



Maskwacis Education Schools Commission

P.O. Box 58
Maskwacis, AB
T0C 1N0
P: (780) 585-3333

MESC Board of Governors Meeting

June 15, 2021

Google Meet

Chairperson: Dr. Shauna Bruno
Board Members: John Nepoose, Tamara Wildcat, Allison Adams-Bull, Jerry Saddleback Jr.,
Councillor Mario Swampy, Randal Potts, Helen Bull, Councillor Tyler Makinaw,
Councillor Chase Rabbit (arrived 3:50pm), Dr. Wilton Littlechild (arrived 4:50pm)
Staff: Brain Wildcat, Tracy Sylvester, Trina Vy, Sanila Mehal
Recorder: Jenn Nepoose

1. Meeting called to order at 3:05pm.

Opening prayer by John Nepoose.

2. Miyowâcimowin (discussed as occasion occurs)

- a. Awards being given out for Nehiyawewin.

3. Adopt agenda

Presenter: Dr. Shauna Bruno

Discussion: Add cultural retreat.

Decision: Moved by Allison Adams-Bull, seconded by John Nepoose, all in favour.

4. Adopt minutes: May 18, 2021

Presenter: Dr. Shauna Bruno

Business arising from minutes:

- a. Adjustment to ESA protocol item.
- b. Discussion on graduation ceremonies.
- c. Will send revised organizational chart to the Board. Corporate Services will not be dissolved until next fiscal year.

Decision: Subject to corrections, changes or omissions. Moved by John Nepoose, seconded by Allison Adams-Bull, all in favour.

5. Ownership Linkage

a. COVID/Re-Entry Update

Presenter: Brian Wildcat

Discussion:

- i. Review the number of positive cases and vaccination statistics within the system.
 1. Discussion on hesitation from staff in regards to the COVID vaccine.
 2. Vaccinated and non-vaccinated staff will be addressed in the re-entry plan. Vaccines align with health and safety requirements.



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- ii. Hosting vaccination clinics in the schools for students 12 years and older before the end of the school year.
- iii. Planning on a return to regular, in-school classes in the fall.
- iv. Overview of the key points of the re-entry plan for MESC schools in the fall to keep students and staff safe.

b. Update from Circle of Elders

Presenter: Helen Bull and John Nepoose

Discussion:

- i. Received an update from Patricia Rain on the vaccine. MHS is requesting videos from Elders to promote the vaccine.
- ii. Circle of Elders provided consent for the Wild Meat Program.
- iii. The Circle of Elders will be meeting with the Principals in the new school year.
- iv. Request for a report on MESC's COVID response.
- v. Henry will be taking prints to the sundance on behalf of MESC.
- vi. The circle discussed the discovery in Kamloops and how it had impacted Maskwacisak. Would like MESC to present services available to students and staff who may be triggered by this event.
 1. Discussion on MESC's response, student supports and trauma informed practices.
 2. There are grants available to search for grave sites.
- vii. Request to present the vaccination statistics at the next meeting.
- viii. Will be scheduling an in-person meeting to review the curriculum.
- ix. Could arrange for the Circle of Elders and the Board to meet with the Chiefs annually.
- x. Suggestion to host Circle of Elders events. Provide a platform for the Elders to share knowledge and stories.

6. Board Education, Presentations, and Discussion

a. Wild Meat Program

Presenter: Brain Wildcat

Discussion:

- i. Working with KTCEA on developing the program in MESC.
- ii. The Executive signed a letter of consent for this program.
- iii. Hunters will be certified by Health Canada.
- iv. The meat will be served in MESC schools.
- v. An application process will be used to select Maskwacis hunters.
- vi. Rights of passage could be incorporated with parental consent.

b. 2021-22 MESC Re-Entry Plan

Presenter: Brain Wildcat

- i. Presentation of the plan overview.
- ii. Concerns of testing being viewed as discriminatory.
 1. People Services is researching legalities of testing and vaccination declarations.
- iii. Encouraging students to return to in-school learning. Requests for learning from home will be considered under certain circumstances.



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- iv. COVID leave will be discontinued. The amount of COVID leaves had a major financial impact on the organization. Employees do have entitlements and job protected entitlements without pay. Workplace accommodations will be made on a case by case basis. There is also sick leave available through EI. Need to ensure messaging is clear.
- v. Recommendation to test all staff in the fall.

c. Student and Staff Bursaries

Presenter: Jerry Saddleback Jr.

Discussion:

- i. Discussion on committee review of scholarships/bursaries and the recommended revisions.
- ii. A full report will be provided at the August meeting.
 - 1. Adding scholarships for arts, community service and students with complex needs.
 - 2. Dr. Wilton Littlechild will donate \$2,000.00 to the sport scholarship. Room in the budget to increase the sports scholarship.
 - 3. Suggestion to honour the Chiefs by naming the bursaries after them.
 - 4. Will check into if the fund can be put into an endowment fund.
 - 5. TIPIMI has donated \$2,500.00 to MESC scholarships.
 - 6. Showcase the students annually.
 - 7. Link the Nehiyawawewin award to the UN International decade of Indigenous Languages. Can be linked to UN recognition.

d. Protocol for Selecting Maskwacis Trustees

Presenter: Brian Wildcat

Discussion:

- i. Review the draft protocol for selecting Maskwacis Trustees.
- ii. Aiming to meet with the boards in August.

e. Cultural Retreat

Presenter: Dr. Shauna Bruno and Brian Wildcat

Discussion:

- i. Planning on the camp being held in Jasper for 3 days.
- ii. The Board has confirmed August 12-14.

7. Items for decision

a. Summer recess

Presenter: Dr. Shauna Bruno

Discussion:

- i. Will not meet as a Board in July, committee meetings will continue as scheduled.

Decision: Motion 136. Moved by Dr. Wilton Littlechild, seconded by Tamara Wildcat, all in favour.

8. Monitoring Board Performance

Presenter: Dr. Shauna Bruno

a. GP: Global Governance Commitment- Direct Inspection



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- i. Review policy

Decision: No requests for evidence

b. GP-7.1- Audit Committee Terms of Reference- Content Review

- i. Review policy

1. Honorary Chiefs can raise or donate funds.
2. Discussion on funding allocations.
3. Discussion on assisting Nations members living off-reserve or Nation members not going to school to return.

Decision: Suggestion to delegate the committee to research external funding sources. Could be included in 1.4. Would provide independence of funds.

9. Other Business

- a. Transportation will still be provided to students attending provincial schools.
- b. Announcement that traditional names can be used on identification.
- c. Announcement that Treaties and Treaty rights are requirements for immigrants coming into Canada.
- d. Dr. Wilton Littlechild will not be in conflict of interest assisting Alberta curriculum and sitting on the MESC Board.

10. Adjourn 6:45pm, moved by John Nepoose.

11. In Camera - need to know

Action Item:	Who:	Date:
Arrange a meeting with the Circle of Elders, Board and Maskwacis Chiefs.	Brian Wildcat	
Finance and Audit Committee report	Committee	August 2021

Dr. Shauna Bruno - Chairperson

Date