

**WR2A – Regional Council Meeting**  
**April 9, 2022**  
Delta Saskatoon Downtown, Saskatoon

Minutes taken by: Adam McInnes

In attendance:

- Angie Caron – Gabriel Dumont Local 11
- Penny Hurton – Victoria Racette Local 11a
- Chad Wright – Cando/ Baljennie Local 55
- Chance Parenteau – Ruthilda Local 105
- Barry Falcon – Biggar Local 53
- Barb Card – Darcy/Fiske Local 85
- Shirley Isbister – CUMFI Local 165
- Adam McInnes – Saskatoon Local 126
- Kathie Pruden Nansel – WR2A Area Director
- Dennis Falcon - Elder

Call to order: 10:00

Prayer – Elder Dennis Falcon

Unscheduled in camera session – local president

- Chad Wright left the meeting

3. Housekeeping rules

- **Motion: to hold ourselves to Bylaw 2 (Housekeeping Rules) of the former Western Region IIA Secretariat until they can be ratified at an AGM for the new WR2A corporation.**
  - **Mover: Angie Caron**
  - **Secunder: Shirley Isbister**
  - **In favour: Unanimous**

4. Agenda

- **Motion to accept agenda as presented**
  - **Mover: Barry Falcon**
  - **Secunder: Chance Parenteau**
  - Discussion:
    - Shirley: concerned about length of agenda and being completed by 3:00
    - Barb: worried about parking after checking out
    - Agenda item #16 added as “Other” in case things come up
  - **In favour: unanimous**

## 5. Adoption of minutes

- Distributed
- **Motion: accept the minutes as presented**
  - **Mover: Shirley Isbister**
  - **Seconder: Angie Caron**
  - Discussion
    - Adam: Penny is listed as “Director” instead of “President”
    - Penny: concern about the length of minutes
    - Kathie: clarified meeting minutes were requested to be verbatim
    - Kathie: asked if people wanted motions to be reviewed
    - General opinion motions in minutes do not need to be reviewed
  - **All in favour: unanimous**

## 6a. Elders

- Barry: received two names: Dennis Falcon and Senator Nora Cummings
  - Barb: Nora is not eligible to be Elder as a Senator
  - Shirley: did not submit names because she wants to make sure that rural locals have more voice
  - Penny: agreed with Shirley’s reason
  - Shirley: asked about replacing Region Senator late Mike Maurice
    - Requested that a write-up to be submitted with nomination (to be written by nominator, not elder)
  - Angie: confused about Senator Mike Maurice, thought that he was an elder for the Region
  - Shirley: clarified the role of Senator Maurice
    - Also clarified that Senator Cummings is the senator appointed by the women
  - Chance: supported Dennis as nominee
  - Shirley: asked Dennis if he is willing to be the Elder
  - Dennis: Yes
- **Motion: accept Dennis Falcon as Elder for the WR2A Regional Council**
  - **Mover: Shirley Isbister**
  - **Seconder: Angie Caron**
  - **In favour: unanimous**

## 6b. ISC matters

- Kathie had a discussion with MN-S administrative leadership and members
  - Was previously told had to register as a specific name
  - Was told that the MN-S had to be listed as the sole stakeholder
  - Refused to sign papers until reviewed by council
  - They want to be able to step in to fix things if matters come up

- We can register as whatever we want
- Penny: locals and regions can incorporate, potential conflict with Constitution
  - Where is this in the Constitution?
  - Needs to be brought to the MNLA
- Angie: when they wanted us to register under the name with the MN-S as the sole stakeholder, how does that affect our funds
  - Kathie: we can get funding elsewhere
    - Also can make decisions that we make
  - Shirley: sets dangerous precedent, seems like slow takeover, how does this affect locals?
  - Penny: DTC motion was previously passed to do things together, so how does this affect our control over this for our Region?
  - Shirley: can we table this until the MN-S can come in to present to us?
  - Kathie: we can't table this because we have matters to deal with that will be put on hold
  - Adam: there are discussions of eliminating/restructuring locals, creates risk for all of us
- **Motion: to incorporate as Western Region 2A Metis Inc<sup>1</sup>**
  - **Mover: Shirley Isbister**
  - **Secunder: Barb Card**
  - **In favour: unanimous**
  - Kathie: already have motion to open bank account, will register with government agencies
  - Shirley: asked about insurance for Regional Council board of directors
  - Kathie: reviewed board insurance, clarified insurance coverage
  - Shirley: provided more details about the need for board insurance
  - Shirley: go for \$5 million coverage
- **Motion: to obtain board insurance coverage for \$5 million**
  - **Mover: Barry Falcon**
  - **Secunder: Shirley Isbister**
  - **In favour: unanimous**

## 7. UPIP

- Kathie provided up to date UPIP situation (Lori wasn't able to attend)
  - Needs to provide reports
    - Only two locals are up to date on UPIP
    - Region is not up to date
  - Reviewed where locals and Region are standing with UPIP
  - Only CUMFI and Local 11 are up to date

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<sup>1</sup> Due to limitations in naming convention with ISC, the name was subsequently changed to WR2A Metis Assoc.

- Penny: upset with UPIP because things are getting messed up and reports submitted have gone missing
- Angie: clarified details with how Local 11 does things with Region and MN-S
- Shirley: explained process that has been used up to date
- Kathie: no more funding will be provided until reports are completed
- Shirley: we all need to get reports and documents submitted
- Kathie: Lori was invited to clarify details, but was only able to send report on current standing of UPIP reports
- Penny: explained where funding was spent
- Chance: not sure what happened to his local's UPIP funding as he did not receive reports, etc.
- Kathie: clarified that motions were passed for the reports and all documents to be turned over to her
- Penny: reports had been submitted to the MN-S UPIP office
- Shirley: submitted mapping project reports
- Penny: if we had been able to sit down, pull out documents, and review matters, we could have settled this
- Barb: we need to be there at meeting with Lori
- Kathie: what are we directing her as next steps?
- Shirley: asked for clarification on available UPIP funding
- Kathie: explained details
- Shirley: need to get details from MN-S about agreements made on redirecting UPIP funding for COVID needs with permission and the agreement with the MN-S leadership
- Penny: gave narrative on the events that happened and details of UPIP funding
- Kathie: has limited information and needs more details; can we call a meeting only about UPIP?
- Shirley: after Penny gets everything submitted, we can, but it might not be necessary at that point
- Penny: further elaborated on the details
- Shirley: we need to get the documents for us to look at rather than just discuss details
- Barry: asked for clarification of events
- Penny: elaborated on details of how UPIP funds got redirected to COVID needs; will provide report details
- Kathie: can Penny bring the report to the office Monday
- Penny: yes
- Shirley: explained what we were told at the last meeting
- Angie: asked about details of meeting where Marg presented on financial records
- Penny: elaborated further
- Barry: explained that money was provided, so why didn't it show up in our accounts?
- Penny, Shirley, Barb, Kathie: discussed more details
- Kathie: all past financials were handed to the MN-S to address; what do we do to move forward on UPIP?

- Penny: we need to submit reports
- Shirley: how does Kathie not know how much is available for UPIP?
- Kathie: it's in the report from Lori
- Shirley: we all need to bring in our reports and get this solved
- Shirley: we have the receipts for the \$40,000 spent on hampers and returned \$20,000 cash to Region, and these were given to Erin
- Penny: offered to sit down with Lori to go through details of UPIP and COVID funds
- Kathie: where are historical maps that belong to the Region?
- Penny: Barry has them
- Shirley: wants copy of maps, can Region pay for producing maps?
- Kathie: there is left over money from mapping that should be able to cover this
- Shirley: each local is responsible for their own funds, and if agreements are made with other locals, all locals need to sign off on agreement and funds
- Barry: remaining UPIP funding from rural locals was used for COVID hampers
- Shirley: is it a conflict of interest for Erin to write the UPIP proposals (if done on her own time, then no)
- Penny: it was on her own time
- Barry: explained that rural local UPIP was directed to COVID because COVID funds were not given by MN-S in a timely fashion
- Penny: need to have a specific meeting with region finance, Erin, Penny, and Kathie to address this
- Barb: heard that funds from MN-S are still outstanding
- Kathie and Penny: schedule a meeting at the office for Tuesday to meet about UPIP and reports (to include Erin)
- Kathie: one year extension on UPIP, can't apply yet until PMC addresses
- Angie: reviewed previously provided documents about UPIP funding
- Adam: will complete report this weekend and submit documents to both Lori and Kathie
- Chance: can't report, because he doesn't have the documents and knowledge of what happened
- Shirley: locals who can, need to submit reports ASAP
- Kathie: funds are 1 year funding agreement
- Barb: there is still outstanding money available to locals
- Adam: if we need no motion on this matter, let's move to the next agenda item
- Angie: explained that money is owed, reports need to be submitted to Kathie by Penny and Erin
- Kathie: will email everyone updates once done meeting with Penny
- Shirley: we don't have a motion about funding before we can move on
- Kathie: there are no funds available at the moment until PMC meets
- Shirley: we need to address disparities and unfairness of regional allotments of UPIP, PMC needs to stand up for accountability

## 8. MN-S services requirement

- Kathie: meeting with Kathie, Richard, Minister of Finance Marg Friesen, Riva, etc. (same meeting as discussion on Region incorporation), got hand slapped for handing out gift cards that did not have citizenship number attached
  - Was told that everyone who receives service funding needs to have citizenship
- Shirley: how does this affect elders?
- Kathie: trying to get clarification from legal on what exactly this means
- Shirley: we need to fight this
- Adam: how are we defining elders: age, cultural, etc.?
- Shirley: we have ways to recognize elders
- Kathie: brought up case examples of people who are elders but do not have citizenship?
- Adam: federal funding is at risk if we don't require people to have citizenship?
- Shirley: we need to exclude elders from this requirement
- Adam: how do we verify claims of being an elder in an objective process?
- Shirley: outlined issues with MNLA processes, will not affect how CUMFI operates
- Barry: needs to apply to MN-S office staff too
- Kathie and Adam: not all office staff are Metis
- Kathie: there are no requirements to have a certain percentage of people hired who are Metis
- Shirley: put criteria on what defines an elder for this process
- Penny: we need to put in an amendment to the MNLA
- Shirley: people need to have MN-S cards for getting services, but we need to give elders and exception
- Kathie: this will cause issues around voting
- Shirley: elders should be allowed to self-declare
- Kathie: we need to prevent things like Carrie Bourassa though, so how would we use community support?
- Adam: Carrie has community support
- Kathie: will get a copy of the motion
- Barry: has used own money to support people getting medical care

---Lunch break---

## 9. In camera – Personnel issues

- Kathie: detailed decision of Regional Council and ongoing investigations explained to Penny
- Penny: has no issues with decision, and the forensic audit needs to include the MN-S, will retain lawyer
- Kathie: we wanted to be open and transparent about this. If it comes up that Penny is in a conflict of interest, she may have to step back from the Regional Council
- Shirley: explained further detail and outlined the options available to Penny
- Penny: are you asking me to declare a conflict of interest now?
- Shirley: no, Regional Council is giving options, but no repercussions either way

- Penny: Regional Council needs to make decision for these investigations, and the Regional Council are the ones that need to make the decision to pursue legal action
- Kathie: Personal lawyer has advised her otherwise, and anyone can do this without needing a resolution to take this kind of action
- Penny: was told that she was advised by MN-S CEO and Legal, that there needed to be a resolution from the Regional Council to even contact the police
- Kathie: suggest that Penny talk to a lawyer outside of the MN-S
- Penny: the
- Kathie: no one is saying that any blame is happening, this is just an investigation to figure out what happened
- Shirley: explained that this affects Barry too as a cheque signer
- Penny: I don't know if you still want me at this table
- Kathie and Shirley: no one is asking you to leave, the decisions is up to Penny
- Penny: will retain a lawyer

## 10. Financial update

### 10a. MN-S Financial Statement on capacity funds for period between Aug 2021 – Feb 28 2022

- Shirley: What has Gaylene be doing?
- Kathie: ran website and social media, prepared letterhead
- Shirley: these funds were being spent without direction from the Regional Council
- Kathie: rent, utilities, salaries, other expenses, does not have all details
- Shirley: confirmed that we have approximately \$100,000
- Barry: question about SaskTel phones, Christmas Draw, and Promo
- Kathie: details were not provided with these expenses, as they were lumped together by MN-S Finance
- Shirley: what was the second phone for?
- Kathie: one was for herself, and one was for office manager(which Erin never did receive and the phone is still at the office), didn't know the Regional Council needed to authorize every expense to operate the office
- Shirley: explained the process of approving finances of Regional Council
- Kathie: do I need to get approval for office supplies and consumables?
- Shirley: no, but phones are in addition to this

### 10b-e moved to later

### 10f. Proposed budget (based on \$160,000)

- Kathie: not all details are in budget because things have changed since proposed budget was drafted
- Shirley: the total is \$260,000 because \$100,000 left over from last year
- Shirley: noted proposed budget doesn't include funds for local supports, expenses for staff (e.g., workers compensation)

- Shirley: sought clarification on whether office staff help with ministerial duties?
- Kathie: no, that is separate from Regional Council matters and finances

#### 10c. Office lease

- Kathie: STC has moved into building and taking over most of the offices, and we are up for renewal
- Shirley: we need to keep the office
- **Motion: keep the office at Habitat for Humanity, renewing the lease for one year**
  - **Mover: Shirley Isbister**
  - **Secunder: Barb Card**
  - **In favour: unanimous**
- Shirley: we have typically met at the office and we haven't been meeting in hotels because of expenses, especially when we have the office

#### 10f. return to budget discussion

- Local funds
  - Adam: can these be operational funds or are they just office supplies?
  - General discussion: operational costs
  - Shirley: locals sign contract with Region for these funds, locals are accountable for funds and record keeping
  - Adam: can these funds be retroactive?
  - Kathie: bring in report on past expenses
- **Motion: each local to receive \$1,200 per year to cover operational expenses of office, meetings, and needs of local**
  - **Mover: Shirley Isbister**
  - **Secunder: Angie Caron**
  - **In favour: 6**
  - **Abstain: 1 (Penny Hurton)**
- **Motion: The \$1,200 be retroactive to include April 2021 to April 2022**
  - **Mover: Shirley**
  - **Secunder: Angie**
  - **In favour: 6**
  - **Abstain: 1 (Penny Hurton)**

#### 10b. Honorariums

- **Motion: All local presidents receive an honorarium of \$100 for each regional council meeting attended starting April 9, 2022**
  - **Mover: Shirley Isbister**
  - **Secunder: Barry Falcon**
  - **In favour: 6**
  - **Abstain: 1 (Penny Hurton)**



- **Motion: That all local presidents retroactively receive an honorarium of \$100 for the Feb 23 meeting**
  - **Motion: Barb Card**
  - **Second: Shirley Isbister**
  - **In favour: 6**
  - **Abstain: 1 (Penny Hurton)**

#### 10e. Discussion of surplus funds

- ii. Surplus capacity
  - Shirley: let's hold off until we update the budget to have discussion
- i. Surplus COVID funds
  - Shirley: how do we divide the money?
  - Adam: suggest that we go back to our locals to discuss our needs
  - Shirley: suggest each local gets \$15,000 to look after elders and people with disabilities
  - Kathie: locals can use it for providing programs for intended groups
  - Kathie: suggest that presidents talk with their local about how to spend \$15,000
  - General discussion: the need to have citizenship to receive funds
  - Kathie: discussion on COVID return for May meeting

#### 10d. Shaw boxes

- Have been returned and paid off

#### 11. Reports

- a. Regional Director report
  - Items in report reviewed to update Region

#### 14. Ma Faamii update

- Want to schedule a tour of the facility for staff and regional council

#### 12a. Communications

- a. preferred communications
  - Previous Slack is archived, new Slack workspace is to be created
- b. Region newsletter
  - Part of Gaylene's contract

Shirley Isbister left (3:15)

#### 15. Policy, Constitution, and By-laws development

- a. striking working group

- Can be open to everyone who wants to participate
- Draft bylaws need revisions

16. Next meeting date

- Saturday, May 14, 2022, starting at 10:30 in Biggar SK

17. Motion to adjourn

**Mover: Angie Caron**

NOTE TAKER Signature \_\_\_\_\_



Adam McInnes

Regional Director Signature \_\_\_\_\_



Kathie Prudent Nansel

April 9, 2022