to you. Yeah, just to make sure we're all on the same page. So if you can send it or do you want to read it again?

I'll leave it to you, but we can just get a copy, we'll write down, then we'll read it anyway. So make sure that it is what you provided and then we know exactly what we're voting on. Is that okay?

Thank you. I'm going to turn to our interim SEO who has some input as this tends to follow within that purview and then I'll go to Secretary Leddy. Okay.

[Interim Senior Executive Officer Daniel Quan-Watson]
And just to ensure consistency, what I've been saying over the last couple of days, that analysis, which if the motion passes, we'll be happy to do. It will also need to include finding out whether or not we have a source of funds and if not, what else would be the adoptions for the options for eliminating in order to fund this initiative. Thank you.

Secretary Leddy.

[Secretary Leddy]
Yeah, and I'm definitely in favor of doing a cost analysis. I think having information and knowing what numbers for an ideal world look like is great and then seeing what we have available to do that is fantastic. My question was definitely around trying to remember what information has already come to our table when it comes to gas cards.

I guess my other thing is, is this motion meant to inform us for future citizens gathering and not necessarily change the policy for this citizens gathering?

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[Acting Chair]
Secretary Bramfield.

[Secretary Bramfield]
Yeah, my motion is just so we have the information knowing, knowing based on previous data of, you know, estimated attendance and what it would cost if every citizen that came received a gas card. Obviously, yes, to Daniel's point, we don't know what, where that funding is coming from, if we can even increase it, but I would like, I would like to know the numbers so that hopefully we can increase it if we're anticipating we're going to need more gas cards and that we're being inclusive and not, and being able to break down those barriers for people to come to the gathering and participate in our democratic processes.

So even if maybe we can't increase the budget, I would like to know that and then we can plan better.

[Acting Chair]
And so have you sent, what's that? Yeah, just more, just a little slower and then we'll make sure we can capture it. Thank you.

[Secretary Bramfield]
Okay. Be it resolved that Citizens Council direct administration to conduct a cost analysis using attendance records from previous years and the existing travel distance categories to determine the funding required to provide gas cards to all eligible attendees and report back to Citizens Council with the estimated budget required.

[Acting Chair]
We're going to see if we got it. So the recording Secretary will read it out and then we can craft to make sure we get what she said.

[Acting Clerk Lindsay Henderson]
Be it resolved by the Citizens Council that administration be directed to conduct a cost analysis using attendance records for previous years and the existing travel distance categories to determine the funding required to provide gas cards to all eligible attendees and to report back to Citizens Council with the budget required.

[Acting Chair]
Sorry. Estimated budget. Yeah.

We want to make sure we get it right. So feel free to share. Thank you so much.

So we got that. Secretary Collins.

[Secretary Collins]
Thank you, Mr. Chair. So it sounds like it's for this year, but perhaps some of that work can be help us for future planning because by the time we deal with next year's budget, it will be inclusive of the AGM costs. Nonetheless, my question is if we reach the max of our budget

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for gas cards and there is no other place that we can get money from to allow our citizens to come to our gathering, does that mean that if we have more people than we do money, the folks that come are going to be turned away and told no?

[Acting Chair]
Not sure who can answer that. I would look to the administration to provide something to that. Thank you.

Thank you.

[Interim Senior Executive Officer Quan-Watson]
So if this were a longer term thing, what I would offer to do would be to say, what are some options around using whatever money is available to provide the most effective support that you wanted? And of course, this council and cabinet, the President would have to decide what that was, but it would be my job to figure out what the options were and you could consider from them whatever the amount is, my guess is the demand will always be greater than the available funds. And so there are a bunch of different ways that you can shape a program to make sure that those who need the most assistance get the most assistance.

There are other ways where it's just the same amount for everybody on the first come, first served basis. There are other ways of maybe upping budgets and stopping doing other things to fund gas cards instead. If asked, we could develop some options for people to consider about that.

That's not a one or two week job. It's not the type of thing that can be finished by the time of the citizens gathering. But if there are an interest in having us look at options that might target support where it might be most needed, we could certainly do that if asked.

But that's not a short term thing. And in the past, where I have been involved in situations where there was more demand than there were resources available, I've regularly been asked to find options for the most effective way to get the people who most need the help, the help they need. And that, of course, has consequences for other people who might not need it as much in the eyes of the decision makers, namely a table like this.

So if asked to do that, I would gladly do it. I can tell you, though, it won't get done in time for this August session. So I'll do whatever is asked on the other motion.

But that would typically be the answer to that type of question. Secretary Collins.

[Secretary Collins]
Thank you for that, Daniel. And yes, I understand that because we're like less than a month away from our citizens gathering. And as we speak, citizens are watching.

And so they might be making decisions whether they attend our gathering or not based on information that they're hearing right now with regards to gas cards, etc. And the process

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that you're speaking about with respect to how do we come to a decision on amounts of gas cards, etc. We have been wrangling with that issue at this table.

I think every time we get an update from our staff who, by the way, thank you so much for the information that you brought forward. But nonetheless, every time we change it, costs are going to go higher. And we're looking all at the same chunk of money.

And so at the end of the day, like you say, someone is going to be told no. Now when I think about that, if there are Kokums and Mushums who have not jumped on line to RSVP or anything of that sort and register in advance, they might be coming from way down south. And I would not want those people to not be given any money.

And as we say, we sit here and we talk about thinking about our citizens and what's good for them and how do we best help them, especially for a branch of our government. Citizens Gathering is a branch of our government. I would not want to see that limited in any way to our citizens to not be able to come and participate in their only opportunity to have input into government process.

And so I just bring that forward because as you do this analysis that Brooke is asking for, that we certainly look toward next year and any coming year, because it doesn't sound like at this point gas prices are going to be getting any lower in the future that any of us can foresee, that we have to be realistic and plan for the next few years going forward so that our citizens are are treated in a good way to come and participate in their branch of government that they have an opportunity to. That's why I'm raising these questions because I really hope we don't have to say no to anyone. Thank you.

[Acting Chair]
Looking for other discussion. If not, we will re-read just to make sure we know what we're actually talking about and then we'll do our census check and go through that process. So one last time if we could.

Thank you.

[Acting Clerk Lindsay Henderson]
Be it resolved by the Citizens Council that administration be directed to conduct a cost analysis using attendance records for previous years and the existing travel distance categories to determine the funding required to provide gas cards to all eligible attendees and to report back to Citizens Council with the estimated budget required.

[Acting Chair]
We have confirmation. Okay. So we will move to a consensus check.

Is there anybody opposed to the motion as read? Seeing none, that motion is passed. Anything else on this matter related to the 2026 Annual Citizens Gathering?

Secretary Leddy.

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[Secretary Leddy]
I just want to say just how fantastically beautiful that poster is and just like really give a shout out at the amazing artwork that's featured on it. When we talk about highlighting our artists and having that as part of our citizens gathering. Yeah, it proves just how amazing it is.

And yeah, I just wanted to shout that out.

[Acting Chair]
And I see Secretary Mitchell.

[Secretary Kaila Mitchell]
On that note, very proud of my cousin for doing the artwork. It looks amazing. Do we need to move the motion, the original motion?

Okay. I will move the motion be it resolved by the Citizens Council that the updates on the 2026 Citizens Gathering be accepted for information as presented.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you, Secretary Mitchell. I see others at the table. I see that S.

Dunfield is throwing me every time. Representative Dunfield, were you seconding?

[Representative Dunfield]
Yes, actually. Sorry, I was going to ask the same question, but I will second that motion.

[Acting Chair]
Okay. So Secretary, see again. Representative Dunfield seconds.

And did you have something else that you wanted to add?

[Representative Dunfield]
No, that was it.

[Acting Chair]
Okay, thank you. So we have the motion to accept the presentation for information. Is there opposition to that motion?

I'm seeing none. So moved. Thank you so much.

[Representative Dunfield]
I changed it for you, Mr. Chair.

[Acting Chair]
Sorry. Oh, thank you so much. I appreciate you.

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He's throwing me for a loop every time. Okay, so we're on to item B, which is a number of reports from the self-government report and number of items underneath. The first is legislative services update.

I believe that is Mr. Tomlinson.

[Senior Director Garrett Tomlinson]
Yeah, that's correct. Good morning, Mr. Chair. So Council, before you, there's a brief update on changes within the self-government departments as it relates to the team members who support the Council.

All names that you know and love and are familiar with. Dakotah Bailey has assumed the role of Acting Associate Director of Legislative Services in addition to continuing her role as Manager of Government Administration. Hanna Sutherland has assumed the role of Acting Manager of Governance and Legislative Services, supporting the work of Council and the gathering.

And Lina Chhom has assumed the role of Acting Project Manager of Legislative Services, again, supporting the work of Citizens Council and the broader self-government department. And you'll hear from her a little bit later talking about the Elders and Knowledge Keepers Council work as it's ongoing. These are all interim appointments intended to maintain continuity, the operations and the delivery of Council and departmental priorities.

We are still recruiting for analysts and trying to backfill positions based on vacancies that have occurred over the last quarter. So that'll continue and we'll provide future updates as they come forward. Otherwise, looking for a motion for accepting this for information, unless Council has any questions.

[Acting Chair]
Representative Schnell, are you moving? Okay. So we have Representative Schnell is moving.

Do I have a seconder? Representative Ward? Excellent.

Discussion. So I thought you were going to move it. Okay.

I'll move to Representative Paul-Alook.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
Just a question. There hadn't been previously a discussion around creating a new office. I am wondering if, like at Citizens Council anyways, I'm just wondering if there was a motion made at Cabinet to direct that work or if and if there is, is there a record of that motion?

[Acting Chair]
President Sandmaier?

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[President Sandmaier]
Yeah, there has not been a motion done at Cabinet. Well, while Daniel's doing all the interviews and the work that he's doing right now, then we'll make some decisions when it comes to that.

[Representative Paul-Alook]
Sorry, then just for clarification, the creation of the, it's like a temporary decision that needs to be confirmed yet or it sounds like?

[President Sandmaier]
What office are you actually referring to?

[Representative Paul-Alook]
It says that it's the Office of the President and then the Legislative Services is a new, not department because it's under the self-government department, but I'm just wondering if that direction was received or if that was just a decision within administration. You're talking about the from the update that we just received right now?

[President Sandmaier]
So that's still the self-government department, but I see that Senior Director Tomlinson has his hand up. He can explain.

[Senior Director Tomlinson]
Yeah, so Legislative Services is the realignment of the former Governance and Policy Unit. It's the same staff with the same mandate. It's just a retooling of the name to ensure that it aligns properly with the work they were actually doing because policy was becoming confusing whether related to internal policy versus doing policy analysis and drafting as it relates to Citizens Council work.

We don't do that work for all of the departments. We do that work specific to the governance structures and those pieces. So it was just a renaming of the singular team to align with the work that was actually being done.

[Acting Chair]
Representative Paul-Alook

[Representative Paul-Alook]
Thanks for the clarification. My next request then would be that we receive an org chart, kind of with an explanation of who's where and what people's roles are, especially because there's been transfer of existing staff into some of these positions.

I know that it is something that we've requested before. We've had multiple changes within administration and quite honestly it's hard to keep up sometimes as to who you're supposed to contact or who's the right person to ask for support. So if we could receive that in short order that would be much appreciated.

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[Acting Chair]
I think you're good. Yeah okay so our interim SEO will speak to that.

[Interim Senior Executive Officer Quan-Watson]
Yes.

[Acting Chair]
And there you have it. Okay so there is the motion to accept this for information. What was presented for information?

It was moved by Representative seconded by Representative Ward. Is there any opposition to the motion? Oh go ahead Representative Dunfield.

[Representative Dunfield]
I almost caught you again there Mr. Chair.

[Acting Chair]
I was so close.

[Representative Dunfield]
No opposition to the motion. I'm just wondering if at some point as well too to add to that if we could get an organizational chart that can be shared not only with our citizens council but also with our district captains because I think there seems to be some confusion as well too on these different roles and responsibilities and an org chart would be very beneficial for all of us.

[Acting Chair]
I don't like making assumptions but I assume it's the same answer. Yes okay. Okay so look again for just to test consensus.

So we have consensus. No opposition. Excellent.

Thank you Mr. Tomlinson. The next item on the agenda.

[Representative Dunfield]
Sorry Mr. Chair. Does that need to be a motion as well for the organizational chart or will that be added to?

[Acting Chair]
No it's just an action item that we have to undertake at your direction.

[Representative Dunfield]
Okay thank you.

[Acting Chair]
You're welcome. Number two on the list is the transition report and if I'm not oh she's already here. We'll pass it over to Nicole Shepherd manager of transition to provide that.

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Go ahead Nicole.

[Transition Manager Nicole Shepherd]
Thank you Mr. Chair. The Otipemisiwak Métis government continues to advance the transition process.

As of the date of this transition report we have established district councils in 16 Otipemisiwak Métis government districts. The transition team continues to work hard to support the transition from the old governance structure meeting with locals and newly established district councils to guide them through the transition process. Incorporated district councils the following districts have successfully adopted their bylaws as of the date of this report.

Foothills-Métis district 1, Medicine Hat-Métis district 2, Red Deer-Métis district 3, Rocky View-Métis district 4 and as of July 21st 2026 Calgary-Nose Hill-Métis district 5 is our 16th newest established district. Calgary-Elbow-Métis district 6, Jasper House-Métis district 7. There's a note here for Jasper House-Métis district on June 10th 2026 citizens of the Jasper House-Métis district adopted a special resolution to amend the district council's bylaws pursuant to the district council's existing bylaws and the district council's act.

Amended bylaws do not come into force unless the sorry into force unless and until citizens council adopts a resolution ratifying the amended bylaws. The district captain submitted the amended bylaws for ratification on June 16th 2026 however on July 17th 2026 the district captain indicated that she wishes to withdraw the bylaws from the ratification process and resubmit a further amended version at a later date. Continuing on Lac-Ste-Anne-Métis district 8, Fort Edmonton-Métis district 9, St. Albert-Métis district 11, St. Paul-Cold Lake-Métis district 12, Fort McMurray-Métis district 17, Lac-La Biche-Métis district 19, Athabasca-Landing-Métis district 20, Lesser Slave Lake-Métis district 21, and Wabasca-Desmarais-Métis district 22. I would like to note that the election status has been removed from this report to avoid any confusion. The transition team's involvement in district council establishment ends once a district is ready to hold its first election. AfterWards election related planning falls under the authority of each district council and the office of the chief electoral officer.

Districts with fully approved bylaws the following districts have fully approved district council bylaws and are ready to call or have already called a special meeting to adopt their bylaws. Edmonton-Whitemud-Métis district 10, there will be a report provided for them on the report following the transition report so we won't be getting into that until the next report. Grande Prairie-Métis district 13 bylaws were fully approved by the citizens council in March of 2026.

The Grande Prairie and Valley View locals have decided to incorporate a new society to serve as the district council and the locals will continue as organizations of the district. The locals were provided an example special resolution which would allow all citizens of the district to vote on whether to adopt the bylaws and authorize the interim district captain to

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take the steps necessary to establish the district council. An update from the independent legal counsel of the locals is to be provided.

Peace River-Métis district 14 bylaws were fully approved in by the citizens council in March of 2026. The three locals within the Peace River district have indicated that the Peace River local will transition to become the district council and then the Fairview local will transfer its assets to the district council then dissolve. I would like to note a correction.

The Manning local at this point may be choosing to stay as a community association and not transition but we are waiting on their formal notice if that's what they choose to do. The locals were provided an example special resolution via their independent legal counsel which would allow all citizens of the district to vote on whether to adopt the bylaws and authorize the interim district captain to take the steps necessary to establish the district council. This process will occur in addition to the already required special meeting of the Peace River local.

The Peace River local tentatively plans to hold concurrent special meetings of the citizens of the Peace River-Métis district and of the Peace River local on August 27, 2026. Fort Vermilion-Métis district 15 bylaws were re-approved by the citizens council in March of 2026 due to barriers in reviving the Fort Vermilion local in a timely manner. The local has suggested incorporating a new society to serve as the district council.

If revived in the future the Fort Vermilion local could become an organization of the district council. On July 13, 2026 the local was provided with an example special resolution that would allow all citizens of the district to vote on whether to adopt the bylaws and authorize the interim district captain to take the steps necessary to establish the district council. An updated draft of the Fort Vermilion district council bylaws will be submitted to citizens council for citizen council's re-approval.

Work remains ongoing with their local and their legal counsel to determine the timing of next steps for the establishment of the district council. District councils with bylaws in review. The following districts are in the process of preparing district council bylaws.

Conklin-Métis district 18. The transition team is working with the Conklin local to finalize bylaws for the Conklin district council. The next citizens engagement meeting for citizens of the Conklin district to review draft district council bylaws has been rescheduled for September 1, 2026.

Other updates. Fort Chipewyan-Métis district 16. A transition information session for the districts in the Fort Chipewyan-Métis district was held on September 3, 2025.

Fort Chipewyan local 125 held an election on November 25, 2025 and elected a new President. The transition team met with President Ruby Ladouceur and the local CEO on March 17, 2026 to discuss the transition process and possible next steps. The transition team is working to schedule another another meeting with the President in the near future.

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Region 2 legal counsel will provide a verbal update on the transition of the MNA region to regional council on the the report after the Edmonton whitemud report so we won't go into that for for this report. Region 3. On April 7, 2026 the transition team met with the district captains and the citizen Representatives for the district within the area of region 3 to provide an update on the region's transition.

The acting President of the MNA region 3 regional council was in attendance. In early June 2026 the transition team inventoried records and positions of the region 3 council. A briefing note has been provided to the acting President acting region 3 President Bernie Ouellette for the purposes of providing information collected to the region 3 legal counsel.

Peace River Territory Development Society formerly region 6. The region 6 council has transitioned into the new into the Peace River Territory Development Society managed by the district councils for Grande Prairie Métis District, Peace River Métis District and Fort Vermilion Métis District and that is it for that report.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you. So Secretary Mitchell.

[Secretary Mitchell]
Hi on the first page number seven Jasper House Métis District the note underneath says that the district captain hold on said that the district captain indicated she wished to withdraw the bylaws from the ratification process and resubmit for a further amended version at the later date at a later date. I from my recollection of the meeting it was suggested that the that there would be wording changes needed. I don't remember it I don't I don't remember her saying that she wished to withdraw the bylaws themselves but it was suggested by people in the call that there were wording changes that needed to be adjusted before it could come back to the table.

I just wanted that clarified.

[Acting Chair]
Absolutely I believe it would have to be withdrawn for the changes but I'm going to let Mr. Guthro online speak to that.

[Secretary Mitchell]
Yeah I think it was more just correcting the wording of what the district captain had requested or said.

[Acting Chair]
Go ahead.

[Legal Counsel Ethan Guthro]
Yes that's correct and good morning everyone. Secretary Mitchell as you said the bylaws that we we reviewed with with Captain Rudyk did have a number of wording changes that we would be looking to potentially change and so the bylaws as as submitted previously

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would need to be withdrawn but the bylaws themselves you know we would we would still be open to pursuing the ratification process it's just in the in the procedural sense we would withdraw the bylaws as submitted and then submit a further amended draft in the future. Secretary Mitchell.

[Secretary Mitchell]
Yeah thank you.

[Acting Chair]
Okay so there is a motion attached to this that is be it resolved by citizens council that the July 30th or it says 2930 but we'll just pick one today the July 30th 2026 transition report be accepted for information as presented. I see Secretary Lisa Wolfe will move and I'll move to oh well I have to finish what I'm doing so and I'll go to Secretary Chodzicki as a seconder and I see Representative Dunfield online with your hand up go ahead.

[Representative Dunfield]
Just wanting some further clarification from Ethan on on what he shared I'm not really sure I understand the intent so they have to withdraw their the bylaws that the citizens council already approved and submit new bylaws wouldn't you just submit updated bylaws?

[Legal Counsel Ethan Guthro]
Hi sorry Representative Dunfield so the the process here was that the Jasper House district council had submitted their amended bylaws for ratification by citizens council and those bylaws had been approved by the citizens of the Jasper host district at a special meeting so they are not withdrawing the bylaws themselves those bylaws are still in force it's just withdrawing the request for citizens council's ratification of the amended bylaws.

[Representative Dunfield]
So how do they how do we approve the amended bylaws?

[Legal Counsel Ethan Guthro]
The amended bylaws once further amended.

[Representative Dunfield]
Okay so I'm not really understanding Ethan because it's my understanding that the Jasper house Métis district citizens voted to this is what I'm hearing that they voted to approve the approved to amend their bylaws are you saying now that OMG legal is going to change those bylaws again even though the citizens of Jasper house Métis district approve them?

[Legal Counsel Ethan Guthro]
No that's not what I'm saying so what I'm saying is that the the district captain of the Jasper house Métis district is going to be amending those bylaws bringing them to the citizens of the Jasper house district for their re-approval by by special resolution and then the bylaws will come back to citizens council for ratification.

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[Representative Dunfield]
Okay thank you. Thank you. Secretary Collins.

[Secretary Collins]
Good morning Ethan. I'm just so these bylaws have already been registered at at societies act right?

[Legal Counsel Ethan Guthro]
They do have bylaws currently in force and in June of 2026 the district council held a special meeting to adopt amended bylaws and so those bylaws have not been registered.

[Secretary Collins]
But they've been my question is are there bylaws that have been registered at the societies act from this and I'm asking this in general for everyone because it because I'm asking if they are registered at the societies act with the societies act sorry.

[Legal Counsel Ethan Guthro]
So the bylaws that the citizens council adopted back in 2025 those are registered with the Alberta corporate registry. So so yes. Bylaws from June of 2026 have not been registered.

[Secretary Collins]
Shortly the answer is yes. Yes. Okay so why I'm not I'm not understanding it either so why could they not have a special meeting to amend their bylaws in their community and then submit those as an amended bylaw to the the registry registry at societies and and so that that's the first part because seems to me when we when we change bylaws in a society that we that's the process.

The second my next question which is kind of important for going forward does that mean going forward once we have all of our once every district is up and running and they've have bylaws that are registered at the society's register registrar that every time they want to make a change as their own autonomous society they have to bring it to citizens council?

[Legal Counsel Ethan Guthro]
Yes that is that is correct under the current process that we have in place. So there is a provision in the district councils act that requires all amended district council bylaws to go to citizens council for ratification. This is a ratification process not necessarily an approvals process and citizens council is required to ratify as long as the proposed amended bylaws do not conflict with the constitution.

So in response to your second question right now that is the process set in place that is also mirrored in the bylaws in force themselves so we have a provision in the district councils act as well as in all of the current district council bylaws requiring citizens councils ratification of the of the amended bylaws.

[Secretary Collins]

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So I guess the part that I'm having a hard time with is is as we currently sit because we're not in treaty yet we're a society so this society basically tells another society what to do with their bylaws and I'm just looking at it by by how our structures are up right now and to me that I'm just wondering if that's something as we move forward that we might want to look at if it's under the district district councils act or wherever it is to see because I'm just thinking if there's minor changes like corrections and wording etc you know you're not going to go and change your whole if you're not changing your your whole structure etc and you just have minor changes it sounds like a cumbersome process to change and to or and this and that those minor changes to wait in line and come to citizens council citizens council says yes you can say and instead of or that's where I'm going with it it just sounds like a pretty long drawn out process especially after they do their initial initial in the the initial process of bringing it here because certainly I have the to this point we have not to my memory changed anyone any community's bylaws to say you can't do that like you know Lac-Ste-Anne district you can't do that citizen council hasn't said that because to me that's not really our business Lac-Ste-Anne people said this is how we want to do it and this is how we'd like to do it so I'm just thinking on a on a go forward basis it sounds maybe that's something we want to have a discussion on in the district council's act when we do some of the revisions and review of some of our of our pieces because it may not even be a an enact thing but it could be a regulation or a policy so that it expedites process thank you

[Acting Chair]
so I'll go to uh Secretary Mitchell next and then I see Representative Dunfield and then Secretary Leddy okay oh right sorry uh our legal counsel first above everyone's because probably a poignant piece so uh Candice go ahead oh there we go I turned myself off

[Legal Counsel Candice Telfer]
just to note in case it's helpful so putting aside the question of whether there needs to be legislative amendments in this case I do want to be clear um the the reason that this is coming forward in the way that it is is because we had what I think and I and I I won't speak for Captain Rudyk but I I hope that she would think was a um a collaborative call between the district council and their uh consultant self-government and and us as legal counsel um for from aired and um the discussion wasn't that you know we need to have a lot of oversight or anything like that or citizens council will or will not approve amendments going forward it was just that the amendments that had been made there were some issues in terms of inconsistencies with the constitution and with laws and that was completely unintentional um it was just something that we were able to catch in review when we had a very productive discussion and were able to suggest some some amendments that would kind of clean that up which I understood Captain Rudyk was was uh open to and and took back so this wasn't sort of a an oversight situation as much as it was um a collaborative discussion to ensure that the amended bylaws uh were in line with the constitution

[Acting Chair]
I had a lineup I still have it but uh I was going to Secretary Mitchell then Representative Dunfield so Secretary Mitchell go ahead

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[Secretary Mitchell]
yeah so just so everybody is clear the we have our set of bylaws in Jasper House the updated bylaws were to assist us in um being able to continue with regular business now that we've had three resignations on council district council and so there were some changes that needed to happen um we did have that meeting like like Candice had had discussed um and there were some minor changes that were needed and it was brought up that you know after making these changes we would have to have another special meeting for citizens to reapprove and then bring back to the table I think what the discussion started with was just that it wasn't necessarily that the captain had wanted to withdraw um the the updated bylaws entirely rather it's we're just in a process of doing an update on a couple of pieces of wording to make sure that there's alignment and then bringing it back to the table so the bylaws will you guys we will be seeing them at this table um hopefully in short order thank you

[Acting Chair]
Thank you. Representative Dunfield

[Representative Dunfield]
um thank you Secretary Mitchell I think that answered uh some of my questions because I was still quite confused but I appreciate that because I think I was just trying to understand if and I think this is kind of where Secretary Collins stated if a district has ratified their bylaw or ratified changes to their bylaws already then I'm not under I wasn't understanding why they weren't coming to the table as as ratified so now I understand that there's been further discussion and that um there's gonna be some potential other changes that may may come forward but that's what I was trying to understand was this whole process because it didn't sound it sounded a bit off but I think I have it now

[Acting Chair]
Thank you uh Secretary Leddy

[Secretary Leddy]
thank you I also wanted to extend my thanks to Secretary Mitchell on just adding some clarification around what seems to be a nitty-gritty procedural process that um is what it is uh I just wanted to ask for clarification on when it comes to this table and approval here it's not really us going through and saying we like this we don't like that in it is that process more just to ensure that it's in line with the constitution and that those pieces are all together um thank you yeah that's absolutely it um the process exists to ensure that everything's in line with the constitution and the the laws and acts that we have in place currently

[Acting Chair]
okay looking around not seeing anything else we have a motion um to to uh I'll just try to sum it up accept the the report that was provided for information as presented and it was moved by Secretary Lisa Wolfe and seconded by Secretary Chodzicki I will look for opposition to the motion seeing none looking online quickly okay seeing none that motion is

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accepted and it's passed and the next item on our agenda is the Edmonton Whitemud Transition um and I believe oh once again still the same person hot seat thank you

[Transition Manager Nicole Shepherd]
getting hotter okay go ahead all right we have prepared this briefing note in response to the request from Citizens Council dated June 18, 2026 for information in respect of progress made on transition in the Edmonton Whitemud Métis District.

The briefing note first details the transition related work undertaken to date in the district. Next as a point of comparison the briefing note provides a brief overview of the transition process undertaken in four other districts with similarly unique circumstances. Finally this briefing note includes a list of advantages and disadvantages associated with pursuing the proposed two-step approach set out in Secretary Lisa Wolfe's June 18, 2025 briefing note and the June 2025 briefing note has been provided as Appendix A.

All right background on the Edmonton Whitemud Mud Transition process as part of the ongoing evolution of the Métis Nation of Alberta to the Otipemisiwak Métis Government and consistent with the Otipemisiwak Métis Government transition plan adopted in September 2023 MNA locals have been transitioning to become Otipemisiwak Métis Government District Councils. As the as of the date of this briefing note 16 of the 22 District Councils contemplated under the Otipemisiwak Métis Government Constitution have been fully established. One of the remaining District Councils the Edmonton Whitemud District Council is the subject of this briefing note.

With approximately 5,000 citizens the district is one of the largest districts of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government. Secretary Aura Leddy the citizens Representative for the district and Secretary Lisa Wolfe the district relations and transition subcommittee member or DRTC member for short is responsible for overseeing transition in central Alberta. They have both advised that the citizens of the district are incredibly excited for a district council to be established in the district.

These citizens look forward to programs and services events and representation that will come with the establishment of the district council. Many have also expressed their desire to get involved with their district level Métis government whether to volunteer run for office or otherwise. The Central Edmonton Métis Local Community Association which is within the district was identified that by the MNA's transition committee as the only active MNA local within the district at the time of public publication of the transition plan.

In the following months the local took several steps towards transitioning to a district council. This included the President of the local drafting district council bylaws in early 2024 which citizens council resolved to approve in principle on January 23rd 2024 and to fully approve on July 10th 2024. Following this approval the next steps in the transition process should have been a special meeting of the membership to approve the bylaws through a special resolution and working with independent legal counsel to register a new name the

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new bylaws and new objects for what would legally become the Otipemisiwak Métis government district council of Edmonton Whitemud Métis district.

Unfortunately the locals transition process stalled shortly thereafter despite multiple meetings with the independent legal counsel and repeated attempts at communication by the self-government department. The President of the local has failed to take any steps toward transitioning into a district council. In October 2024 the President indicated to the self-government department that she wanted to amend the previously drafted and approved bylaws that the local would only be partially transitioning and that the local intended to remain as a society.

It is unclear what was meant by this however from communications with the self-government department it seems one aspect involves changing the district councillor election provisions in the bylaws so that the current local board of directors would carry on as the new district council with no elections. In January 2025 the self-government department facilitated a preliminary meeting between the President of the local and the independent legal counsel. At that meeting the President of the local raised concerns regarding the process by which citizens council approved the bylaws.

Specifically she claimed that the local had not agreed to the bylaws being submitted to for sorry submitted for citizens council's approval. In May 2025 the President of the local indicated to the self-government department that the local has concerns about the effects of transitioning to a district council and that the local needed to meet to determine their next steps. However the President also indicated that the local is currently engaged with other projects that are a higher priority and that she would reach out to the self-government department once the local had decided how they wish to proceed.

In June 2025 Secretary Lisa Wolfe presented the June 2025 briefing note to citizens council which laid out a potential two-step approach to resolving transition related issues in the district. One citizens council would establish a firm deadline by which all M&A local councils including this local must transition and two if the local had not transitioned by that deadline citizens council would initiate the process for electing a new district council. Citizens council debated the merits of this approach proposed in the June 2025 briefing note but ultimately determined to allow the local more time to pursue their transition and directed the self-government department to hold a transition meeting in the district.

In July of 2025 the self-government department held the transition meeting in the district. Representatives of the local were invited but did not attend this meeting. In June 2026 the President of the local advised the self-government department that the local is concerned about the potential impact that transitioning to a district council may have on the local's current programming.

While the President of the local indicated that it is still interested in transitioning she noted that the local does not want to hand over the programming to the Otipemisiwak Métis government and therefore has determined to explore other funding sources. Overview of

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transition in districts with inactive non-participating locals. The transition team has faced similar scenarios in four other districts, Foothills, Calgary Nose Hill, Fort Edmonton and Lac La Biche.

In each of these districts the transition plan identified one or more MNA locals that would transition into their respective district councils. However for various different reasons as set out further below it was necessary to elect a district captain to lead the establishment of a new entity to serve as the district council thereby bypassing the identified locals in the transition process. First with the Foothills Métis district the transition plan identified two MNA locals in the Foothills Métis district that would transition into the Foothills district council.

The first MNA local 1880 Chinook and the second MNA local 2003 Lethbridge. In the months following the Otipemisiwak Métis government's 2023 general election two key events occurred. First the Lethbridge local formally withdrew from the MNA Otipemisiwak Métis government and second the Chinook local's corporate status was struck for failure to file its annual corporate paperwork and the local determined it would be most efficient to remain struck rather than pursue revival.

These events left the district without an active MNA local to transition into a district council therefore the self-government department initiated an election for a district captain to lead the establishment of a new entity to serve as the Foothills district council. Second Calgary Nose Hill district Métis district the transition plan identified one MNA local in the Calgary Nose Hill Métis district that would transition into the Calgary Nose Hill district council MNA local 87 Calgary. The self-government department attempted to facilitate the Calgary locals transition however in July 2025 the Otipemisiwak Métis government's chief electoral officer validated a citizen submitted petition submitted pursuant to section 15 2b of the district council's act seeking the election of a district captain to lead the establishment of a new entity to serve as the Calgary Nose Hill district council thereby requiring the Otipemisiwak Métis government to bypass the Calgary local in the transition process.

Third Fort Edmonton Métis district the transition plan identified two MNA locals in the Fort Edmonton Métis district that would transition into the into the Fort Edmonton district council. A note of correction there. First MNA local 2085 Edmonton and second MNA local 1886 Garneau.

However once the transition formally commenced the Garneau local refused to engage with the self-government department in relation to transition and the Edmonton local did not respond to the self-government department's request to schedule a meeting. Therefore the self-government department initiated election for a district captain to lead the establishment of a new entity to serve as the Fort Edmonton district council. The fourth Lac La Biche the transition plan identified one MNA local in the Lac La Biche Métis district that would transition into the Lac La Biche district council.

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MNA local 2097 Lac La Biche the self-government department attempted to facilitate the Lac La Biche locals transition. However in June 2024 the Otipemisiwak Métis government's chief electoral officer validated a citizen submitted petition submitted pursuant to section 15 2b of the district councils act seeking the election of a district captain to lead the establishment of a new entity to serve as the Lac La Biche district council therefore requiring the Otipemisiwak Métis government to bypass the Lac La Biche local in the transition process.

It appears that this local is no longer engaged in the transition process as contemplated under the transition plan. As a result the district is at risk of soon being one of the only Otipemisiwak Métis government districts without an established district council. To that end we have prepared the following list of advantages and disadvantages associated with pursuing the approach proposed in the June 2025 briefing note.

Advantages citizen representation the citizens in the district are not currently represented by a district council which impacts those citizens ability to engage in consultation and accommodation related efforts with the crown industry and other indigenous groups. Electing a district council means that those citizens will be represented as soon as an election can be held. Representation is also vital for making progress on our modern day treaty.

Disadvantages potential loss of assets the most recent copy of the local's annual financial statements we have access to is in December of 2022 which indicates that the local has zero dollars in income disbursement disbursements assets and liabilities. However it is possible that the local has since accumulated assets if the local does not transition into the Edmonton Whitemud district council those potential potential assets would no longer be held for the benefit of the citizens of the Métis nation within Alberta. Advantages programs and services five thousand approximately five thousand citizens live in the district and many currently rely on neighboring districts to access programs and services.

Electing a district council means that those citizens will be able to access programs and services in their own community. Disadvantages as above the local's most recent financial statements do not reference any programs and services the local has was delivering as of December 2022. However based on conversations with the local over the last three years we understand that the local may have recently secured certain funding to deliver justice and or reconciliation related programs and services.

Advantages region four transition this is the last remaining district to be established within the boundaries of the former MNA region four once established the transition team will be able to work on the transition of MNA region four. Disadvantages involvement in region four the locals potential involvement in MNA region four is unclear if the local council does not transition into the Edmonton Whitemud district council we may lose a key vote on decisions related to the ultimate transition of MNA region four. It is only the appendix left I think the summary of what's in that briefing note may be good enough but if you'd like me to go through it I will I'll leave that up to council.

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[Acting Chair]
And in my understanding this was presented previously June 12th on the date is that correct?

[Transition Manager Nicole Shepherd]
On June 2025.

[Acting Chair]
Oh 2025.

[Transition Manager Nicole Shepherd]
Yeah the appendix is the briefing note that Secretary Wolfe presented on a course of action.

[Acting Chair]
I'm going I wanted to test the room I don't have a backup Chair and I need a bio break are we okay to take a 15 minute break and then come back and continue discussion on this okay perfect so we'll discuss the option yeah hey I'll push through I'm a trooper but I really really could use that break so we'll take 15 minutes come back at 11 21.

This meeting back to order 11 29 I'm going to go first to senior director Tomlinson to add to what was presented I think we're all I'm going to look around the table for anybody who is not okay with not going through the briefing note or the previous presentation of the June was that June 15th 2025 yeah the appendix I think we're all comfortable not not moving through that but I will move to senior director Tomlinson who has something to add related to his portfolio which this is under so go ahead Mr. Tomlinson.

[Senior Director Tomlinson]
Thanks Mr. Chair yeah so I mean council I I want to recognize and understand that that it's a really long report based on on your question there's a lot of detail in there the goal of the department though is is really if council wants to discuss and potentially make decisions about a path forward on Edmonton Whitemud in the interests of citizens it's really important to us that they have all the details about what we've learned from the districts that have gone forward without the previous locals in the past you know we know that there's been a lot of public discussion about potential impacts of the petition-led transition in Calgary knows hill recently and what that means for the former local 87 its assets and properties and what potential outcomes could be there so I mean the hope for the department is really that council has all the information it needs to to really give next steps deep consideration in order to make decisions and that is why there's so much detail in there so I hope you find it useful and valuable and we're here to answer questions if you need it

[Acting Chair]
for sure thank you uh senior director Tomlinson I see Representative Dunfield's hand up online so please go ahead Representative Dunfield

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[Representative Dunfield]
um thanks Mr.Chair just wanting to um highlight that I actually don't have in the online package um the documents that were shared today nor do I have uh the former region 2 transition could someone email those to

[Acting Chair]
we'll get somebody on the team to do that thank you so much appreciate it okay and so just for your uh knowledge uh the former region 2 transition is a verbal update so there isn't anything uh to provide as a physical copy so but the piece that we have in front of us in our packages we'll make sure that you get okay thank you you're welcome uh looking to Secretary Lisa Wolfe

[Secretary Lisa Wolfe]
yes thank you Mr. Chair um are we we're not going to read the appendix on that because it's already been presented um therefore if there's no other questions or objections I would like to propose the motion okay thank you be proposed and be pardon me this is a proposed motion be it resolved by citizens council having reviewed the briefing note on the establishment of the Edmonton Whitemud District Council as presented by administration on July 20th 2026 that administration is hereby directed to request that Whitemud District to hold its special meeting to transition by September 30th 2026 and if the Whitemud District does not an election will be held on behalf of the citizens in Whitemud District for a district captain on behalf of the local and the rest of it is in order to affect the formal establishment of Edmonton Whitemud District in council in the interest of the Otipemisiwak Métis government citizens that reside therein and I'll bring this paper over to you okay yeah and just one correction

[Acting Chair]
July 30th yeah September yes July 30th is already on uh yeah I just just the I ought to be written that way but you just said 20th I think oh I'm sorry no I'm sorry just just for the verbal account it was the 30th uh that you meant to read and it is 30th in the written and we'll get that from you and we'll make sure we capture it and then we can we can make sure that we know exactly again what we're what we're talking about is there a seconder for that um Secretary Chodzicki. I heard a voice okay uh go ahead um I think uh the end of your your um motion Secretary will uh said to be held on behalf of the district local but it would be the citizens of the district

[Secretary Lisa Wolfe]
you want me to read it again yes please okay on behalf of the citizens okay okay do you want the whole motion or just the ad lib just the ad lib okay so where it says that administration on July 30th 2026 that administration is hereby directed to request that Whitemud district to hold its special meeting to transition by September 30th 2026 and if the Whitemud district does not an election will be held on behalf of the citizens in Whitemud district for a district captain on behalf of the citizens in order to affect the formal establishment of the Edmonton Whitemud district council and the interest of the Otipemisiwak métis government citizens writing residing therein

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[Acting Chair]
no that's good thank you for rereading that Mr. brings up thank you and it was seconded by Secretary Chodzicki so i'd look to the floor for discussion Secretary Sarah Wolfe thank you um

[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]
i would just like to speak in support of this motion i think it's really important for citizens to have representation by a district captain within their district as is stated in the report citizens are going to other districts to receive the programs and the events and things that should be happening in in their district and we already know that districts are running with tight budgets so hopefully that will if this does go to pass and we do get a district council within the Whitemud district it will help relieve some of that financial burden on the surrounding districts as well as open up so many more opportunities for those in Whitemud

[Acting Chair]
thank you thank you i'll go to Secretary Collins

[Secretary Collins]
just for asking a point of clarity so the the other option and process that's in place for citizens to have forwarded a petition indicating that they want you know to move forward in their district that hasn't happened and if it and if that hasn't happened uh we're just saying you're going to have your election anyway that's what

[Speaker 3]
it's saying thank you the other option is to hold a petition absolutely and that has not happened and i believe um Secretary Leddy would like to speak more to that yeah go ahead Secretary

[Secretary Leddy]
thank you um i think one of the things that has been a barrier within my district is while we have a local um in general like i can speak from my own experience i was not aware of this local until transition started and i was seeking engagement in the st albert local as a young person as a Métis person and kind of the effect of that i think compared to a lot of the other examples we saw where there are locals and citizens were very or were somewhat organized and engaged already that really hasn't been the story for south Edmonton um for the Edmonton Whitemud district and in that way that that petition is worked really well in other areas where there's some organization of citizens already uh appears to become somewhat of a barrier i have citizens reach out to me looking to start petitions and i try to support them as much as i can in that process but the hard part that comes in while yes we have five approximately 5 000 um citizens within the district if you don't know each other it's really hard to find a 99 other people to sign that petition and it is a struggle i've been hearing from those folks um so it's not a case of citizens not desiring a district council it is um just a case where that transition plan maybe wasn't able to foresee this specific challenge uh that being said i'm i'm very much in support of getting that representation for

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for my citizens within my district i can tell they need it we have some really big projects coming up with f core with the city of Edmonton and i know that um i i'm doing my best to fill in the gap that is there right now but i am one person and having a district council means there's a few more eyes and there's a lot more help in making sure we're not missing pieces going forward so i'm very much in support of of any way we can move forward to getting towards that district council and that district captain and the motion proposed or moved by Secretary Lisa Wolfe i feel is uh still gives time to the local to really make a decision um when i read through this it's a lot of uh i'm going to say waffling about taking that next step and i really hope the local will take the next step i'm happy to give them the time to like come to a decision if they're going to take that next step but i'm also really aware that we approved their bylaws at this table in 2024 and it's 2026 and i'm citizens are getting tired of waiting and i don't know how long we're supposed to make them wait so that September 30th kind of deadline makes sense to me and i'm hopeful that we can move forward to better our the situation for the citizens citizens within the Edmonton Whitemud district

[Acting Chair]
thank you uh Representative Dunfield

[Representative Dunfield]
um thank you so much Mr. Chair and thank you Secretary Leddy for uh sharing that because i i think that's kind of uh where my hesitation is like in terms of um proposing a motion that citizens council is dictating this process you know understanding i guess what i'm trying to understand is a petition for the citizens uh to get 100 signatures um has not formally been followed through on is that correct or is it that they have tried but because there's not um a real um because they don't have you know how many citizens are in the district or being able to reach out to them that's that's been a barrier i think i'm asking Secretary Leddy sorry yeah go ahead Secretary Leddy

[Secretary Leddy]
so i've had citizens reach out trying to initiate the process of collecting those signatures for a petition and being able to write what the wording of the petition would be um beyond that it i have never received an update and from my understanding the chief electoral officer has not received a petition with 100 signatures at this point

[Representative Dunfield]
um i think this might be a question more for senior director Tomlinson uh just like i said again i i understand the need and i and i want to respect where everything is at but i am a little concerned about citizens council um dictating what uh what a district should do in order to what is the the process to support um that petition because i think one of the things that i'm struggling with is i would like to see that coming directly from the citizens and not necessarily citizens council so maybe director Tomlinson our senior director Tomlinson do you have any feedback or anything you can provide to us on that because i feel that there's a way that we can potentially look at uh citizens um a citizen's petition that would come directly that would that would support this process i i'm just really hesitant around citizens council dictating this

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[Senior Director Tomlinson]
yeah i mean i'm hesitant to offer an opinion on pros or cons this is within the authority of citizens council to make determinations there also is the legislative pathway of petitions that are there which is is an option established in the legislation i mean we gave the examples of where the different pathways have been used and what the the eventual results were uh in each of them um so that you guys can make make your best assessments on what the the risks and versus reWard is in this case so i mean i can't speak to whether any one pathway is better than the other i mean in the case of lake lavish council did direct the the department to assist with developing petition language and helping the citizens Representative at that time by providing that language so that they could go out and advance that process that was an option that was used there but again uh you know it's led to to mixed results in all of these different locals and districts so this really is a council decision it really is within your authority no matter which way you go um but this is one of those kind of hard governance conversations that you guys just have to work through and try and make your best choices

[Representative Dunfield]
okay thank you Mr. Chair one more question for you Secretary Leddy uh you did state and i do recall that we that um the bylaws had been approved by citizens council um once those are approved i'm assuming then that those bylaws that were approved did not go back to the citizens of district 10 for ratification

[Secretary Leddy]
so i'm sure Nicole could also answer to this but at the point that we approved them they went back to the local and the local was to hold a special meeting to adopt those bylaws that is the piece that has been missing they have not taken the steps to call a special meeting and even in the package um after that after that they've kind of based on the information in the report they have come out or they have said uh different things regarding what they wanted to do with the bylaws moving forward whether changing them and bringing them back for reapproval um that being said i don't believe that they've really brought anything back for reapproval and that is on top of not having the special meeting

[Representative Dunfield]
okay um so then Mr. Tomlinson uh or and i i apologize for taking up the time but i'm just trying to go through some processes here so citizens council approved those bylaws the local has not taken those bylaws to the citizens for ratification is is there uh an opportunity for um Secretary Leddy to take those bylaws to her citizens for ratification so then the citizens have the have that authority and not necessarily go through the local senior director Tomlinson i don't know if that's a question more for you or for or Nicole um if i may i i think that uh Secretary Leddy would not have the authority to go to the membership of the local to present bylaws um to to change their bylaws that is something that they would have to do within their own bylaws and i think that the the motion that is presented by Secretary Wolfe is exactly that it is making the decision to bypass the local if they don't hold that special meeting by a certain date so that the chief electoral office could have an election in

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that area and establish a district um if you would like to elaborate Mr. Tomlinson no i mean that that makes sense to me

[Senior Director Tomlinson]
I think legal counsel can weigh in here as well i think the way to advance the bylaws would be to hold the district captain election and have the district captain advance bylaws rather than the citizens Representative

[Representative Dunfield]
okay no i i understand now thank you uh director Tomlinson because then that would also mean that as well too that those bylaws that were approved would actually not be the bylaws that would come back to citizens council because there would have to be a change in those bylaws because the previous bylaws um mentioned the local and um then the new bylaws would be removing that is that correct once the district captain is is is elected yes your thoughts that sounds right to me yes once the district captain is elected then they would then establish the district council bylaws no i appreciate um answering all my questions thank you thank you

[Acting Chair]
um Secretary Lisa Wolfe

[Secretary Lisa Wolfe]
yes thank you um and i know uh Representative Dunfield uh apologize that you don't have a copy of the the briefing note um i just want to remind you that again that foothills and Calgary nose hill and fort Edmonton and Lac La Biche went through similar processes with the exception i think Lac La Biche actually had a petition submitted on behalf but uh if you need a copy of that we can certainly send that for you just so that you have case uh kind of a case precedent of that has been done before thank you i just received it thank you

[Acting Chair]
yep you're welcome excellent Secretary Sarah Wolfe you were on the list before so you're good okay any other discussion so we do have a motion on the floor do you want to reread it just to make sure we know because we kind of got there but okay we'll do that if we can uh reread that and thank you

[Acting Clerk Lindsay Henderson]
be it resolved by the citizens council having reviewed the briefing note on the establishment of the Edmonton Whitemud district council as presented by administration on July 30th 2026 that administration is hereby directed to request that Whitemud district hold its special meeting to transition by September 30th 2026 and if the Whitemud district does not an election will be held on behalf of the citizens in Whitemud district for a district captain on behalf of the citizens in order to affect the formal establishment of the Edmonton Whitemud district council in the interest of the Otipemisiwak Métis government citizens residing therein

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[Acting Chair]
okay so i will look to the floor uh for any opposition to the motion that was read and it was sorry it was moved by Secretary Lisa Wolfe and seconded by Secretary Chodzicki so is there any opposition to the uh the motion that was read come on i see none motion is passed okay creeping up okay we uh number item sub item four uh is the former region two transition

[Transition Manager Nicole Shepherd]
thank you Mr. Chair and it's you again it is not me again i but i am here for support but thank you for your patience on my not so brief briefing note but i will hand it over to Mr. Guthro to give a verbal update on region two at this time thank you Nicole and

[Legal Counsel Ethan Guthro]
hello again everyone so as was requested at the June citizens council meeting we have a brief update on the transition of the former region two regional council and just to start off i do want to apologize for not having a written update on this for you all today Nicole and i met with Representatives of the region two regional council and of the st paul cold lake district council on Monday night and we wanted to be sure that we weren't providing a briefing note with out of date or inaccurate information so we felt best to hold off on submitting our briefing note until we had all of the information in hand so apologies again for that to get into this so as everyone will recall on January 15th of 2026 the members of mna region two adopted a special resolution authorizing and approving the transition of the region to regional council in accordance with the transition plan and the Otipemisiwak Métis government transition plan sets out that the regional councils will transfer all of their assets and liabilities to the district councils located within the geographical boundaries of the former region and then the regional council will dissolve so that was January of 2026 and again as everyone knows region two is the first region going through this process and so since then we've been really trying to sort out anything and everything that comes up unexpectedly some of those logistical considerations but we have made good good progress on this and we've been working very closely with Representatives and legal advisors from both region two and st paul cold lake to coordinate everything so as i mentioned we we met with the Representatives of the district council and of region two this past Monday to go over financial aspects of the transition and to finalize the outstanding items required for us to move forward that meeting was was very successful and we did get everything that we we need so i am now working with with region two's legal counsel to finalize the required legal paperwork required to affect the transition and we are aiming to have drafts of that paperwork ready for review by the regional council and the district council sometime in the coming weeks ideally within the next two and at that point we will go from there again just a brief update for everyone as this was requested at the June 2026 citizens council meeting and Nicole and i are very happy to answer any questions from council uh that that you may have thank you okay any questions, go ahead Secretary Collins

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[Secretary Collins]
thank you uh thank you ethan i guess my question would be because we there was no regional council so i'm wondering who are the reps and who are the people from regional council that you're meeting with

[Legal Counsel Ethan Guthro]
so we are meeting with that the legal counsel for the region to regional council that is the Representative of region two in this instance terry

[Secretary Collins]
right that's correct yes i i guess why i raised it at the at the June meeting is this process seems to be taking quite long considering we didn't have a regional council and we thought it could be quite expedited to uh to because i attended the January meeting and at that time i understood that wonderful great we passed this resolution we just have to take it over to society's registrar and register that process and the whole um um process i guess with respect to the um transference of assets and liabilities was going to be quite quick and i guess one of my questions my question is we're six months later and the folks are that still hasn't yet happened to to the point where the district has the assets has the ability to you know do things within their operations without still having to run around and get check signed which is every time they need to get check signs the um the um bank account gets lower and lower and lower because somebody has to get paid to come and run and get check signed for mileage and that's been going on for geez since we started this whole process so meanwhile and i'm sitting here as a citizen of the district as well as the Representative of the district saying we keep chomping at this bank account the bank account of another society to to do all of this stuff when i imagine by now it's getting to be a substantive amount that could have been provided for a program or services within the within the district that's where i'm coming from with all of this is the the timing of it and um i guess i guess part of it comes from my my experience of helping uh to register societies and uh other pieces that you've i've had to do with other societies that i was involved with and it seemed to me it doesn't take that long so that's where i'm coming from with all of that and i also brought it forward because when i did meet with the council they were concerned about about these pieces that i'm raising and if they didn't raise them with you on Monday then i don't know if they're telling me one thing and telling you another

[Legal Counsel Ethan Guthro]
thank you absolutely thank you Secretary Collins and um you know just to address your first point i completely agree six months is a very long time for a process like this to be to be going on and i absolutely understand uh just the difficulty and frustration that the district council is dealing with needing to come to Edmonton for for getting their cheques signed every every month i think um i will say there have been a number of random things unexpected issues that have arisen throughout this process that have been going on in the background and um just you know for for the sake of a couple examples um we are looking at uh looking at multiple pieces pieces of land multiple bank accounts some of which are registered with aglc and require uh certain licenses to be transferred over and all of all of that related to it so um in theory this was supposed to be very quick very easy very simple

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and uh it seems like every day it turns out there's a little bit more that is coming up but um Monday are the meeting Nicole and i had on Monday was was positive and i think we are now at a point where everything is finally squared away so i would like to apologize for the delay it is certainly not my intention to have this uh been going on for for so long but um we now know and i think we we've at least sorted out a framework for how to approach regional council transition as we move forward with the other regions thank you. so we think this can wrap up in two weeks that is my hope okay any other questions

[Acting Chair]
and i see on the agenda motion required so i'm assuming you're seeking a motion to accept the update on a former region to transition a verbal update on former region to transition as presented to council yes please Mr. Chair thank you is there a mover for that i see Secretary Blatz seconders Secretary Wolfe any opposition none okay we're about at lunch but um wondering if maybe we should break for lunch come back for the the last item on this one i've seen some heads yeah okay so um we'll break for lunch and uh we'll look to our elder to provide us blessings for our meal and uh and then we can we can take a break thank you

[Elder Dianne Ludwig]
creator bless the food which we are about to eat and put good thoughts into it with lots of blessings and love and nourishment for our our body and i ask for one more thing to bless the parker family as they have as they have found him and i ask in the precious name of jesus please say a prayer for his family special prayer for the family to bless them and keep them safe but give thanks for finding parker keep the angels close to them as they go on with this journey amen

[Acting Chair]
uh recess for lunch um we had an hour and a half for lunch but maybe we can cut her a little shorter uh we'll do an hour okay so we'll come back at one meeting back to order where we left off on our agenda was uh the report so i have item number five uh and v under that that's cake could take i think i messed it up again but i'm working on it there you go i'd look at KC, Secretary Collins every time we had a long conversation this weekend about it um nominations update and this would be Lina Chhom so i pass it to you

[Acting Project Manager Lina Chhom]
um good morning or good afternoon uh members of council i hope you all had a wonderful lunch so given our full agenda today i'll just keep my part of this brief so that you all have as much time as possible to consider the the drafts and have your discussion now the context for today's update is um now that we're expecting work on the Kahsketakihk regulation to be wrapped up soon we'll be bringing a final draft to the august meeting for cabinet to consider um administration has shifted its focus to prepare for the launch of the inaugural call for nominations for the council as you can see in the briefing note there um originally a draft nomination form and guidelines document was presented to council at the November 14th 2025 meeting um we took back some feedback from that meeting and we've revised it and it's in today's appendix some of the key revisions include clarifying that the honorarium

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provided to the members is intended to compensate for the meeting attendance as well as any reasonable preparation or follow-up activities we've also updated to confirm that the Otipemisiwak Métis government will administer all honoraria in accordance with the relevant federal and provincial tax legislation um additionally as we prep for this rollout supplementary materials to support prospective nominators are also being developed so this will include an faq document and some sample supporting documents such as um what would a biography or letter of support look and currently we are planning for august 17th as the targeted launch date for the call of call for nominations to open um you'll see there that the timing of that is meant to align with the week of the gathering which provides an opportunity for us to announce it where many citizens are already gathered together um it is also after the august 13th meeting so should there be any um additional feedback we can incorporate that before it's released to the public and with that i'll just allow you all to take a moment to look through the resources that's been provided and i'll take any questions that you may have

[Acting Chair]
thank you Lina uh looking for quite any questions i'll look to Secretary Collins first and i see you uh Representative Dunfield as well but go ahead Secretary Collins

[Secretary Collins]
thank you Mr. Chair, and ask them all our elder for taking some time to focus us and remind us that when one of our people at our table something happens to them all of this other stuff gets put to the side for the moment and we pray for that person and for that family so for grounding us in that respect because those uh values customs traditions culture and all of that that Daniel spoke about in these last couple of days this is exactly what that's all about and so i give thanks for that my question is with respect to um i guess it's on the page that the second page of the appendix to to the bottom there and i i know it says incomplete or ineligible nominations may be disqualified i'm just wondering have we thought of are we gonna do we think we should put any kind of piece in there in between so that there is some communication back and forth perhaps if we're missing one letter or missing something will there be an opportunity for that app that nominee's name to potentially add that other piece and be part of it where i'm going with that is i just don't want a process to just disqualify reputable elders and knowledge holders because one small piece of information may have been missing so i i raise that concern in that regard because we want it to be more inclusive and uh you know inviting and all of that for um for our council so there's that piece and the other piece which is again the next page of that it's the nomination form thing and there's a placeholder there can we possibly put some thought into um including our district offices because you don't want to drive to Edmonton you don't want to drive to Calgary to go drop off a nomination form when your office is right there and it then it includes our district offices and that branch of the government to be able to participate in this whole process of the recruitment and the nomination process and all of that for the cox gate council so i would suggest when we put more thought into that placeholder that we consider our other branch of government that there's a place in space for them to participate in this whole process thank you very much sir go ahead

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[Acting Projects Manager Lina Chhom]
um thank you for those comments um yes so for the first one regarding the elimination in the faq we can definitely add in some more information that um if an application package is missing any of the items we will do our best to first reach out to them to uh support you know make sure that they can get it in if they're aware that there are missing pieces um and then for the second comment um that is something we are considering so we are just working out the operational details of how we can get the paper copies of the package once it's completed out to those offices and what it would look like getting them back to head office for us to process them and to consider things like um information privacy and handling sensitive uh information like that President Sandmaier yeah thank you for that Secretary Collins because those were the things that were um stood out for me was the the incomplete um um packages and not not having the opportunity to complete the package so we do have to put something in place there i would hate to see um an application get just disqualified for something like a driver's license missing so let's let's make sure that we have that in the faq and that we have the support there to um follow up to make sure that the applications are complete um and yeah the placeholder for the district offices those that have district offices i think it is it important for people to have access um to be able to drop off outside of just Edmonton if they don't have access to email or snail mail um so that's really important that that we're able to do that and then we'll have to figure out the logistics um to get getting those back to us at citizens council who ultimately is responsible um for choosing um the council um under the constitution thank you

[Acting Chair]
and Representative Dunfield go ahead

[Representative Dunfield]
thank you Mr. Chair um thank you kokum Dianne um i did let Representative Paul-Alook know about your prayers and uh and um everyone's prayers are on the table and she wanted to me to extend her thanks uh to all of you for thinking of her and her family at this time um uh so thank you for that um uh Secretary Collins i agree that there's opportunity for um you know to use some of our offices and i know uh just particularly right now with uh Grande prairie Métis district we do use our uh current local office which will turn into our district office once we transition um and i i hope that we're able to use that space i i understand um you know the concern around privacy and information but just a reminder that those of us that still have our local or regional offices we also take in registry uh application forms which includes some of that information so i think there's a way that we can support each other in doing that the only other um piece that i wanted to flag is i do recall from the last meeting that we had uh where we were looking at um where we brought forward a lot of the questions and updates to the cookie ticket council that um there was a request and i know um it was it was from myself that a final document uh comes to citizens council for final review before any decisions are made so i just wanted to confirm that because um i did hear that uh a final document would be provided to cabinet um for consideration in august so i'm wanting to know if that final document will be

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provided to citizens council uh prior to cabinet for any further review because there was a lot of um information that we had asked for updates on and we haven't seen that final yet

[Acting Projects Manager Lina Chhom]
i'll defer to the President for the final say on this but currently administration's plan is to complete those edits and then circulate the finalized draft to citizens council as a whole virtually before the cabinet meeting

[President Sandmaier]
i think that that satisfies the request for it to go to council and then cabinet can make a decision at cabinet in august and and bring the final document to council

[Secretary Lisa Wolfe]
okay thank you

[Acting Chair]
thank you um Secretary Bramfield go ahead

[Secretary Bramfield]
thank you i would just like to request that we add the pronunciation or phonetics back onto the form

[Acting Chair]
and i will say it's being noted um Representative Ward go ahead um i want to yeah

[Representative Ward]
i think KC makes a really good point if we could also somehow incorporate for those of us that don't have districts offices if um even our nomination those nomination papers can be brought to the closest nomination office to them if they choose to do that route

[Acting Chair]
thank you Representative Moore

[Representative Moore]
i don't know how to work these sorry guys um this looks really good i just maybe we discussed this previously and i just wanted to kind of flag it um did we want to include a criminal record check for um this type of position or did we decide that we didn't want to hinder people from being able to when they're knowledge holders so um i don't know if we want to discuss or um perhaps just add it

[Acting Projects Manager Lina Chhom]
i believe that was previously discussed at one of the earlier workshops and i recall the decision was to not do it um just because there wasn't um justified basis i would have to go back and refer to our notes to find the specific rationale unless you want to ask legal who's in the room now but at the time the decision was to leave out the background check

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[Acting Chair]
thank you Secretary Mitchell

[Secretary Mitchell]
yeah i think maybe legal should have a bit of input here i think my recollection was that there was um some kind of thing where we couldn't legally require them to get a criminal record check for a vulnerable person's check uh i'm i'm pretty positive it was a illegal thing because there was a lot of discussion about it but i'm i'm pretty sure there was something that was barring us from doing that

[Legal Counsel Candice Telfer]
thanks Secretary i'm not aware of those discussions but we can look into that quickly

[Acting Chair]
any other discussion Secretary Leddy go ahead

[Secretary Leddy]
uh first of all i wanted to say that i was really excited to see this on the agenda and to go through it i think um in general it looks pretty fantastic and um the small like there's small like formatting things that maybe bother me but i'm sure that those will be noticed by others and like fixed and it's just a draft in that way when it comes to the police record check i was pretty sure that was uh the vulnerable sectors check was kind of where the concern was especially just with the history with the child welfare system and that that may be something there um but also whether or not it would be something depending on where you live if you'd be able to get it uh but yeah i would love to hear um the follow-up uh regarding that um other than that i'm really excited to move this forward and hopefully we can get those these out and start having nominations and get our council up and running soon

[Acting Chair]
Secretary Lussier, go ahead.

[Secretary Nelson Lussier]
um will we also be uh if needed or when needed covering the room cost for travel it's just written meals and travel expenses there and also for travel expenses can we put uh um the owner of the vehicle in case the elder is picked up it's not it's for the kilometers of the driver isn't it how we can word that reimbursement for travel expenses owner of vehicle or and include meals and rooms if when needed

[Acting Projects Manager Lina Chhom]
all those details will be included in the more detailed um policy that's being developed for this since it's just a high level guideline for them to get a reference um it doesn't reflect that but it will definitely be the policy end

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[Acting Chair]
President Sandmaier.

[President Sandmaier]
i i just want to add um i'm so happy to see the the movement on the casquette to kick council i think it's really important we've been working on this for quite some time and i'm really looking forward to being able to say to citizens when we are at our annual citizens gathering that we're going to be moving forward and nomination packages will be going out i think um to get our Kahsketakihk council up and running so that they can work on their terms of reference um it's just so important to to this council and to our citizens that we fulfill that um that part of our constitution so i'm really looking forward to moving ahead thank you

[Acting Chair]
thank you as Secretary Chodzicki

[Secretary Joe Chodzicki]
thank you i just have one little bit of a concern here uh under the appendix one uh the members are expected to advise relating to matey history to traditions way of life values culture and knowledge so this is more like maybe a question than that i do know a couple elders that would probably be good for this role except for the fact that they didn't know they were maintained till they got turned 60 so i don't know if they could fulfill this role properly and i guess that's just for discussion uh because you know we certainly don't want to get uh somebody that doesn't really know the tradition fully if you know what i mean so i'm it bothers me when i read that and i can't think well how do you get around that and we end up with the wrong people on the board

[Acting Chair]
Go ahead Candice

[Legal Counsel Candice Telfer]
so just following up on the Secretary's question so we're not of the view that there's an illegal bar to requiring a criminal record check or a vulnerable person check the one thing that we would note as a practical matter is our understanding is that the RCMP is often unwilling to provide a vulnerable person check without um there being a demonstrated explicit need so that's a practical issue right but otherwise certainly you can require a criminal record check and certainly in the with the district councils for example we require a criminal record check so that should be fine

[Acting Chair]
thank you Secretary Leddy

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[Secretary Leddy]
this is maybe more of like a technical question on like criminal record checks but um just the base criminal record check would that um potentially include a certain like i don't know how to put it like child related crimes or things like that would that pop up in a normal

[Acting Chair]
uh Representative Moore what's next i was talking okay yeah thank you i i can't turn off mics yeah go ahead Secretary Wolfe

[Secretary Lisa Wolfe]
thank you um so in the basic criminal record checks you're going to get everything everything from thefts to impaired drivings you will get things if they have been charged under the child welfare act under there but it's only charges related if you were going to look for something like said where maybe they were had a protection order against children for a crime that maybe was family law that's where the vulnerable sectors search would come in but as for a basic um criminal record checks really what you're looking for in there is that even if we do get somebody in there that might have some thefts or might have something that they did back in their early years the most important factor is that do you have any crimes against persons that's really where it becomes an issue is there a crime against person so that's a robbery sexual assault anything to do with children invitations sexual touching that kind of stuff where they've been charged and really like a theft of something that happened more than five years ago or maybe they were doing impaired driving more than five years ago that is a different history and it's taken even in a different context even for hiring standards for human resources purposes so when we do that even if we have an elder that had a past the only thing that you're really looking at is crimes against people under that criminal records check thanks

[Secretary Collins]
uh we'll go to our uh interim SEO Daniel

[Interim Senior Executive Officer Daniel Quan-Watson]
i guess i just feel compelled to say that there are those legal aspects to it from a criminal perspective but uh as an employer in the past where i've been sued a few times uh is for not having done the due diligence to know and ask those questions in the first place and you can get a lot of information you have to decide what you do with it but especially if somebody's going to be working with the potentially vulnerable population obviously you never want anything wrong to happen but you also want to be able to prove in the instance that either something does happen or there's an allegation that you took the reasonable steps to find out those questions and so i guess all i would contribute to this debate is it would be a horrible instance to find out that either as an allegation of something or something did happen and we had the opportunity to know about that in the past and chose not to do it at that point in time you have a perfect setup for not only the horrible events that happen but being liable for them

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[Acting Chair]
thank you Candice

[Legal Counsel Candice Telfer]
just one really quick point i i should just add if that is a requirement and this is i guess previewing a conversation we're going to be having in a little bit this afternoon but that kind of information would be considered particularly sensitive uh personal information so if that is a requirement just to be prepared that you have systems in place to protect that information

[Acting Chair]
and thank you Representative Moore for your patience please go

[Representative Moore]
okay sorry um when we worked with uh elders in the schools um because it would be too cumbersome for us to expect an elder to produce a vulnerable sector check or a crim check what we did was we just had policies in place where the elder would never be alone with children which generally doesn't happen and so i kind of want to add to this question is is anything that we're asking of our elders going to require that we're we're looking for their wisdom and advice and knowledge um i they're not going to be in a role where i think we would be um vulnerable however you just never know um because i don't i would hate for us to not have a really good knowledge holder come to the table to share their knowledge because they can't clear that record when in fact it's not going to hinder their ability to share their wisdom so just thought i'd add that

[Acting Chair]
thank you Secretary Mitchell

[Secretary Mitchell]
So thinking about the conversations around the table um i think maybe the vulnerable sector check if i'm you know understanding uh Secretary Lisa Wolfe correctly isn't super necessary but maybe we do a criminal record check noting that um we're looking specifically for instances of things where it's against another person i'm not phrasing that properly but um i i do think that it might it would be probably important and even listening to our our interim seo um that we have that in place that's my thoughts on that

[Elder Dianne Ludwig]
it's got to come from here like you're you guys are the ones that are going to have to that are going to have to request that working in the school system for 31 years i know that i have to have a criminal record check done on me every i think it was once a year and we have to have two one from social services and one from the RCMP and if uh there i don't know how much they cost now but i know that if it's requested by the employer or whatever you they don't you don't have to pay but if you have to if you went into the RCMP and say i need this criminal record check for myself they're not they're going to charge you yeah it's good to get it done and just time consuming for them to go there

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[Acting Chair]
thank you um Secretary Sarah Wolfe

[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]
thank you just in light of this conversation then if we were to require just a regular criminal records check would that like we wouldn't require everybody who's just nominated to get one it would be those after we've gone through the nomination process and we are extending that offer of the council to them that's when we would do the criminal record check right yeah go ahead

[Acting Projects Manager Lina Chhom]
uh yes so uh just our teams checked back through the previous workshop workshop notes and that is a previous decision that was made if you would like to retain it um in that at the application stage it would not be required but once we get to the short list or the final list of nominees the request can be made then

[Acting Chair]
okay thank you uh President Sandmaier are you have something to add

[President Sandmaier]
no i well i was just wanting to confirm with either legal or our Secretary Lisa Wolfe when you pull a criminal record check it that it says that there was a charge but doesn't list what it was

[Secretary Lisa Wolfe]
okay they actually say so i actually worked the unit and when you actually pull it you'll say the charge well now it depends how far you want to get into it sometimes you'll just say it's a charge on it and you can solicit for more information on it but if you wanted something for your person it will say that's why people apply for pardons right it's because there's things listed on their files and that's one thing i would say too if you have something on your file get it cleared up right away um this way you can do things but um yeah sometimes you'll say that this person is a high risk or not a risk or anything like that depending on what they're doing in the community that's literally what it's about are they at risk to reconsider so

[Acting Chair]
Thank you. Secretary Mitchell?

[Secretary Mitchell]
yes i think that might be a good balance is having not requiring it for the application but then requiring it after the the process has gone through and then like you said um Dianne that way it could be a request from us and then it wouldn't there wouldn't be maybe necessarily those charges of going to get your own prior. Go ahead, Daniel.

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[Interim Senior Executive Officer Daniel Quan-Watson]
The way that's often handled is you just make it a term and condition of employment and so in fact you don't even talk to anybody you let everybody know that you're going to do it but you don't do it unless you know that's the person and then as the elder said if in any given year you fail to requalify year one through 31 they can actually because it's a term a condition of employment stop your employment at that point in time but that's the way to actually reduce completely to one the number of requests you make you just make a term a condition of employment Secretary Collins go ahead

[Secretary Collins]
and so i i you know having listened to the input from from folks around the table when we look at this piece i'm wondering if we might okay so here's where i'm going with it like Lisa said if somebody pulled pulls their record check and they had an impaired when they were 19 years old and they're now 70 years old and they just never went and went and got a pardon are they no longer eligible or are we going to have a process that uh that says you know what i don't know maybe it's the maybe it's a risk risk to the public the crime against persons or particular areas of of that that uh that we're looking for as opposed to a 50 year old impaired driving charge and that so um i don't know if we because i now i really think that some of those things would not be so fair especially if they've been sober for 40 years and they had an impaired charge 50 years ago and they can no can't be the member because of it so i really think we got to be mindful on how we want to do this because we know in our communities not everybody runs over and goes and gets uh gets a pardon we saw that in our elections process there's people that are sitting there with really old uh charges but we're not eligible and i don't want to see i don't want to see us say we got all these elders now we make all these rules and now pretty soon we only have this little pile here to pick from right that's not to me that's that's um we're starting to limit we're being you know exclusive and and all of that kind of stuff so that's really not something that i'm in favor of going in that direction so maybe we need to put some really good thought behind how would we want

[Acting Chair]
to do this or not um limiting ourselves thank you uh thank you uh go to uh senior director Tomlinson

[Senior Director Tomlinson]
okay thanks Mr. Chair uh you know hearing council 100 i mean there's there's a way to draft language that compels a criminal record check and then also sets out the types of things that would be disqualifying convictions uh and ages and there's existing language in other documents that that we deal with largely from other departments that we can pull forward so if council wants us to draft that language i would say just direct it back to us for now and we'll come back with language uh at a future council meeting and say look this is what we'll include in your your requirements but this isn't a hard thing to do we just none of us will have the language at our fingertips today to get there but there is a place where that language exists that we can bring forward

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[Acting Chair]
Thank you. Secretary Mitchell?

[Secretary Mitchell]
yeah so i i think um KC to your point that's why i was mentioning like what uh what Lisa had said in you know specifically looking for crimes against persons and not necessarily the other charges so i think maybe if we find language around that so we don't disqualify people like you said who have had um maybe a dui or something many many years ago um like i'm i'm not for that but i mean you know specifically

[Acting Chair]
the crimes against persons piece yeah okay um pass it to your Daniel go ahead

[Interim Senior Executive Officer Daniel Quan-Watson]
yeah i'm gonna just say a criminal records check is not a binary thing where if you have a charge you're off and if you don't you're in um it's a question of what it is how long it is and it's very difficult to frame things because sometimes it can be about the nature of the charge whether or not there was a conviction how recent it was uh in what area and so it's not a situation where just because there was a charge even 40 years ago um that you necessarily say that that person may be a risk and that's the judgment that it's got to be but there is language that's regularly used on that front in the end it usually protects the ability of the employer to assess whether or not they feel that they're adequately protecting the people they're trying to protect and that has to

[Secretary Lisa Wolfe]
be the the judgment that's used Secretary Lisa Wolfe thank you um so at this time can we make a motion to enact administration to follow on the language that our Garrett Tomlinson had indicated around this particular aspect about talking about risk language but it doesn't preclude them from from applying so to bring that back for next meeting

[Acting Chair]
our wonderful uh recorder has actually offered up an option okay would you like me to read it thank you um yeah go ahead uh

[Acting Clerk Lindsay Henderson]
so the first part of the motion remains the same as what's in the briefing note be it resolved by the citizens council that the Kahsketakihk nominations update briefing note be accepted for information as presented and then be it further resolved that citizens council direct administration to take back the concerns raised at the July 30th 2026 citizens council meeting for review and consideration

[Acting Chair]
and the only maybe addition to that would be like a timeline for when you would like it back yeah for the for the next meeting of citizens council and yeah to be brought back and to be

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brought back to the next citizens citizens council meeting meeting of the citizens next regular meeting of the citizens council so okay we'll get it again

[Acting Clerk Lindsay Henderson]
uh so i'll just read the second part again be it further resolved that citizens council direct administration to take back the concerns raised at the July 30th 2026 citizens council meeting for review and consideration to be brought back to the next regular meeting of citizens council

[Acting Chair]
so yeah be it further resolved the citizens council direct administration to take back the concerns raised at the July 30th 2026 citizens council meeting for review and consideration at the next regular meeting of citizens council it's you so move Secretary Lisa Wolfe is there a seconder well i'll say Representative Campbell thank you um Secretary Collins

[Secretary Collins]
yeah i was just gonna point something out before the motion was and i and i i think the President that said when things come up about stuff that somebody's flagging it what i'm thinking about is i'm thinking about in the laws review the information that seo Daniel just provided with regards to ways of potentially working one with some very old charges that maybe that is something that could be looked at in the elections act uh for uh for candidates because if if it works at in in other processes then we don't we we might want to look at that when we're reviewing the elections act is all i was going to like thank you sir

[Acting Chair]
thank you any further discussion on the motion that's been presented moved and seconded looking seeing any is there any opposition do you have something to bring oh he's just waving oh you know we have uh we have a mover and a seconder yeah Secretary Lisa Wolfe moves uh Representative Campbell um seconded so is there any opposition to the motion that was as it was read seeing none carries thank you so we're now on to agenda item number six um the first item a under that citizen's proposal number 13 constitution commission um i i believe this might be senior director Tomlinson

[Senior Director Tomlinson]
you're correct Mr. Chair this one's mine uh council this one has been in your package for a bit of time i'll walk through it from a high level uh i know we're a bit behind so uh citizen's proposal number 13 which was brought forward at the 2025 citizens gathering as you'll recall was that citizens council consider creating a commission to identify amendments to the Métis constitution ahead of the three-year deadline that we have to fine-tune the elements that need to be addressed and reinforce and strengthen our constitution as outlined in chapter 29.2 of the constitution it cannot be amended during the first five years following its coming into force citizen's proposal mentions a three-year deadline which would refer to the restriction on the amendment period that ends in September of 2028 to

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support citizens council's continued discussion on the proposal we've gathered information requested by council during the October 6th citizens council meeting and compiled the relevant legislative references during the October 16th council meeting you asked for constitutional amendments or existing pinch points that would reform the amendment discussion a presentation from past constitution or past members of the constitution commission which was completed earlier this year gathering records and cost information about the previous constitution commission which is attached as an appendix to your briefing note back in October we had not as an administration done a significant amount of work in in itemizing the the pinch points challenges and gaps that existed constitutionally since that time staff and contractors have begun a development of that summary and areas for potential amendments solely from an administrative perspective we've also reviewed the official records of council for for formalized records for issues that you've identified and we'll be happy to present that that summary later on in the year likely in the fall once we get it a little bit more cohesive as i mentioned the constitution commission was the members were brought in and presented to council on march 18th we've pulled the cost information that's appended to your briefing note for the previous constitution commission which was comprised of five members inclusive of four commissioners in the Chair and operated from February 2020 to January 31st of 2023 it's broken down into three respective workflows planning engagement delivery it was a substantial undertaking with a lot of time and travel commitments from all members throughout the period there was an average of 17 commissioner meetings per year they attended two annual general assemblies in the year as well as well as roundtables conferences hearings and the sessions that were delivered to get to the final ratification of the constitution and then looking at what the proposal actually requests council to consider undertaking council does have the authority under section 69 of the self-government act to establish commissions made up of citizens council members looking at your June 18th citizens council meeting citizens council identified your primary role and responsibility as legislators within our government you ultimately passed a resolution to dissolve the legislative review and engagement committee to undertake and prioritize previously identified legislative review objectives that undertaking will include a phased review of all the existing omg legislation enacted following the ratification of the constitution and it would provide a unique opportunity to do some of this work as well a specified commissioner inquiry for the purpose of reviewing the constitution and potential future amendments whether it's undertaken by a selection of citizens council Representatives or by all of council would fall within the authority vested within citizens council to establish and it would appear to align with with council's identification of the legislative obligations looking at the record of June 18th looking at costs of a commission of the whole of council you can see that there's an estimate there based on if there were four quarterly meetings to undertake this work you'd be looking at costs for this fiscal year of 130 000 give or take for the remainder of the year and then 260 000 respectively for each of the following years and for two more meetings of that type another 130 000 in the 29 30 fiscal year so for a total project cost of around 780 000 looking at that option looking at section 68 in the south government act you also have the authority to establish advisory bodies which can include council members and external parties citizens and stakeholders for those purposes within the current legislative framework the previous

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constitution commission is most analogous to a section 68 advisory body that would exist under the current legislation it was made up of external citizens as well as the President as Chair and then brought in subject matter experts and professionals from outside to advise and support so this would be the legislative framework today that was that it would be a section 68 body the total known costs of the previous constitution commission over the three-year period in which it operated was exceeded two and a half million dollars an advisory body if undertaking this work in a manner with similar style and requirements as the previous constitution commission would be significant undertaking both cost and scope which was not included or considered in the 2026 27 governance budget that you approved looking at a rough breakdown if we apply the same estimates of costs without factoring in changes in inflation and things like that you'd be looking at a little over 500 000 which is unbudgeted for this fiscal year 840 plus thousand for the next two fiscal years after that and then around 350 000 into 29 30 uh presuming the same cadence scope and breadth of the commission of of that style um so we looked at options that citizens council could consider one option could be to refer to a future meeting of citizens council and agenda item for the purpose of defining and deliberating on options for establishment of either an advisory body within section 68 or a commission within section 69 or other relevant options and considerations that we may be able to to dream up or come up with based on your guidance in advance of the opening of the constitution amendment period so the council may make decisions to advance the amendments in interest of reinforcing and strengthening the constitution you could further direct the administration legal counsel review the potential options consideration and financial implications in advance of the council meeting in which their table to make sure you have all the information to make such a decision and we could bring forward substantive and relevant reports to inform those discussions so that you can rely on them later and really look back at how we got to where we're headed in the Alternative you could refer the further discussion and review of proposal 13 to the citizens council immediately following the omg general election in 2027 the idea behind that is one of the reasons for the five-year moratorium is to ensure that constitutional amendments didn't become a political wedge it was something was brought forward really strongly during the road show that we heard from citizens to give yourself a basis that your constitution isn't a political tool that puts your government in an unstable putting when you're negotiating with other governing partners in this interim period between your governing governing elections in the further Alternative council this is this is your project it is advice that came to you from citizens you can make any further decision as deemed appropriate within the authorities you have in legislation yeah and beyond that i will open it for questions and thoughts to hear from you

[Acting Chair]
thank you uh senior director Tomlinson um questions thoughts comments Secretary Collins go

[Secretary Collins]
ahead thank you Mr. Chair and thank you Garrett for uh for your presentation on the uh so um a couple of things first i'm not sure what r-i-r-s-d on your appendix i don't know what

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what that stands for um nonetheless when i look at these uh the information that's provided and having been a past person on that commission we we weren't we weren't employees so we're i i'm not sure if it just covered um the one staff person that we had there and the President and and we got paid by honorary and i don't even see that cost there so i'm wondering how this this these budget this this this uh uh year-end statement of earnings that is presented to us i personally am not seeing how this jives with uh with what we did as a constitution commission because it like i said we weren't employees and it doesn't even show honoraria which what we which was how we how we how we got paid um and i'm not sure of the acronyms but anyway there's that there's that piece and with regards my thoughts and my understanding of the proposal coming from our citizen is and i don't know if there was discussions that happened with the individual to see what the intent was or where they were coming from but my understanding is that there begin a process of and i don't believe they even discussed whether it'd be a a full-blown commission like the constitution commission was or if it was a you know bringing together of some knowledgeable folks to begin looking at the constitution to try and identify potential areas that could be looked at after the five-year period i don't think by any means because the i don't think it was meant that they intended to cause or try to have amendments to the constitution before the year five i think i think uh they were saying they were because i because i was talking to this person and they were thinking that instead of us just waiting till year five to start looking at it that we begin now so that we get a little bit ahead of the game i suppose and um so i don't know if we're looking at it or this briefing note is looking at it quite the same way that the person who is proposing stuff in the same light because i certainly know that it it wasn't a mode let's go spend two and a half million dollars i know that's not what they were that's not the intent of it however i don't want to brush this off of the table because the intent of that proposal makes sense to me that we be proactive and start looking at at our constitution so um having said all that i don't like i said i don't know if this person was spoken to because i recall in some of the other proposals we particularly the one around harvesting we said well maybe we should talk to Mr. Howse to see what his intentions were behind the uh the proposal so i don't know if that happened with this particular proposal to speak to that to that person because i'll guarantee you it was not a thing that where he said let's go spend two and a half million dollars before year end or year three or before the constitution so i i'm i'm i'm wanting us to be cautious so we don't throw a good idea out based on numbers that might not even be the true numbers and in saying that as well if indeed we think that it's a good process that we start being proactive it gives us some time in our budget planning to possibly include something in the 20 what would that be now 27 28 budget review that we'll have to do as as as a council prior to the next time around and i know that will have been lessened by a year but even if we have two years to start doing some preliminary proactive review that would still uh you know be good and with regards to if we want to bring some outside people in because we have some very intelligent um citizens out there that that was their life's work was around these kind of things that perhaps our option would be to go the advisory route so that we can bring either they can be part of the because you can make it like an ad hoc advisory you have you can there's only a certain length of time did they do this and and leave it open so that some of

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those really intelligent and contributing members could be a participant to and bring their contribution

[Acting Chair]
Thank you, go ahead Interim SEO Daniel.

[Interim Senior Executive Officer Daniel Quan-Watson]
you're going to get bored of me saying this so i'll just warn you on that front earlier we had a conversation a while ago for example about gas cards and if we're going to spend anything on gas cards we're going to have to stop spending on something else to do it what i would say about this is a combination of things it's going to cost a bunch of money whether or not it's exactly what's there it's going to cost a bunch of money it will mean saying no to funding some other things that you want to do between now and next year at this time but i'll add another thing there will and i can say this because i'm not elected um there will be an election next year and then there will be a group of people that come into this room after and maybe the same people maybe different people they will feel absolutely no compunction whatsoever to use the work that you paid for by not doing other things and they if they feel like they need to we'll start it over again and i would just say to you that there is no guarantee at all that any work out of this will ever lead to any productive result because those who sit in these Chairs 15 months from now or whatever the exact time frame is will make their own decisions exactly as you would have in relation to had there been a previous legislature here and i would just offer the view that if you're going to say no to other things that are really important make sure you're getting something that is well worth it out of that money and something that has no guarantee of ever even seeing the light of day you'll have to judge for yourselves whether or not you feel that that makes sense so i'm going to get boring on these topics about what some of the choices are but just offer that view

[Acting Chair]
thank you Secretary Leddy

[Secretary Leddy]
yeah and i've been kind of like munching over what is in this briefing note for a little bit and um it is one of those times where i feel like there's no easy call on what is in front of us um the part that gives me hesitation on the the first like option there is when i'm sure if we did a more in-depth cost analysis um the unbudgeted numbers for this uh budget year they're hard pills to swallow to spend that money um without without knowing what if we even have the money to do that um and then looking at the following of it um so much of that is not necessarily within the rest of our term so i honestly feel more comfortable with the second option that's presented of pushing to the referring refer further discussion review of the proposal uh to the citizens council meeting immediately following the uh general election in 2027 and my thought on that is very similar to what Daniel has just said um it would be very easy for a new council to just throw out what is happened beforehand um but i think it also allows them to make a decision that will inform the work that they're going

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to be able to do within their own term which includes potentially being um amendments to the constitution if that's found to be the case i just at this moment with the cost that i see there um i'm just i guess i'm not comfortable with the idea of really delving in deeper and starting that work right right this second and leaving it till after the next election

[Acting Chair]
thank you Secretary uh Representative Dunfield

[Representative Dunfield]
thank you Mr. Chair um no i thank you thank you Secretary Collins and Secretary Leddy for um you know sharing your perspectives i um after reading through all the different alternatives and stuff uh um i i do feel that um you know i'm really leaning towards the number two uh to leaving it uh after the next election in 2027 um i think there's a lot more that um you know this council needs to focus on and do and uh you know there's some work that's coming up with not only cook skating gig but with our youth council um and and other processes so i it's not that i'm trying to put this aside i i agree that um you know there's some things that we could be doing to think about some ways or some things that we want to look at when it comes to the constitution itself but i think in terms of of the expenditures and and moving forward and in light of um you know uh what Daniel was saying too like i i do think there's there's i would hate for us to put in all this work and then election happens and other people come in and we spent money for no reason because they're just going to change the process so i am definitely leaning towards um alternative 2

[Acting Chair]
thank you Representative Dunfield any other comments President Sandmaier thank you Chair

[President Sandmaier]
so after reading the briefing note and and the discussions um around the table and and Daniel's insight on on these matters i too um support Alternative number two i think you know we we um have a lot to do in the next year and we're you know already with the governance um budget over our budget um so we we need to figure figure that out and i just think um as has been said already that this work can um be on the table on the on the table for the next council in 2027

[Acting Chair]
thank you President Sandmaier. Representative Moore

[Representative Moore]
i i agree with everybody that number two is likely the best way to go i've had a curriculum shredded on me after working on it for three years so trust me i've lived it um in my mind though we we should kind of maybe be proactive to give them a little bit of a head start because in my mind the commission recommended that we couldn't make any changes for five years so that we could live and learn um as we go and work out any bugs and take note of it so in my mind um we should at least have some sort of um running record um of items

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that might they might want to start off with addressing and and reviewing um sort of as a starting point to give them a little boost in the direction of some of the changes they want might want to look at reviewing putting priority on whatever you want um just so that uh because really they're only going to have less than a year to finalize the reviews that they want to do if they're going to live within that five years so do we want to think about um somehow putting that together for a starting point so that the future commission can can take note of some of the some of the items that we've noticed in the last few years right

[Acting Chair]
President Sandmaier.

[President Sandmaier]
yeah and in the in the report in the briefing in the briefing note that was provided by self-government it it does say in there that they have um you know self-government department staff and contractors have begun the development of a summary of gaps pinch points and areas for amendment in the constitution existing omg laws regulations from solely administrative perspective but administration administration has also reviewed official records of citizens council for any formalized records related to current issues or conflicts related to the constitution so i imagine that um self-government will provide us with a report that we can go through and we can add add to as well um and then we can put it in a pretty little package for the next council

[Acting Chair]
thank you sorry Secretary Collins

[Secretary Collins]
yeah if nobody has any other questions i still have an outstanding question as to the information that was provided around what the last commission spent

[Acting Chair]
okay for clarity that oh Garrett okay we'll go to Garrett because i'm not supposed to be saying this stuff but i of that the RIRSD is i just give you the name of it that really fun it's uh recognition of indigenous uh recognition of indigenous rights and self-determination it's the negotiation funding yeah that's that's what it stands for but i'll pass to uh senior director Tomlinson and he had his hand up or is that all you were going to say

[Senior Director Tomlinson]
no i mean that was certainly the first part Mr. Chair the second part you know Secretary Collins is right the salary and wages refers to salary and wages of those employees who supported or spent time supporting the commission uh in their work uh both directly to the commission but also when things got sent back and had to be reviewed by administration and in various departments that time has to be coded somewhere so that time gets recorded there honorary it typically ends up in in meeting costs uh professional fees refers to the consultants and various folks who supported those uh those elements throughout the time uh the commission operated so this is an accurate accounting the the line items agreed

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aren't detailed um if we wanted to break open the gls we'd have to bring finance in and they could do that and go through those those lines for you but this is everything that was coded to supporting specifically the the work of the constitution commission over that three-year period across all line items

[Secretary Collins]
and just to be fair to the commission and the work that they did i want people to know this money wasn't all spent on what we did because if you look at the next year there is no meeting cost there so if you put honorarium to the meeting cost then i guess we didn't get no honorarium in the second year because there's no money no money expended so i just i just wanted to be clear this these numbers in this appendix that's not what we spent as a constitution commission in its work in that i can i can understand and believe that this these are this is the expenditures for the process of the of the um whatever the heck you said this acronym was all about but everybody that did all the work around that i can i believe that i'm not questioning that expenditure with regards to that program now that i know what it is i just wanted to be clear that we all understand this is not what the commission spent thank you so much

[Acting Chair]
Daniel

[Interim Senior Executive Officer Daniel Quan-Watson]
Just in the interest of making sure that we're fully accurate in our account here to council i want to just go back and chat with staff i probably won't get it done now there used to be a really brilliant deputy minister who used to be in charge of the irsd funding in the old days he changed jobs and recently came out to Alberta and worked for omg and i just want to just have a conversation internally to make sure that we have this completely accurate i don't think we'll be able to get you a final answer on it today but i think it is very important that we get you information that we're confident as can be that it is accurate and i i have a couple of questions that i just want to make sure i can follow up on but i want to do that privately with staff and then get back to you with a single answer that we're confident in

[Acting Chair]
thank you um Representative Dunfield

[Representative Dunfield]
thank you Mr. Chair i'm just wondering um i'm not trying to take away from anybody else that has any comments but are we looking for a motion today to pick to to determine which Alternative or are we just looking for a motion to um oh i sorry i was just looking at this i don't see a motion at all so i guess my question is are we looking for a motion

[Acting Chair]
it is entirely up to you as citizens council as to how you want to proceed um in in just hearing a few people mentioning um and yourself Representative Dunfield that the preference for um the second Alternative that we did craft something for consideration but

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it is a hundred percent up to you uh how you wish to proceed if you wish to craft a motion if you wish to table for more information um well i guess i would leave it to the table

[Representative Dunfield]
i i think i think i would like to do Alternative 2 but i also am fully aware that there were some questions raised by Secretary Collins and others that maybe we can incorporate in in in uh and including um Daniel incorporating in the motion because i don't want to lose any of those other pieces like as Daniel was saying like um having administration look at some other pieces so i'm just wondering then if we could you know uh craft a motion around Alternative two and i would be happy to make it as long as it captures those other pieces that Daniel was talking about and and Secretary Collins okay um President Sandmaier yeah i think

[President Sandmaier]
i think for the purposes of um you know being able to report at the citizens gathering on their proposal we do have to we do have to do a motion or and um explain the reasoning behind why we picked that motion or picked that option so i i do think we do need to move forward with the with the um motion to do option option two

[Representative Dunfield]
so President Sandmaier would you then want us to say be it resolved um that at the July 30th 2026 citizens council meeting uh citizens council refer further discussion of a review of the citizens proposal number 13 uh proposal of an early constitution commission to citizens council meeting immediately following the Otipemisiwak Métis government general election 2027 would that be acceptable

[President Sandmaier]
Representative Dunfield is it you're taking the words right from the pretty much yeah that's what i thought okay just adding the just adding the be it resolved piece yeah yeah yeah i think i mean it's up to the table but i i do think we do have to do that Daniel do you have something well

[Interim Senior Executive Officer Daniel Quan-Watson]
i'm just going to say um and if in the report if you're speaking to it if you want to say that you have directed the administration to keep that list i will be happy to commit to keeping that list i don't think it needs to be part of the the the motion it's simply something we can do and keep track of and i'd be happy to do it and so after you read back or report on the formal response you can add the color commentary that you've asked uh that notwithstanding that motion that uh administration keep a list and we'll gladly do that

[Representative Dunfield]
okay so i'm i'm prepared to make that motion um using the wording that's in that that piece and adding the be it resolved at the beginning okay do you want us to read it back

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[Acting Chair]
just to make sure i like that okay go ahead Lindsay

[Acting Clerk Lindsay Henderson]
be it resolved by the citizens council that further discussion and review of the citizens proposal number 13 proposal of an early constitution commission be referred to the citizens council meeting immediately following the Otipemisiwak Métis government general election in 2027

[Acting Chair]
sounds good awesome so you so move Representative Dunfield i so move and seconder oh there's some hands yeah uh Secretary Lisa Wolfe had her mic light on first so we'll take it as an extra step thank you and any further discussion i'm gonna look around and then seeing nobody immediately test for consensus any opposition seeing none motion is carried

[Secretary Collins]
Mr. Chair and and the minutes will reflect the commitment that Daniel has

[Acting Chair]
right we've recorded it as an action item uh so then it comes back wonderful thank you yeah yeah um okay so we're on uh 6b uh citizens proposal number 14 Métis crossing and we do have uh Juanita Marois online and i believe that also that one falls under President's portfolio so please take it away

[Representative Dunfield]
oh sorry Mr. Chair is this in the is this in the um the documents or is this just a verbal update

[President Sandmaier]
uh it is just a verbal update okay thank you you're welcome all right so um citizens proposal 14 was the proposal um i don't have it in front of me regarding the um looking into some Alternatives or additions to having our citizens gathering every other year at Métis crossing which would include you know looking into options for different um lodging um safety uh there was a whole list of things that was included in that and i don't know i don't have it in the package here so but what we have done is i've asked um ceo Juanita Marois to come to council today to do a presentation so i will hand it off to Juanita

[Métis Crossing CEO Juanita Marois]
thank you President Sandmaier um good afternoon elder Dianne and all of citizens council i do have a presentation and i just requested permission to share it and it was denied can we allow that presentation should be good now okay thank you can you see that now are you seeing the presentation i believe so acg discussion yes okay so thank you for this um and i do have the proposal uh here and it was moved by Audrey Poitras that citizens council and the Métis crossing board look at all options to deal with hosting the next citizens gathering here and Métis crossing in 2027 with options for all the concerns brought forward by the citizens at the gathering it was seconded by Trevor Ward there was no debate and it was

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carried by consensus now some of the citizens concerns that were brought up and recorded were crowding emergency evacuation concerns wildfire risk weather concerns lodging limitations accessibility the mobility of elders transportation travel burden and parking now while these were the concerns i think there were a lot of other comments from elders and other community members about the cultural relevance and importance of holding such a gathering at a place like Métis crossing where our nation has fought for this for decades and we do now have a place so what we've done is internally had some conversations at Métis crossing as a planning committee and then we brought it to the board of directors for Métis crossing spoke with President Sandmaier and and then had some further ideas that we will need to solidify a little bit more before of course bring you bring them to citizens gathering but these were some of the concepts that we did put together so now with the crowding and the accessibility what we're suggesting is that the citizens gathering is separated into two functional areas much like it was at the expo center in 2024 and we would have one place where food and entertainment happened and then a completely separate place where the business meeting happens now the food and entertainment would remain in the cultural gathering center that's where the commercial kitchen is and that certainly will increase the space for tables and and accessibility and mobility throughout the gathering center because the business meeting itself is not happening there it will also reduce the conflict of any of the preparation noise from having the food preparation being done and it would also certainly reduce the conflict between the timing of the business meetings which don't always go according to plan and the meal preparation which then our citizens had to wait to eat because we needed to quote flip the facility to move from a meeting to food preparation the second facility would of course be a business meeting area and that would occur in a secondary structure and we've brought forward two different options for that secondary structure now the first option that we're thinking of is somewhat of a permanent structure where we have two different price options here one is a rub facility and for any of you who have been out to this coal lake area these are the structures that were holding the CF-18s and the the federal government is taking those down and putting up new ones for the new fighter jets that they have so we have access to these with new coverings on them and the second one would be a sprung structure and we've gotten very high level quotes for this the provision of the structures themselves will range from 600 to 700,000 to get a facility that's big enough to house a thousand people which was the request that we made and the installation then would include a reinforced concrete floor as well as piling so that the structure is really not going anywhere and the budget total for both of those is very close it's about 2.5 million dollars now what you see here is the structure that came down from Smoky Lake so or not from Smoky Lake sorry from Cold Lake so this would be what it would look like with a new covering over top but the frame itself is very structurally sound and on the inside there is of course insulation and it would be better for sound than the second option so the other option that we're considering is complete rental tents basically the same size for a thousand people the tent rental and then of course for accessibility we would have to have a floor in there as well so this would become a annual cost for every second year and we do the motion is to have the the citizens gathering at Métis crossing every odd year so 25, 27, 29 so that's about a 70,000 dollar charge for that one so some of the considerations that we thought of is where are we going to put this what is the

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accessibility of both structures the power requirements the sound and the acoustics of course the parking as well as the washrooms and other usage what we have proposed for for siting locations and we were of course looking at it will need power it will need accessibility and it can't interfere with the other functions of Métis crossing and we have highlighted four options for siting and these options would be similar whether it was a rental tent or more of a permanent structure the first one is directly behind the parking lot where we currently have the historic pole sheds and machine sheds so they're older farm structures at Métis crossing so we considered potentially taking those down to allow us to be close to the other functions of the cultural gathering center in the historic area so this reduces any of the walking between different areas another site that we considered is a little bit further west and taking up a piece of the rv park which of course interferes with challenges that we already have with not enough accommodation but that keeps it on the south side of Victoria trail a third option that we considered is on the north side of Victoria trail so we are crossing a road but this is where currently the overflow rv camping has been for both the Alberta Métis fest and annual citizens gathering this does allow us to have easy access to power because we do have a transformer up there for the potable water treatment plant that we are running and then the other option is to take a piece of our horse paddock so this is where the visions hopes and dreams horses are we do have a northerly gate there that we can keep the horses out of that for the time of the citizens gathering or we would just restructure the fence if this became a permanent structure so those are some of our options for the business meeting and food and service form from an accommodations perspective i did want to bring up that the lodge at Métis Crossing currently has 40 rooms for skywatching structures we have six single domes two family domes that have a capacity for five or six people as well as two family cabins that are new in our camping without any reduction obviously we currently have eight trappers tents 21 powered rv stalls and then five tent stalls so that is what exists in our conversations particularly at the board meeting it was accessibility that we were most concerned about being able to have our citizens come and not having finances be a barrier so what we looked at was free overflow camping and we would have to look at where those are happening another consideration that we have is a temporary oil field setup now i that would be a very expensive option and i haven't been able to get a price yet from someone but i'll show you where we're considering that another option that we have is there's a service called rv easy and you rent other people's rvs and they come and they set them up for you ahead of time and then you rent them like you would a hotel room so we have that as an option and then of course the obvious one is shuttles from regional accommodations so that our citizens are not driving themselves back and forth so it reduces the traffic increases the safety but it does reduce the flexibility of people to come and go as they like so what we were thinking of now this is a similar map the free overflow camping is where it currently has been but we would just make sure that there are no fees charged for that the other option we have for rv easy rentals again is to take a piece of the horse paddock and put them up there and then the other option that we have is on the east side past the domes we do have a pasture there that we could look at setting up an oil field camp and it would depend of course on how self-sufficient that was because you do have to have provisions for potable water waste water as well as power so that would ultimately greatly impact the price of of the cap

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coming in now i do believe that there are a number of members of citizen councils and in our own communities that might be able to help us find a reduced cost on that but that's the reality of of where it would be is on the east side so that is my presentation for options and of course i am happy to answer any questions

[Acting Chair]
thank you uh we'll go to Secretary Blatz sure thank you

[Secretary Blatz]
um and thank you so much for your presentation Juanita um i'm happy to see that a lot of these concerns are getting addressed um mine are less maybe less of um questions and more of just putting some stuff out there for us to talk about for the options that were put on the table um specifically for the business meeting um it was said that for permanent structure it was going to be about 2.4 million dollars for the permanent structure that was put out um i my preference would be to have it seen as a as that 70 000 for the temporary structure because if you think about it we're doing this every two years and if we were to spend 70 000 it would take us 70 years for us to to pay to for that to be worth it for it to be a 2.4 million dollar structure um so to me i think that it makes more sense financially both in the short term and the long term for the for the temporary structure to go up every two years um and then secondly i would recommend a combo option for the accommodations portion um which would be in combination with the shuttles from the regional accommodations but also having the overflow free camping as well um i think that that way we're utilizing the space as best we can and accommodating folks who want to stay on site but then we can also uh make sure that we're accommodating the folks that are in the hotels in the region and that will also cut down on traffic as well as parking needs as well so those are just my recommendations to put on the floor.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you um SEO Daniel.

[Interim Senior Executive Officer Daniel Quan-Watson]
Thank you um I told you a story yesterday about being given gifts and I'm going to pick up on that theme um and Senator Ekeberg and I were talking earlier today about what kills you is never the original purchase costs it's the ongoing maintenance costs of things and so I'm not really so interested in the answers about the numbers but just whether or not you've done these assessments so when I've done these projects in the past um I've run into things where for example putting something in now means that my water and sewer and electrical is no longer up to the capacity requirements of the new expanded footprint and I'm just wondering if you had an assessment done on that and if there is a budget that or a cost assessment you had around that um obviously the assessment of the annual operating costs for the facility is not going to be nothing it no matter how slight it is it's going to be a lot and in my experience I've never once maintained a building for less than seventy thousand dollars a year which was the the tent cost so I'm interested if you've had an assessment that compares those costs um you talked about a fit up of a kitchen um few things are more expensive in my experience in these types of projects than fitting up commercial kitchens

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and so on and so if I understood correctly that that was to be part of it or food service if there's an assessment of how much that might cost and then finally I'm just wondering uh particularly given the location of Métis Crossing has there been an assessment to confirm that there's no drainage or landscaping issues that would be created by putting sort of 100 foot concrete based buildings on that and again I don't need the numbers specifically right now but I think if council here is to consider what the costs are any of those things will be several multiples of the cost of buying and installing it and so just to make sure we have an understanding of what we're really being asked to take on here just being clear about whether or not we know those things what scale those things are if we know them and if we know what the budget

[Métis Crossing CEO Juanita Marois]
is that it's to come from yes thank you for those questions so we have a full infrastructure master plan at Métis Crossing that includes current structures as well as future developments there is nothing in this proposal that would exceed that partially because it would not impact our water or wastewater at all our proposal is that we would be bringing in porta potties and or water trailers and we would not install water or wastewater into this facility because that would move it from a development perspective from a temporary to a permanent structure so we would not do that and we would also look at this as a three season structure so we wouldn't necessarily be adding heat rather just just movement and that of course requires a very well insulated concrete floor and so that would be involved in the design so it would not have water it would not have wastewater and the kitchen comment that I made is that we would keep all food and beverage in the existing cultural gathering center which is the facility you see behind me so there would be no addition of any kitchen costs whatsoever so what we're looking at is either a rental tent that is we all know what an event tent looks like with the floor in there or much like a farm structure that just has a concrete floor so neither one would be considered a permanent structure with those additions and from a power perspective there is no concern whatsoever to adding this facility

[Secretary Collins]
great and that's very helpful thanks if I could just ask one other quick question if the permanent structures there do you have an estimate for how much it increases the property taxes on an annual basis

[Métis Crossing CEO Juanita Marois]
I don't have that no those are certainly answers that we would get as we move forward it would be considered somewhat of a farm structure because it does again it does not have the water or the wastewater in it and it would not be a four season facility so I don't see that being a huge increase but those are questions that I would ask the county if this was the decision from the citizens council to pursue this option okay I'm going to go to

[Representative Dunfield]
Representative Dunfield online thank you Mr. Chair I seem to recall after the gathering there was a motion put forward by Representative Chernow to do and I can't remember

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exactly what it was called but I believe it was around an analysis around the safety aspect of if anything happens and I know Juanita you touched base on it but I think that was one of the things that council passed to determine the next steps regarding you know holding a gathering at Métis crossing again to ensure safety of our citizens so I don't remember the exact wording of the of the motion I'm hoping somebody can look it up and we can have a bit more of an understanding if that feasibility study has been done on that I'm not sure what the motion is

[Métis Crossing CEO Juanita Marois]
I'm sorry however we would of course we do have an emergency response plan for events that happen here and we would work in partnership with the Otipemisiwak Métis government to ensure that that is is put in place properly for this event as well y

[Representative Dunfield]
yeah I'm not I can't remember I just remember it was made and I have and I I'm looking to our admin to to search for that but I believe it was specifically around the gatherings Juanita because most of our other events we have I think it was what was it over 1500 for the gathering and that's those are some of the larger events that we hold there is for the gatherings not necessarily you know the Métis fest so just waiting to hear from admin

[Acting Chair]
yeah we'll we'll uh continue looking and move on with our speaking list but we'll get back to you um on that motion just just to be able to provide you information but I'll pass it to President Sandmaier

[President Sandmaier]
yeah there I think I hope that someone is looking for that for that motion but I'll just say this is that um Juanita's team and um some of our our administrations are going to be having a meeting I believe next week to discuss some of the other things that are on that list um go over that safety plan um and all the risks um around that the list isn't up there so I can't remember exactly what everything was that was on there but there will be a meeting next week of um some of the administration staff from OMG our our safety manager our facilities director is going to be at that meeting um I can't remember who else I think um Secretary Lacombe and Secretary Ekeberg and Secretary Wolfe I think yes we'll also be attending that meeting just so to make sure that everything's crossed off that list

[Acting Chair]
thank you uh Representative Ward

[Representative Ward]
when I when you were showing with a plan and you were showing about the RVs I'm sure there's other companies out there that have similar um arrangements um were there any consideration put into and if there was I apologize but making sure that those units have either are able to hook up to power or was it going to be a generator for each unit and was

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there going to be um facilities like to shower and to um uh for sanitary reasons and like that was was that taken into consideration when you put in that lot for the like the RVs

[Métis Crossing CEO Juanita Marois]
no none of that would be available it would be considered a field camping there on the area where we have it there is no water no wastewater no power so we would bring those in and in fact the Métis crossing doesn't supply any of the accommodation outside of the lodge the accommodations are coordinated through the Otipemisiwak Métis government and what we would do is provide this as a service for individuals to um to book for themselves if it's not through the OMG and that is an individual contract much like renting a hotel room and you would be choosing the unit that you would like to have but there would be no provision other than the space from Métis crossing we could absolutely put port-a-potties there or potentially bring in another shower trailer if that was a desire but from current infrastructure perspectives there there is nothing there.

[Acting Chair]
Secretary Leddy.

[Secretary Leddy]
Thank you um I'm trying to wrap my head around this uh when you were showing the first permanent structure is this a request for us to fund the uh the setting up of that structure?

[Métis Crossing CEO Juanita Marois]
Yes it's not a Métis crossing required building I do believe that there would be potential funding options out there if we were to turn this into a facility that Métis crossing could use for sporting things and other options that we could look at the provincial government for funding for facilities but this is not a structure that Métis crossing requires for our core operations.

[Secretary Leddy]
Okay and then my additional question along that line is my understanding is that we do pay for services when we host the citizens gathering at Métis crossing what is the estimated rental fee of using that facility um when we host citizens gathering there if we end up building it?

[Métis Crossing CEO Juanita Marois]
So the daily and that varies uh Métis crossing of course is an affiliate of the nation so we work very closely to ensure that there is accessibility for different programs so the that what we would charge out for a facility rental is thirty thousand dollars a day um for a general client but we work with the different programs to make it accessible.

[Secretary Leddy]
All right and then my one thing it's maybe not towards you Anita but in general I would also like to see and get that safety update back um just with I think the concerns about wildfire and then this year flooding and tornadoes uh I think that remains a really valid concern with

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me where Métis crossing is located um but also I remember sitting at that in citizens gathering when that proposal and how that all came to be and one of the biggest things I heard around the tables that I was sitting at was mobility being and accessibility being the major issues of attending um and while I love the idea of having the business meeting in a tent separately um I think that is a great way to handle the overcrowding issues I have increased concerns on accessibility and mobility especially for those who are using walkers or wheelchairs or need assistance for moving between spaces um yeah there's that list of concerns there's a chunk of that I really would like to see how we're going to try and address that because to me that remains a huge concern if we're going to continue at Métis crossing.

[Acting Chair]
Thank you so we did do some digging uh here's what we got so far and I'm just we're trying to see if there was a follow-up um so in October on October 16 2025 uh citizens council meeting Representative Chernow asked that there be a risk assessment uh done um and it was referred to the seo as part of the the motion that was presented um or the discussion related to the motion um and that was motion 2025 10 16-7 be resolved by citizens council the citizens gathering proposals 3 4 5 6 7 11 12 13 14 from the 2025 annual citizens gathering is referred to the senior executive officer for administration review and response based on citizens council's discussion and the discussion was related to a risk assessment of the site uh yeah and there's draft notes um for the proposal itself and there was suggestion of looking at a rig camp a risk assessment uh done at Métis crossing to see what issues and emergency management protocols are done so it was very much I believe what you were talking about Representative Dunfield and then it was referred to the seo to make a risk assessment be the first thing done and referred back to council to consider options as a possible committee and I'm asking uh the awesome team behind me if they've confined um record of that coming back and I I don't recall and I would go to the table I'm seeing some some looks too um but just I don't recall that coming back so we're going to keep looking and see if we can we can uh close that circle but uh as it stands right now that's what we had um yeah is that what you're referring to yeah I was that was what I was referring to I don't think

[Representative Dunfield]
anything did come back but I do now that you've mentioned it I do recall that it was referred for um that feasibility piece so thank you yeah you're welcome uh

[Acting Chair]
Representative Campbell

[Representative Darryl Campbell]
probably the same question I asked about a year ago um on our land like what do you got there 1300 1400 acres

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[Métis Crossing CEO Juanita Marois]
there's a total of 1800 acres surrounding the Métis crossing okay so how much is that is is in uh cropland may I ask in cropland there's about 320 acres there's 320 acres in visions hopes and dreams uh there's another 750 acres in pasture and hayland and then the rest of that is in development the developed portion is all along the riverfront and then anything north of Victoria trail is either in pasture hayland or a cropland

[Representative Campbell]
so do we do we make any money on that cropland and and there does somebody rent that and take a crop off of there each year

[Métis Crossing CEO Juanita Marois]
so when we purchased the land in 2024 there was a four-year management agreement signed with the rancher from whom we bought it most of the land is in either buffalo pasture bison pasture or producing the hay to feed those bison throughout the rest of the years so the ranch last year made a 40 000 profit and this year it broke even um so this is just two years into building a bison ranch and it hasn't lost any money

[Representative Campbell]
yeah it's still i'm still lost on the who farms the who farms the cropland

[Métis Crossing CEO Juanita Marois]
uh the rancher does and last year it was it was primarily used to feed the animals because the it was a local state of emergency for drought so we didn't have enough hay so we used that to to feed the animals as well

[Representative Campbell]
okay so maybe we should start thinking about maybe charging for that cropland 320 acres use it we do oh so okay who owns all the black horses there may ask

[Métis Crossing CEO Juanita Marois]
envisions hopes and dreams those those belong to Métis crossing there is on the west side of 855 there's one of the river lots there that he does rent from us as pasture but the rest of it has been used for me to crossing and that is the south facing hillside that's very rocky it's the poorest land that we have from an agricultural perspective

[Acting Chair]
Okay thanks Secretary Collins

[Secretary Collins]
hi Juanita thanks thanks for the presentation in regards to some of the options that were put in front of us i'm i'm certainly not of the mind that we uh go and purchase a 2.5 million dollar facility uh by any means either of them sound like very good options i probably would have went sprung if i had 200 we haven't made the decision yet well there's been no decision well i think you i hope you talk to your shareholders before you go and make a 2.5

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million dollar decision and so i kind of switched hats there very quickly but nonetheless you said the tent facility we could have that had flooring right

[Métis Crossing CEO Juanita Marois]
yes so the rental tents would come in and we want a clear span so we don't want poles in the middle so they gave us a price on a clear span and then they would come in and install the flooring okay

[Secretary Collins]
that would be wonderful because i'm thinking of the folks on the in the wheelchairs and walkers and stuff so um so with that response i think i would more lean to uh to spend seventy thousand dollars to rent it for the duration because i'm sure when we hold it in hotels it costs us a little bit more than that and so i would uh i would lean toward that one with respect to the um the um accommodations i think with the exception of the of the camp because you didn't follow you know you haven't gotten the numbers on on that yet and um i'm thinking that maybe we could have a little bit of a mix of all three because you're going to have and we hear it all the time right you're going to have the folks that don't want to drive to Lamont uh you're going to want the folks that don't you know all we hear all of these things but and i don't know it with that with that are that that rv option is is is a good one uh and like you said if you could bring in like a power plant or whatever you know like one of those temporary ones that the oil patch uses lots uh that could cover part of that so maybe we could do some of those rv things especially if we have an an arrangement with a company as opposed to you know renting from three 30 different personal owners if we go through a company we could probably do that so we might want to do that i really like the idea about the free camping across the way because that's another place that people always mention that they're not getting any power they're not doing any of that so you might want to consider allowing them for free camping there nonetheless and um and then you have the folks that won't sleep in a camper and they just want to be in the hotel at launch so i think if we put all of those options into play and and that we be mindful that uh we consider the especially our elders and the ones that have mobility issues for the um for the lodge and and the different uh domes and tents because some people prefer the tent the you know the the trappers tents so when we look at all of what exists there and the possibility of the free camping some people just want to do that and the rv thing with all of that i think we might be able to cover some of the accommodation headaches that we've had in the past numbers of years i look forward to getting an update after the committee whatever committee meets next week to start looking towards that because i think if we make a decision decision today especially respecting the meeting space thing then that will provide a a good ground piece for the committee to start thinking ahead on and i don't know what you're looking for Mr. Chair about um are you guys looking for any kind of motion or anything like that because i i'm prepared to to do something

[Acting Chair]
i would look to senior director Tomlinson um as this is one of his items um if you require a motion for the report the verbal report

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[Senior Director Tomlinson]
um yeah i think a motion to reflect the discussion at council today in the citizens proposal report would be sufficient um you don't have to come to decision or conclusions today this is just to ensure that there's been work done and we can report back to citizens council that work is ongoing on this and that's how we would reflect it as well as the general contents of today's discussion so i think that would be sufficient is to make a motion to refer this discussion

[Acting Chair]
and results to the citizens proposal report so the motion being that uh to refer this discussion today and to the citizens council report is that what i heard the discussion on this item on Métis crossing citizens proposal number 14 meeting crossing i i'm just trying to see if what i heard is to be referred to the citizens council report refer the results of the results of the discussion thank you refer the results of the discussion to the citizens council report on proposal number 14 so that was given i would go to Representative Moore first

[Representative Moore]
um thank you Juanita this is uh really nice to see that we're moving forward and trying to make an effort to be more accommodating um one of the things that kind of was in the back of my mind when we were looking at the tents i agree with Secretary Blatz and Secretary Collins that the rental is obviously more cost effective um one of the fears that i have with um with using tents is does that increase liability um for having events there even though it's just for our gathering and so we need to maybe factor that into that disaster plan or safety plan that we're looking into um i just wanted to put that out there for um for some thought as we move forward um i think uh Secretary Collins mentioned using um rig mats um uh i've been at events where they actually make walkways so the elders can go through with their wheelchairs and their um walkers um in case there's uneven ground it just makes it a lot safer for them so there's um you know some ideas out there that would make that a little more accessible for our elders and um yeah i just wanted to mention that liability piece uh Secretary Leddy

[Secretary Leddy]
yeah i was just gonna say like right now i don't know if i'm truly like excited to make a decision on uh like the structures and that sort of stuff uh that's been presented um i think there's a lot of other considerations that needs to be taken into account and i would really like to see just kind of an update on with the on like the safety plan the evacuation um how we're going to address mobility and accessibility like that whole list before really like giving direction to the uh the planning team around citizens gathering so um if we're able to the the motion that is um taking the results of the discussion to the um citizen proposals report i i'm very happy to second that if uh Secretary Collins was moving that just make sure that we get the wording right

[Secretary Collins]
but uh yeah that that was why i put my mic on i'm not quite sure we would refer the discussion to the citizens to the to the citizens proposal report i i don't get what that i'm not

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understanding what that means but if we're putting something in the citizens report it seems to me that we want to say we've had our decisions we've had our discussions uh we want to now refer it to a committee that's going to be reviewing it that would that to me would tell more to our citizens what we're what we've done with it as opposed to saying we had a discussion and we referred it to a citizen's report what was the discussion about would be my question as a citizen reading the report but so that's where but if she's going to move that motion whatever you said about referring it to the citizen then i don't know what that really means so i wouldn't want to move it if it had a little bit more substance that a citizen will understand what we were discussing or what we're doing it and why and we're referring it to somewhere else then i would be prepared to

[Acting Chair]
move to move that so i'll go to senior director Tomlinson because i think he's probably looking to answer that question and he put his hand down

[Senior Director Tomlinson]
sorry i started talking i didn't unmute myself so we're talking about two separate elements one is the work that goes along with citizens proposal number 14 which is what Secretary Collins is rightly referring to and the other is the report that citizens council is required to provide to the Chair no later than the end of day today so i would suggest that there be a motion that includes one referring the results of this discussion to the citizens proposal report to the Chair so that it could be made public and two that the work on citizens proposal number 14 be continued as discussed by council today

[Secretary Collins]
i'd be prepared to move if they need two separate ones and i move them both or if you're

[Acting Chair]
gonna put them together we'll do one than the other yeah just for the record so thank you uh uh Garrett so so the first one see if this one um makes sense be resolved by citizens council that the results of the July 30 2026 discussion on the citizens proposal number 14 be referred to the citizens council report on citizens proposals first part sorry and that is moved sure Secretary Collins seconded Secretary Leddy okay any opposition discussion or anything go opposition first we'll go for consensus doing it wrong but i see none okay so that is and then the second one is that be it resolved by citizens council that the work related to citizens proposal number 14 continued as discussed at the July 30 2026 meeting step away make way mean it's so moved uh again Secretary Collins seconded i see Representative any opposition see none i think everybody needs a bathroom right so we'll we'll recess uh for 10 we'll try 10 minutes but it'll be 15 but uh first um President Sandmaier

[President Sandmaier]
i'd like to speak uh i just want to say thank you to Juanita Marois for coming on the virtually to our council meeting today and doing that presentation so thank you very much Juanita

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[Métis Crossing CEO Juanita Marois]
you're welcome thank you

[Acting Chair]
so we'll uh well we'll come back at uh try for 330 i guess sorry 15 minutes it's your 28 but thank you we're missing a couple but uh i'd like them hopefully to come back we should call back to order 330 on time and then um we should discuss time we know we have a lot on the agenda left uh we're running pretty late uh some people uh discussions i've been chatting with some folks and they'd like to get a long drive and and have uh some reasons to be home tonight at a decent time and uh there's a few items that where we could definitely cover in two weeks not super imperative but there are a few that we need to um so the in discussion with the President i would move the uh item that was number 10 um the letter from district captains to the next item on the agenda um the next piece of citizen proposals uh that number c because this is a legislative requirement uh we need to get to today so i would i would uh recommend keeping that on the agenda um item number seven can be tabled uh this the the reports um and the i would recommend um eight so um when Representative Paul-Alook had to leave unfortunately um she had mentioned that she's fine with tabling uh the item that uh she's her name is attached to um and then the privacy and protection of personal information act as a suggestion to be reviewed in two weeks when we meet again but the chief electoral officer report should stay so item number nine would stay just because that was discussed um and and passed with cabinet and and council should be aware and i would look to our legal counsel about the insurance policy review or to um senior director Tomlinson i don't have information on that so

[Senior Director Tomlinson]
it's a request from council there's no time sensitive element to it that i'm aware of

[Acting Chair]
Mr. okay thank you and then the there is an item in camera intergovernmental relations matter um that i believe could also is a time sensitive that's tabled okay okay yeah uh well yeah it's 11 b now but so we would move again we would move the letter uh from the district captains that was brought to up earlier i had talked to some folks and um and we move that up to next the next item and then we can go to um six c and then nine those are things that i think uh are time sensitive or or there's valid reasons to to keep them and the rest would all be tabled are we okay with that oh sorry uh Representative Dunfield

[Representative Dunfield]
so we're um just to confirm we're tabling seven a b or sorry yeah seven a b eight a b um what is now number 10 which was the captain's letter we'll move to number seven and we're tabling 11 a and b correct okay thank you yeah it's all scribble on my agenda too so

[Acting Chair]
okay and are we fine with that no objections i just don't do that quick kind of consensus look okay okay perfect so and accordingly uh we will move to the item that was 10 now seven um the letter from district captains it was put forward by uh Representative Paul-Alook but i

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know there's others that that would like to speak to it so i'll i'll put it to Secretary Collins first as she has

[Secretary Collins]
on Mr. Chair my my the piece that i was going to bring forward because we had accepted the agenda as is i think it would be appropriate to make a motion to table these items which i would be prepared to move

[Acting Chair]
entirely under your uh discretion um so i would be prepared to move that we table

[Secretary Collins]
and i'll just go over the very same items that um Representative Dunfield forwarded existing number seven a and b eight a and b what is number 11 as per the amendment this morning number 11 a and b to be tabled to a future citizens council meeting

[Acting Chair]
okay so moved by Secretary Collins of seconder who has Representative Ward was the first one i saw so uh any objection to that i think we already did that but okay seeing none uh Representative Dunfield oh sorry that was up for um the next discussion okay okay thank you so that is so moved and passed and carried sorry okay so i'm going to attend letter uh from district captains and uh to start with uh the President please go ahead President Sandmaier it was added to the agenda

[President Sandmaier]
this morning um so i mean you all did receive it um via email and i just want to say we just received the letter on Monday on the 27th um i haven't had a chance to review the letter in its entirety and or have a discussion with um Quan-Watson and i know that he also has some comments to make thank you to a future citizens council meeting go ahead sir sir

[Interim Senior Executive Officer Daniel Quan-Watson]
thank you um so i i had a quick read through the letter it raises some important and serious matters uh one of the things that you will find and i hope that you will find uh over time that i'm predictable and that i bring the same principles no matter what the set of facts or issues are to dealing them and my view is that serious and important questions deserve serious and important consideration and serious and important answers and so uh having just got this the other day not having had an opportunity to delve into it because none of these things are quick none of these things are easy they go to some of the core challenges that omg is facing in advance of having a fiscal funding agreement in the face of people that are coming in constantly putting demands on all elements of Métis districts communities institutions and governments in Alberta and so there's not one quick answer and if i were to give you a quick snappy answer today i can guarantee you it would be wrong um so uh we're going to go away we're going to look at that we're going to look through some of the numbers we're going to come back with some information in advance that will help make it easier for people to understand what we're talking about and if there are things that people

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want to debate about and around the facts we should have the materials that allow that to happen in a constructive and a supportive way but i also think too that there needs to be a serious response developed and one that is well based and well constructed that respects the level of seriousness and significance of the questions and i'll just say that will be my answer on every major issue that you ever come to deciding things on the fly without the information has never gotten me anywhere good and i'd never advise that anybody else do it t

[Acting Chair]
thank you okay not sure if there's any other discussion it was Secretary Bramfield

[Secretary Bramfield]
thank you um i i did read the letter and i want to thank the district captains for taking the time to to send the letter and and outline a lot of their issues and concerns and questions i guess first um i do understand that maybe not everyone has had time to read the letter but i think there are some clear asks that we could start to put into motion right away one is that we that citizens count citizen council directs administration to organize and host a two-day in-person meeting between citizens council and district councils to discuss the issues identified in the district captain's letter dated July 27 2026 and that the meeting agenda shall be jointly developed by the citizens council and the district captains um i think that the captains have been very patient and i understand there's there's work that needs to be done but i think also those conversations can start and we can meet in person um so that's something i would like to move forward move forward and sooner the better um even if maybe not all the answers are are are available at the time

[Acting Chair]
Representative Dunfield

[Representative Dunfield]
sorry Mr. Chair i was trying to find my mute button um i second that motion i think it's really important for us to uh set this time and place and i know there's always concerns and issues with you know making the time but i think these this letter that we received is really important um not only you know to our district captains you know 12 out of the 16 that signed it but also to those district councils that'll be up and running to be being able to have some of these uh clear concerns and and um you know paths forward that have been raised by the district captains uh for us to for us to be able to move forward and so i do support i i will second that motion um and uh yeah okay um i think Daniel has something to add you have something to say

[Interim Senior Executive Officer Daniel Quan-Watson]
sure happy to go ahead and very happy to assist in that conversation just a couple of things about it um in order to have an understanding of the finances um that's part of what i have to pull together and part of what i've told you is i can't do that today um and so i think in order to given what the letter speaks to about understanding the entirety of the finances i don't expect that to take forever because it can't there are a whole bunch of other things

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will fall apart first if we can't figure that out um but that conversation will be much more constructive and useful if we can do that and i think it's critical get it right um i ask questions about numbers uh i think it costs us 65 000 a day to me and that's a lot of gas cards that's a lot of house repairs that's a lot of other things and so i just want to make sure that when we meet that it has the opportunity to be as productive as possible um number one and number two um well i certainly love meeting in person wherever possible um just sort of the flexibility to allow people to participate in ways that make it as cost effective as possible again i'm going to get boring on the issue of costs but i i do believe if i got the number right and maybe Garrett or someone else i think sitting here costs us 65 000 a day and that is doing really important things but there are a lot of important things that need to be done so i just want to make sure that whatever we do is as cost effective as possible while respecting people's ability to participate while respecting the the traditions and approaches that need to be brought to the conversation so i'm not in a sense saying it can't happen i'm just saying i would like the flexibility to make sure that we get done what we do with the best possible investment of the resources while giving full respect to achieving what we're trying to achieve and

[Acting Chair]
i want to jump back because i feel like i am remiss in just making it very clear um that Secretary Bramfield put forward a motion um and it was seconded by Representative Dunfield um i want to just take that step back so that we know what we're talking about um and that it is actually a motion that was made and seconded so duly made and seconded and so we're actually at that point i just in my head it wasn't clear and i wanted to make sure that was clear okay go ahead Secretary Leddy

[Secretary Leddy]
yeah um i feel like Daniel takes my thoughts before i get to speak sometimes um and i did the cost of course is one thing that i guess today for me i've also been balking at numbers i don't know if that's sorted but surprised by numbers and concerned about what that means for our governance budget for the rest of this year um that being said i think what i would really want to see especially as it's becoming clearer and clearer how we really need to be in having more consistency with district councils and district captains moving forward is maybe not just focusing on having that one meeting but being able to get all the information together to then create a plan of how we can meet consistently and looking to the future to ensure that we're not back in this situation um and that we can really ensure that district captains can be and the district councils can feel heard in a in a meaningful way um and at this time i'd i think it's a it's rushing a little too quick to have a meeting or have a two-person a two-day in-person meeting and deciding on that right now when maybe we can create a much um more comprehensive plan that would allow for us to address the many issues that district captains have been bringing up um so that's my only hesitation with the idea of the two-person meeting

[Acting Chair]
thank you uh Secretary Bramfield uh

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[Secretary Bramfield]
thank you i mean i can i can add to the motion as soon as practical um because i do understand information needs to be gathered and we can develop a joint agenda together but i would like to pass the motion today there needs to be a commitment and in a motion that we will be meeting in person it's something that the district captains have requested and we're three years and almost three years into our term so um i i can add as soon as practical i know our district captains have made the time and spent the money to be here today so i'm going to hold firm in my motion that we make a commitment in the motion to have to have a meeting that's in person and we and we develop the agenda together and if we if we think right now uh we've met for two days and we're not done our agenda we have the table stuff i think there's a lot of stuff to discuss

[Acting Chair]
Thank you President Sandmaier

[President Sandmaier]
um so if you recall at i think it was our last um virtual meeting with district captains we you know we and us did a presentation on the um the last letter that was sent by district captains and we did talk about um a commitment to quarterly meetings with with district captains and we are looking at dates for the fall for a meeting with district captains we just have to figure out when and where um because of course there's also a whole bunch of competing uh meetings and other things going on so we are doing we are looking for dates for that right now um but it also as as as SEO Daniel said the cost of the costs have to be considered as well so we will do that or he will do that and we can you know i've asked him if we can commit to having some um some of the things that are in that in the letter and also legal's perspective on the letter um so that we can come back at our next council meeting which is in two weeks to for us around this table to have that discussion on the letter any other discussion

[Acting Chair]
Yes Secretary Lavallee

[Secretary Lavallee]
are you able to read out your motion again please i just wanted to

[Secretary Bramfield]
yeah yep be it resolved that citizens council direct administration to organize and host a two-day in-person meeting as soon as practical between citizens council and district councils to discuss the issues identified in the district captain's letter dated July 27 2026 the meeting agenda shall be jointly developed by citizens council oh sorry yeah no do i need to read it out again no okay the meeting agenda shall be jointly developed by citizens council and the district captains

[Acting Chair]
anything else on that no go ahead Secretary Collins

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[Secretary Collins]
did your motion say in person it does so considering the cost and considering the thoughts and ideas already that that we have with regards to a fall a fall date to begin the quarterly meeting process uh and i know we've all been elected to do the work of the government and thinking of costs as well if we could piggyback the captain meeting with a council meeting and i know it's four days but at least it would save some money because we can do our council business and the captain business in the same time rather than me drive home two days and come back again for another two days so if we are wrapping our minds around it being a priority the importance of it the cost and all of those pieces and and because you said as soon as practical practicable we already know we're going to be in august the focus is going to be this September's got stuff we're probably already looking into October as practicable which is already going to be the fall and if we already have plans around the fall why don't we just consider all of that and look at um potentially a four-day work week for us and two days with the captains and in thinking that some of the other um newly and i and i know it won't be timely for that for the uh fall elections time frame and all of that but there are other folks right now that would be on stream that will have more more of our captains there and and as we move forward we have to remember our captains number is going to be um rising as we as we move forward and more districts come on stream and we have to consider that too because some of the stuff that we do is going to still need to be relayed to all those new captains as they come on so that's just a suggestion i'm throwing in in consideration of of the motion on the floor Mr. Chair

[Acting Chair]
thank you Secretary Collins oh there you go Secretary Sarah Wolfe

[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]
thank you uh hello there we go um Secretary bramfield i was wondering if you could read just the last part i believe of your motion that talks about setting a joint agenda together between the two could you read that bit for me again please

[Secretary Bramfield]
okay the meeting agenda shall be jointly developed by citizens council and the district captains

[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]
i'm okay thank you i'm curious logistically how that works do we need to have like would the district captains all together have a meeting about what they want on the agenda and then all of us need to have a meeting about what you want on the agenda and then they come together like i just don't understand logistically how setting a joint agenda works when there's so many of us around the table and i know with citizens council our meetings the agenda we have a set way that it's set i believe with the President in and the Chair i would have to double check but i'm just logistically wondering how that works thank you

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[Acting Chair]
go ahead Secretary Bramfield

[Secretary Bramfield]
um yeah i mean i think it would just it would be it would be developed in advance um just a few examples in the letter it was stable need for stable and adequate funding they identified the 80 that they are receiving eighty thousand dollars and obviously um more is necessary to operate a government communications and coordination events and programs crown consultation access to information so i mean i think that'd be a starting point maybe there'd be something a few a few other things um that citizens council or district captains think of but i i have um great confidence that we could develop that agenda in advance and and and work together collaboratively um i think they sent a i think they sent a great letter and i'm sure there's maybe items that citizens council can identify as well um but i believe we can we can develop a joint agenda and that's part of working together t

[Acting Chair]
thank you very much Secretary Mitchell

[Secretary Mitchell]
so i i think i see what both of you are saying um i was a little bit confused by the logistics of how we could develop something together too maybe we do something like um agenda submissions like we do for regular council meetings and that's how we go about it

[Acting Chair]
thank you thank you um Representative Dunfield um

[Representative Dunfield]
thank you Mr. Chair uh i think we're kind of overthinking this process um you know we we've already had a virtual meeting with our captains we can have another virtual meeting to set an agenda as um Secretary Bramfield said this letter outlines uh key items that the district captains already want to discuss so i don't think there's i don't think we should be overthinking actually setting an agenda i think we should really focus on um you know actually having a meeting um but the agenda pieces as as Secretary Bramfield stated and are very clear in their letter um there may be some other things we want to add but i i think a one hour uh a one hour virtual meeting will will set that um prior to an in-person meeting

[Acting Chair]
thank you Representative Dunfield i look to Secretary Lavallee

[Secretary Lavallee]
yeah um i also had questions so i think what Sarah was asking was pretty fair um and i think what Kaila suggested as well was having just a submission thing but even i know that the letter does lay out specific things so um yeah and i guess um oh my god i just totally lost my train of thought but but yeah no i also had questions about the logistics of that agenda thing as well looking around if there's anyone

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[Acting Chair]
else who wants to speak to it it's somebody to reach in hello what do we got i have a Secretary Lussier

[Secretary Nelson Lussier]
hi um would it also be live stream for the district council we would do that

[Acting Chair]
oh that's up to you i guess in in just we would have to decide that as we develop the agenda because there may be things again that could be legal matters or things that are in considered confidential and in camera um go to Secretary Mitchell

[Secretary Mitchell]
yeah i think we probably are overthinking a little bit so just to clarify my thoughts like obviously what's um in the letter should be addressed and put on the agenda but anything additional that we might have be submitted through an agenda request

[Acting Chair]
that's it thank you i'll go to Representative Dunfield

[Representative Dunfield]
thank you Mr. Chair just a reminder to everybody that the district captains already do meet um and you know they do have uh um someone appointed to them and i please forgive me i believe her name is i believe it's callie um so it wouldn't be hard for them to forward agenda items to callie uh we have as citizens council we have someone that um that's assigned to us that works through our agenda that would be our Chair and the President so let's just do it that way they have callie they can meet they can forward agenda items if there's anything from citizens council we can let um the Chair know and then we can develop the agenda from there it's not hard i think you

[Acting Chair]
representative Dunfield Secretary oh i'm sorry i'll go first to seo you're okay with that we'll go there first Secretary Leddy

[Secretary Leddy]
um i think we are maybe jumping the gun in the like figuring out all the nitty-gritty details of being able to set up this meeting um with the if we change it to having it as soon as practical practicable uh would that allow for them in two weeks being able to have a bit more of that analysis as President Sandmaier and seo Daniel were um discussing and that way perhaps having that a little bit more of that in-depth conversation of what that first meeting could look like and setting a bigger plan um at that point or perhaps i'm looking to you both of like a potential timeline on maybe when we can revisit uh the the nitty-gritty details of being able to set up a meeting such as the one that is being discussed right now um having kind of a timeline of when we'll do that but also respecting the you know the request of like putting

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um a clear demonstration that we are we are moving forward on wanting to have that meeting and having that in our record go ahead

[Interim Senior Executive Officer Daniel Quan-Watson]
yeah and just to be clear my remarks are all about just how to make the most effective meeting happen as quickly as possible it's not about whether or not to there are some really important questions here that need to do that um i guess what i would say is i can think of a number of different cost effective ways of doing that there are other citizens council meetings coming up as soon as two weeks from now um and there are others after that um and so i just think there are a number of ways to do that the question has been asked about live streaming and so on and certainly well if there's a way to have everybody present i think that's fantastic but if some people would rather use funds um to invest elsewhere and they choose to participate virtually or whatever um i guess i would just say don't take that opportunity away from them if they would prefer to do it a different way certainly we'll make um the um opportunity available for people to be there in person have a space to hold that but i just all i'm suggesting is in the decisions to agree very clearly to have a meeting to talk about a number of things that have some time sensitivities that are very important and that have some significant costs associated with them just make sure that we do it as cost effectively as possible as soon as is reasonable to do in that regard and in a way that allows those conversations to happen and i'm not worried about being able to figure out i think the letter lays out very clearly the key topics um i suspect there'll be many other conversations after that at different points in time and if there are things that are left over from the first conversation uh they will no doubt get picked up in subsequent conversations and we will need that process to speak on a regular basis

[Acting Chair]
thank you um Secretary Bramfield

[Secretary Bramfield]
thank you yeah so i think that the as soon as practical covers that it will give you you'll give you enough time to gather that information and and and figure out logistics so we can have um a productive conversation and and i'm and i'm really looking forward to it and having a meeting um an in-person meeting i think it's been discussed a few times in over a term um but it's just never happened so that's why i do want to put it in a motion and of course maybe when you're looking into it and if new information arises you can bring it forward for consideration and we can make a plan from there but um i would like to move forward this motion and and commit to our district captains that we will be meeting in person and discussing these issues um and and hopefully maybe you know as KC said in October or September probably October and when new district district captains are elected as well so if if there's no more questions and i if it's clear i would like to call question

[Acting Chair]
question is called uh the seconder and Representative Dunfield did have her hand up so i'll go to her as the last question

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[Representative Dunfield]
oh sorry Mr. Chair um i was actually going to call question oh double question okay there we are does that make it like really really important if it's double question

[Acting Chair]
i think so i think that's correct yeah uh okay so as we do i will look for consensus uh to the motion do we want to read reread and see where we finally ended

[Secretary Bramfield]
sure okay i'll read slowly i'll try i just want to make sure we know exactly what we're we're deciding on so be it resolved that citizens council direct administration to organize and host a two-day in-person meeting as soon as practicable between citizens council and district councils to discuss the issues identified in the district captain's letter dated July 27 2026 the meeting agenda shall be jointly developed by citizens council and the district captains so that's what

[Acting Chair]
we're we're looking for consensus for is there any opposition to to the house i see

[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]
sorry i just have a clarification um question the in your the one that you just read initially it says between uh citizens council and district councils so does that include the whole like council or is it just between citizens council and district captains

[Secretary Bramfield]
i guess my thought is is i mean district district captains and then i'm not sure if you know if the district captains would want to invite you they're one or two of the councillors i'm not sure but i mean it can it can it can be district captains if that's better

[Acting Chair]
Secretary Collins

[Secretary Collins]
Mr. Chair i think uh i would be more comfortable and given the given the conversation from the head table there around potential legal discussions and all of that that uh you know the i think if we left it at district captains for the first part then they can decide what or and and know what is confidential among that table then can be shared with their district council so because then it's like we said if we start blowing it up to district councils now you want to start talking cost and you want to start talking logistics let's go down that path let's just stick to the captains for the time being is my thought

[Acting Chair]
okay and um our Interim SEO would like to say something

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[Interim Senior Executive Officer Daniel Quan-Watson]
yeah just very quickly my comments about costs were based on a relatively small number of captains coming not 10 times a small number of captains it becomes a big number so again the flex there is on who participates in which way but if the idea is to fund a very large number of people to um arrive we're looking at similar costs if not greater to what we pay per day for this and that again is not my choice but it that expands the cost significantly and again i very much want to have this conversation not going to be able to avoid this conversation don't want to avoid this conversation really want to have this conversation but want it to be effective and cost effective yes thank you

[Secretary Bramfield]
and thanks for asking for that clarification um no i it and it would and i wouldn't have thought that it wouldn't the expenses would include district councils but i do agree district captains so thanks for thanks for raising that and yes i agree district captains okay

[Acting Chair]
oh there's people on their mics on okay Representative Ward please go ahead

[Representative Ward]
coming from district council um originally into this government um i don't want to discount those people that also put their names forward just because they're not paid doesn't mean their voices shouldn't be heard um those people have also put forward um they usually have a full-time job while they're doing this as well right and i don't want them to not feel like they're not a part of our government and they're not because they're quite an important part of the day-to-day in the districts i understand the cost um i just want to make sure that there is an opportunity for them to feel like that they are a part of our government moving forward uh in a good way

[Acting Chair]
thank you uh legal counsel is on the screen next actually

[Legal Counsel Candice Telfer]
i i'm happy for Secretary Wolfe to go first so Secretary Sarah

[Secretary Sarah Wolfe]
okay thank you candace um i was just wondering then because the motion has already um been proposed and uh seconded do we need to request for a friendly amendment to be made to change the word district councils to district captains

[Acting Chair]
yeah then i guess we should yeah i originally heard council or captains so then the request then would be a friendly amendment to the motion as presented the mover agrees right and the seconder with their hand up online saying it represents Dunfield you agree as well okay perfect um and then so that is the motion is it's captains district captains for this okay uh and i'll go to candace legal counsel

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[Legal Counsel Candice Telfer]
thanks just a point of clarification just so i understand what we're prepping for um because i think at least some of the questions that are are being sort of bounced around are questions that uh legal counsel will be supporting and providing assistance with um so just to understand the timeline so there's a i know um director peter sent out an invitation i think in the last day or so for a half day joint virtual meeting on august 10th there was a commitment at the last meeting for the quarterly meetings which Secretary Collins referred to is the intent that this two-day meeting that we're now talking about would be the fall quarterly meeting i think like it would be good to have some clarification on that because i think that'll help answer the question because i think then the um agenda is going to need to kind of flow after the august 10th meeting some of the issues in this letter overlap with the discussions that we need to carry over from the last virtual meeting and some of that will be picked up on the 10th so i think the agenda making exercise may need to kind of flow out of those discussions and that will impact the question Secretary Lussier asked about live streaming etc so i think it would be good to to just be clear if that is the intent that this is going to be the fall quarterly

[Acting Chair]
okay uh Secretary Collins

[Secretary Collins]
Mr. Chair uh i i would i would i would think that we roll it into into the the fall meeting and begin that process so that we can say we started it with respect to the two letters and i hear what you're saying because there's certain things but i'm sure there's there's overlap there and and we can we can cover in two days i'm sure we can cover most of the items that are in both of those pieces of those pieces of correspondence that we received and i'm really just wanting to help to get this thing kick-started and all these logistical things that we you know and the agenda and all of this stuff if we believe it will roll out in a good way and if we want it to be work out in a good way it will without all of these small pieces of the pie that will fall into place at the end of the day they want meeting we want a meeting we know it's a good thing it will be productive for our government and it's it will be a really good additional item that we can report on to the citizens at the citizens gathering to say this is how your government has decided to start working together on a go-forward basis our citizens will be happy to hear that with respect to the district councils we know that district captains already have roles and responsibilities regarding their communication to their councils they decide what goes on their agendas and they decide what information gets given at their district councils i think it will be easy enough for district captains to put this on those on those agenda items and get that information from their district councils prior to them coming to a quarterly meeting i think that will be easy enough to happen again list hearing what our legal counsel says with regards to uh public uh you know on on stream i think maybe we if we start for a while without it because you have to remember if there's going to be some sensitive items to be discussed are we going to have to go through the process of asking every district council member are you in the room by yourself to be watching this like how deep and how far are we going to go with it so that doesn't become a

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cumbersome um process we want to get together so that we can talk to each other and i think at the when we first started start out we start out with we'll speak to each other then then we'll know as we go forward maybe there will be some that are live stream maybe there's some that won't i don't know but let's just kick start it

[Acting Chair]
thank you Secretary Collins uh Representative Dunfield um

[Representative Dunfield]
thank you Mr. Chair um i think it's just to address the meeting on august 10th that's already specific that's already set that that agenda is already in place and and doesn't um affect what we're doing moving forward the the request that i've seen here today is that is to address the issues um and concerns that came up from district captains on the July 27th letter so those are two separate things um i feel like we're just getting caught up in the weeds again and um just wanting to state Mr. Chair that uh question was called i think this is as KC said this is important for our district councils this is our district captains this is important for our district councils and it's a good um step forward to show at the aga that we are working collaboratively together and that we are trying to address um you know the things that are going to make our government work better so um again question was called just wanting to raise that and Secretary Bramfield is uh would like to say something so thank you

[Secretary Bramfield]
and um they're my motion and i think the meeting's moving forward and i don't think there's there's a desire to be live streamed so i just don't want that to be understood like i we need to have some meetings and work on some stuff and it's not a citizens council meeting right it's a yeah we're we're working together with district councils and urgent captains and so there's no live stream i just want to make that clear

[Acting Chair]
thank you okay we talked so we're going to come back to the question and looking for consensus is there any opposition to the motion um that was presented can you read the motion again

[Acting Clerk Lindsay Henderson]
be it resolved that citizens council direct administration to organize and host a two-day in-person meeting as soon as practicable between citizens council and district captains to discuss the issues identified in the district captain's letter dated July 27th 2026 and the meeting agenda shall be jointly developed by citizens council and the district captains

[Acting Chair]
there you have it okay okay so is there opposition to that motion as was read Secretary Collins for the mic yeah uh i see none and so the motion carries thank you okay so back to you item 60 response to 2025 citizens proposals report

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[Senior Director Tomlinson]
that one is mine again Mr. Chair happy to speak to it please uh so as set out in section 21 of the self-government act citizens council is required to submit to the Chair a report on the 2025 citizens proposals uh i'm then required to make it public in advance of the citizens gathering the draft report is there before you uh i propose given the discussions today with respect to proposal number 13 and proposal number 14 uh that council consider the section on second option for motions be it resolved the citizens council approve and submits to the Chair the report on the 2025 citizens proposals pursuant to section 21 and self-government act as amended and those amendments would include the updates on both on both proposals 13 and proposals 14 as set out and discussed in council today otherwise it is there before you for any further inquiries that you might have

[Acting Chair]
thank you senior director Tomlinson any other questions uh Representative Dunfield

[Representative Dunfield]
i'd like to make a motion to accept that

[Acting Chair]
okay so yes Representative Dunfield uh makes the motion to uh be resolved the citizens council approves and submits the Chair report on 2025 citizens proposals pursuant to section 21 of the self-government act act as amended uh is there a seconder well i saw i had come up over here first so Secretary Chodzicki thank you um any discussion uh Secretary Leddy

[Secretary Leddy]
yeah i just wanted to say that it was quite a joy getting to read through the report um and just see everything that's happened regarding citizen proposals and i'm quite excited uh to be able to have this submitted to the Chair um so that way we it can move forward thanks thank you Secretary Collins

[Secretary Collins]
just just a point of clarity and um and it's with respect to citizens proposal number 12 and i wonder with the motion that was made previously with regard to do some analysis around the gas cards if it's going to affect this particular um response that we have in here or is that for a future aga or what because that it is around the whole gas card and analysis and all that other kind of stuff that we wanted to do so my question is in that regard because we already responded to them here for these amounts so

[Acting Chair]
Senior Director Tomlinson

[Senior Director Tomlinson]
yeah thanks for that Secretary Collins happy to take the transcripts from yesterday and today and overlay them across proposals while we make sure that it aligns as we should

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[Secretary Collins]
yeah in in particular i guess i it's in regards to the amounts because of some analysis as we should up it to 250 dollars etc that whole piece

[Acting Chair]
that's what i was thinking about a virtual thumbs up um and was that Representative Dunfield you did have your hand up but is that what you were going to bring up

[Representative Dunfield]
uh no sir sorry i was um it was uh i don't even know what it's called a mistake

[Acting Chair]
legacy hand yeah yeah okay okay okay so any other discussion question question thank you uh i look to the floor for consensus is there anyone opposed to the motion that is be resolved the citizens council approves and submits to the Chair report or sorry to the Chair the report on the 2025 citizens proposals pursuant to section 21 of the self-government act as amended seeing no opposition that motion is carried and our next item on the agenda is uh officer's report so we have our chief electoral officer here who is going to come and talk about the jasper house district by elections i think she's here okay i can't see directly behind me so please welcome Roxanne and whenever you're ready

[Chief Electoral Officer Roxanne Carriere]
thank you Mr. Chair good afternoon council today i'd just like to provide a brief update on the jasper house Métis district by election at yesterday's cabinet meeting i presented a briefing note requesting cabinet's approval to begin election activities on august the 12th with the issuance of the notice of vote and a voting period beginning on October 26th and ending on November 3rd uh so we would have the nomination period close on September the 11th uh mail-in uh mail-in ballots would be uh sent out on October the 5th and in-person voting would take place on November the 3rd the election would be certified between November 4th and November the 13th and i'm happy to answer any questions

[Acting Chair]
Uh Representative Ward

[Representative Ward]
um what are the elections held for is there a captain like is it uh district council is it a by-election

[Chief Electoral Officer Carriere]
oh yes it's a by-election um we have two uh red um resignations for councillors and one for the youth councillor

[Representative Ward]
is there any possibility we could have one in rocky view because we are short a councillor and have been since i have been um citizen Representative

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[Chief Electoral Officer Carriere]
sorry sorry for rocky view for rocky view yeah okay so uh because we just held the by-election here um a couple weeks ago for that district according to the bylaws we should be waiting until next year to do that so i would have to bring that back and just have legal counsel check on that so according to the according to the era and also the district uh bylaws we have one by-election per annum

[Representative Ward]
so we should have had it with our captain is what i'm understanding no when we're electing our

[Chief Electoral Officer Carriere]
i um i believe for rocky view we had uh some that's right yeah you're right it was just for the district captain correct i'll have to go back and just have a quick look and see if we could possibly um piggyback you guys on to that one as well thank you i appreciate that no problem

[Acting Chair]
any any other questions regarding this item no so i i assume we'd have a resolution um kind of accepting the verbal report to citizens council um i know our amazing uh recorder has actually already crafted one um so if um sorry go ahead Secretary Mitchell

[Secretary Mitchell]
i was just gonna say for doing a motion i'd be happy to move that motion

[Acting Chair]
yeah okay uh Secretary Collins

[Secretary Collins]
uh Mr. Chair if you if you are going to do it in that manner i'm just thinking i think there's another piece that she needs to update us on so should could we not just do one motion that accepts both pieces

[Acting Chair]
okay um i don't i don't know in my agenda it just says one item didn't we deal with two items yesterday

[Chief Electoral Officer Carriere]
yes we also talked about Calgary nose hill but i was just asked to report on jasper house today

[Secretary Collins]
i i guess i'm just not understanding why we would not report on the other one as well because they are two pieces to move forward on stuff if it wasn't so important it would not

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have been on the agenda and i'm just trying to say if we're accepting a verbal report we might as well get both pieces at the same time

[Acting Chair]
yeah senior director Tomlinson has his hand up so

[Senior Director Tomlinson]
i'm sure yeah i can speak to that so this particular agenda item that was reported on follows a previous request from this council to come in and do a report there was no direction yesterday from cabinet to the CEO to bring a report from the decisions yesterday our uh if she's willing and has the information at her fingertips and council wants to hear about the decisions from yesterday i don't see any reason why that can't happen provided she has the information otherwise this was an agenda item that was previously based on a previous council request

[Secretary Collins]
specifically to this she's looking through her i think she has it because i would be prepared to second it if it includes her verbal report which includes both jasper house and Calgary nose hill

[Chief Electoral Officer Carriere]
so i hadn't prepared a actual report for the Calgary nose hill but i can tell you that council or cabinet did pass a motion to have the Calgary nose hill initial council or district council election at the same time as the jasper house by elections

[Secretary Collins]
thank you and that would include her verbal report for both pieces so so we can uh

[Acting Chair]
keep friendly amendment to the mover we'll just yeah friendly amendment to the mover and then we'll read what we have so we make sure we know what we're agreeing to okay

[Acting Clerk Lindsay Henderson]
be it resolved by the citizens council that the verbal update from the chief electoral officer on the jasper house district by elections and the Calgary nose hill district elections be accepted for information as presented

[Acting Chair]
and we have agreement excellent so Secretary Mitchell moves and Secretary Collins seconds uh is there any other discussion seeing none i would look to opposition to test for consensus is there any opposition to the motion that was read i see none that motion is carried excellent the next item is key messages so we would call on our communications and strategic governance teams um to come sit up here and and uh you can discuss any key messages that you'd like to come from this meeting let's take it away all right all right that ends up what do we want to talk about Secretary Leddy

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[Secretary Leddy]
okay um so for those of us who are able to attend back to Batoche and go into the Alberta cabin you may have seen the fantastic t-shirts like the one i'm currently wearing and the fantastic print by the artist Mia Cook that we were able to share and just like show off and i just really want to shout out the amazing art that that artist had made it's fantastic and just a real highlight that was in the cabin and if possible if we could maybe share that piece of art online but that's just an extra extension

[Acting Chair]
President Sandmaier

[President Sandmaier]
uh yeah i had that on my list too um i hear you tyler we need to ask if we can we can uh feature her um in in key messages in perhaps the newsletter because we had so many comments on the art um and i know the two people that were on either side of me today did purchase prints already so and there's the t-shirts i think went really well so i think if we can feature that artist it's um a really good thing

[Acting Chair]
and i just want to take a hat off and say i actually wheeled and dealed to get the mnc to buy her print and i bought a painting yeah yeah i think the mnc could afford this right so they bought the print and i bought her painting a different painting i think Secretary Blatz did see that painting it's beautiful she's very talented that young lady yeah okay uh Representative Ward

[Representative Ward]
um if we could i would really like to promote um the buffalo hunt and that our applications for that are now open so if we can um uh and kind of give a shout out to the the art district council because they do a lot i mean a ton of work to to pull this off and just to celebrate it's a fantastic thing for us as Métis to be able to do in the south in bath national park so something i think we should be celebrating

[Acting Chair]
excellent any other highlights you want to maybe bring as a key message nope i mean that's that's pretty good lots of lots of good to say okay i think that's we're done that part i guess there's not much to do i know that just thank you gentlemen for that and and look forward to seeing this all shared so on to the next item which is our President's closing remarks let's pass it to President Sandmaier

[President Sandmaier]
thank you everybody um i just want to thank uh our district captains that were able to join us today and i know that there are some watching online because i've had some texts oh they're all gone well you guys can all pass that on to them um i think we've we're making really good progress when it comes to um building rebuilding um developing the relationships with our with our districts um we you know made commitments um at our last

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meeting that we were going to to hold these meetings whether they were whether we were able to do them in person or virtually um as seo Quan watson highlighted and we'll continue to discuss it and talk about it at every meeting um when we uh on our financially the financial piece of everything that we we do and where that money is coming from um we need to make sure we have a handle on that um and he is going to do that i i have to say and unfortunately he had a meeting to get to but i have to say since he's been with us um so i'm really enjoying um working with him, i think he's well on his way to helping us with our with our governance um and um building the structure the way that our citizens intended it to be um and unfortunately they're there have already left but i do want to shout out to the district captains um for you know attending um the kitchen parties for you know making sure that they're out there communicating with citizens getting getting citizens to to come out and to have fun and to um participate dance all of those things and some of the districts um added on to the kitchen parties that we hosted and that was that was lovely as well it was again as i said yesterday um it was a really good um tour to be able to be out there with with citizens connecting with citizens and sharing our culture and talking about how um proud we are to be Métis so i i shout out to all the district captains for for their assistance and i think that's all i have for today um i thank you all and have a safe drive i am off to my son's wedding so yeah two down one to go

[Acting Chair]
excellent all right um we're near the very very end but before we go as we always do we need to close that circle so i'm going to turn to our elder to close us in a good way and finish the day

[Elder Dianne Ludwig]
off right thank you everyone it's been an interesting day what a beautiful day creator god please take all the people back to their homes home fire safely thank you for today walk softly on mother earth be kind to all the people decisions were made for our people today our youth our elders and always remember everything that is good we accept whenever we want to do something good there is no power that can prevent you have a safe journey home thank you

[Acting Chair]
thank you again for your words we needed them uh i just everybody's antsy so i was trying to say thank you to our elder but we do need a motion to adjourn and i saw Secretary Leddy was waving frantically so i declare this meeting of the citizens council adjourned

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