

## **Métis Local 1904 Sturgeon County/St. Albert - AGM**

March 21, 2022

Registration/Doors Open 6:00 pm at St. Albert Inn and Suites

Meeting 7:00-9:00 pm In person and Virtual - Zoom

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **In Attendance (in Person)\*\*\* Incomplete (see membership declarations)**

Vernon Hagen, Gwen Crouse, Archie Arcand, Garry Gairdner, Alfred L'Hirondelle, April Dalcourt-Jones, Weldon Jones, Lloyd Gwin, Marc Parent, Sharon Morin, Josh Morin, Bruce Gladue, Becky Williams, Kerri Randolph, Rachelle Venne, Hannah Nash, Emilea Saadeh, Dana Stromberg

### **Virtual Attendance (Zoom)**

Jarod Letendre, Ciara Nash, Shayla Nash-Taylor

### **Opening Prayer:**

Elder Garry opened with a prayer at 6:30 pm and dinner was served

### **Meeting Called to Order:**

Meeting was called to order at 7:06pm by Vernon Hagen

### **Opening Remarks from Métis Nation of Alberta:**

- Dan Cardinal, Vice President Métis Nation of Alberta
  - August 4-7<sup>th</sup> at Grey Eagle Resort and Casino, Calgary Alberta
  - MNA/Madame President Poitras continuing to work on constitution at AGA
  - Métis Crossing is open for the season, check it out
- Gary Gagnon, Region 4 Vice President
  - Requested financials (again) at the recent Region 4 meeting, but have not gotten a response
    - This information should be accessible, and it is public information. Whoever is elected for the Local should continue to pursue this request.
  - April 1, 2022 - there is a regional meeting which a representative from the Local should be able to attend
  - Encouraging words of support for the Local to keep strong and to continue to ask for everything; don't be discouraged from the lack of response on things so far

### **Local Topics of Discussion/Agenda Items for March 21, 2022:**

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval previous months minutes
  - No minutes to approve; the February 2021 – meeting consisted of full review of Local Bylaw
- Bylaw was reviewed and updated as part of the February Local meeting.

- Special Resolutions added to bylaw - signatures for this completed: Alfred L'Hirondelle, April Dalcourt-Jones, Vernon Hagen, and Garry Gairdner
- Previous version of the bylaw was very basic and did not have enough detail as needed for Local level implementation; the updated version was briefly adapted from that of the MNA
  - Bylaw signatures completed: Alfred L'Hirondelle, April Dalcourt-Jones, Vernon Hagen, Gwen Crouse, and Garry Gairdner\*\*\* **incomplete list**

Question/Comments regarding the Bylaws (Bruce Gladue, Dan Cardinal, Vernon Hagen, April Dalcourt-Jones)

- Clarification required on the use of independent bylaw versus those from the MNA; should be using what is available from MNA and not diverting from those
- Noted again that the recently updated bylaw is very similar adaptation of those from the MNA with addition of a few special resolutions to suit operation of the Local
- Concern regarding implied independent operation of the local separate from the MNA (provincial) – need to be careful
- Overall, do need to follow MNA, and noted that the term of election is also aligned with MNA as a 4 year term

**ACTION:** April to send bylaw to MNA Region 4, for review, then this will likely be brought by the Region to Provincial ratification

- President Update
  - Has been significant progress and momentum of the Local even during Covid
    - Seeing increase in membership as community members are connecting to their identity and are finding strength in our culture and community
  - Seen increase in membership, pursuing permanent office location and hiring of an administrator
  - With dedicated representatives to lead, we have seen a significant increase in consultation work and leading of the residential school exploration work
  - Some Key accomplishments of the last 2 years to highlight:
    - Tom Ghostkeeper Scholarship- two \$1000 scholarships in memory of Tom Ghostkeeper
    - Flag Poles- In follow up to the Payhonin: Reconciliation, St. Albert, August 2019 recommendations, the Local worked with the City to permanently install two flag poles to fly the treaty 6 and Metis flags.
    - Letter of Support - City of St Albert Indigenous Relations Coordinator- Support for the continued funding for the Indigenous Relations Coordinator position communicated directly to Mayor Heron
  - St. Albert Metis Local Initiatives

- Review of the March 2022 Initiatives Document and progress of ongoing, delayed, completed, and delayed projects (see attached)
  - Financial Update:
    - Starting Balance as of 2020 AGM \$1,200
    - Current Balance as of March 2022 \$32,000
    - Much of the financial growth for the Local has resulted from consultation projects (i.e. Heartland Project 10k, Firewood Project 7k) and a 5k donation to host an upcoming cultural celebration/feast
    - Region 4 annual funding of \$1500 and reimbursement of \$1000 for the mossbag project
    - MNA has supported the hiring of an administrative position as well as the purchase of AV equipment
- Residential School Update – Kerri Randolph
  - Provincial funding approved
  - Have only applied for Provincial funds but are in the process of a Federal application
  - Have established Residential School Steering Committee, Research Subcommittee/Leadership Committee to do this work
    - Will be establishing an Elders subcommittee
    - Partner with Institute of Prairie and Indigenous Archaeology/Dr. Kisha Supernant
  - Meeting with National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation to confirm details on records access and retention
  - Meeting with MNA next week to discuss areas of collaboration
  - Preparing for community meeting with various First Nation representatives, MNA, etc. to share where we are in planning, next steps and how can work together. Also want to connect with Poundmaker’s Lodge about their work as ours may overlap theirs.
    - Regardless of outcomes of collaboration intentions, what to provide a reminder that there are no politics in this work and that it is only about the truth, the children, and the survivors, working collaboratively with all.
  - Want to have well established support and resources available before proceeding to engaging with survivors, families, etc.
  - Currently estimating ground works to potential begin in the fall however need to be patient with the process.
    - Are limited number of experts in Canada who can support this work
    - Want to do it properly, patiently, and respectfully
    - It is about truth

**Nominations and Voting (highlighted names are successful candidates):**

- **President (1):**
  - Joshua Morin
  - Alfred L'Hirondelle
- **Vice President (1):**
  - Joshua Morin
- **Secretary (1):**
  - Rachelle Venne
- **Treasurer(1):**
  - April Dalcourt-Jones
- **Knowledge Keeper/Elder (1 additional):**
  - Gwen Crouse
- **Directors (3):**
  - Vernon Hagen
  - Kerri Randolph
  - Becky Williams

Elder Garry closed the meeting with a prayer  
Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm

**ATTACHMENT 1:**

**St. Albert Metis Local Initiatives**

**KEY:** Ongoing, Follow-up Required, Delayed, Completed Projects, Not completed

<b><u>Ongoing Projects</u></b>	<b><u>Collaborators</u></b>	<b><u>Local Lead</u></b>	<b><u>Timeframe</u></b>	<b><u>Notes/Status</u></b>
<b>City of St. Albert Metis Monument</b>	City of St. Albert	Vernon	Ongoing	Looking at funding for a Red River cart to display in the community. Further discussion to occur.
<b>City of St. Albert Metis Nation Land</b>	City of St. Albert	Vernon	Ongoing	Initial talks with city rep in regards to securing land title for St. Albert/ Sturgeon Metis local. Further discussion to occur.
<b>City of St. Albert Cultivate the Community</b>	City of St. Albert	Vernon	Ongoing	City looking to generate future revenue streams. Initial zoom meeting conducted. Indigenous tourism highlighted and Metis self government as funding streams. Further discussion to occur.
<b>Parks Canada- Bison Project</b>	Parks Canada	Vernon, Archie, Sharon & Josh, Selena.	Ongoing	Contribution and review of Metis history with respect to Bison. Review of content and art to be used on panels. June 19 <sup>th</sup> 2022 opening ceremony.
<b>St. Vincent De Paul</b>		Archie	Ongoing	Met in Jan 2022 to discuss partnership opportunities.

<b>Metis Local 1904 Regional Consultation Committee</b>	MNA	TBD	Ongoing	<p>Letter sent to Tracey- requesting implementation of MNA region 4 consultation protocol agreement.</p> <p>May 5<sup>th</sup> Regional council meeting) (Bruce unable to attend due to Easter Monday holiday)</p> <p>2022 update: Region 4 not complying with consultation framework.</p>
<b>Metis Local 1904 Region 4 Financial Statement Request</b>	Region 4	Local Membership	Ongoing	<p>Gary Gagnon attended a Local meeting and was requested to provide the Local with region 4 financial statements (last year end)</p> <p>Re: Failure to implement COVID funding.</p> <p>2022 update: Local has not seen region 4 financials.</p>
<b>City of Edmonton River Valley Modernization</b>	City of Edmonton- Indigenous Relations Morgan Bamfield Jaimy Miller Emilia Saadeh	Alfred, Gary & Archie	Ongoing  (virtual workshop 10- 12pm)	Providing oversight and consultation with the city on land development and protection of the river valley.
<b>City of Edmonton River Crossing Initiative</b>	City of Edmonton- Urban Strategies, planning James Haney	Alfred, Gary & Archie	Ongoing Engagement  Initial email June 2021	June 2021 email from James with project information. Engagement continues.

<a href="#"><u>River Crossing Heritage Interpretive Plan</u></a>				
<a href="#"><u>River Crossing Business Plan</u></a>				
<b>City of Edmonton Ground Monitoring</b>	Emilia Saadeh	Alfred	Ongoing	May 7 <sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss ground disturbance community monitoring.
<b>City of Edmonton/Strathcona County/River Valley Alliance</b>  <b>Strathcona County Footbridge &amp;</b>  <b>Strathcona County Regional Park Project</b>	River Valley Alliance, Strathcona County	Alfred	Ongoing	Registration form for site visit completed and returned.
<b>Government of Canada Residential School Burial Funding</b>	University of Alberta- Keisha	Kerri	Ongoing	Letter submitted requesting funding for archaeological work identifying RS unmarked graves. Email received from Fed Govt; more info to come.
<b>Government of Alberta Residential School Burial Funding</b>		Kerri	Ongoing	Application for funding submitted to Province. Approved waiting for funds (Approx \$100K).
<b>Government of Alberta Climate Engagement</b>	Govt of Albert Environment & Parks Scott Duguid	Alfred	Ongoing	Reduction of green house gas- letter received from Govt April 1 <sup>st</sup> .

<b>Metis Local Administrative Position</b>		Bruce, Vernon, Gary (Interviews- Kerri, Archie and Becky)	Ongoing	Job description completed and posted. Applications currently being received. \$25K funding received from MNA to support initial start up of position (6 months)
<b>Metis Local 1904 MNA Constitution Committee</b>	MNA	Local Membership	Ongoing	Provided feedback to MNA on the development of the Constitution. Waiting for further correspondence from MNA.  Last met in Dec 2021
<b>Metis Local 1904 Windbreakers Youth Running Program</b>	MNC Veterans Commemoration	Vernon, Jared	Ongoing	Letter of intent submitted for funding of Windbreakers Youth Running Program.  Business plan approved. \$80K for 2 year project; funds awaiting receipt.
<b>Metis Local Bylaws</b>		April	Ongoing	Reviewed by Local membership in Feb 2022. To be finalized at AGM in March 2022.
<b>St. Albert Indigenous Guiding Committee</b>	City of St Albert	Sharon, Vernon, Josh	Ongoing	Provided consultation for St Albert City Council in development of TOR.
<b>St. Albert Public Library UofA Indigenous Canada Course</b>		Vernon, Sharon P, Celina, Darrell,	Ongoing	Individual presentations and support for participants.

<b>Elder seniors Firewood Program</b>		Bruce	Ongoing	Delivery of firewood to elders and seniors (current until June 2022)
<b>City of St Albert- Youth Engagement</b>	City of St Albert Shannon Piller	TBD	Ongoing	Create opportunities for youth to participate in community-based programming on reconciliation.
<b>Riverlot Research</b>		April	Ongoing	Research into RLS and family connections.
<b><u>Projects Requiring Follow up</u></b>	<b><u>Collaborators</u></b>	<b><u>Local Lead</u></b>	<b><u>Timeframe</u></b>	<b><u>Notes/Status</u></b>
<b>Government of Canada Heartland Project</b>	Govt of Canada- Impact Assessment	Bruce, Vernon, Sharon, Gary Gairdner, Alfred, Lloyd	Follow up required	May 2021- Bruce requested Local inclusion in Heartland Project . Follow up zoom meeting with Local committee completed; reviewed engagement plan. Bruce drafted letter for phase 1 consultation planning. Local Received 10K for consultation purposes. Letter drafted to secure traditional land users.
<b>Coming Together Event (Mamawepawin)</b>			Delayed due to COVID	\$5k donation received to host a social-cultural gathering.
<b>Parks Canada- Urban Park Project</b>	Parks Canada	Vernon & April	Ongoing with follow up needed	Letter of request for land-back through the Urban Park Project sent Nov 2021. News release March 2022 indicating

				MNA support and involvement. Local follow up needed.
<b><u>Delayed Projects</u></b>	<b><u>Collaborators</u></b>	<b><u>Local Lead</u></b>	<b><u>Timeframe</u></b>	<b><u>Notes/Status</u></b>
Metis Local 1904 Riverlot 56	Local RL 56 Committee	Vernon, Archie, Gary, Josh	Letter submitted April 2021  DELAYED due to COVID	Discussion with Marie Renault (MLA). Met with two city counselors to discuss future land recognition. Letter sent and follow up with George Binnette from the RL society. Willing to partner with Local once COVID allows in person meeting.
<b><u>Completed Projects</u></b>	<b><u>Collaborators</u></b>	<b><u>Local Lead</u></b>	<b><u>Timeframe</u></b>	<b><u>Notes/Status</u></b>
Metis Local 1904 Local Non-Profit Requirements	Local		Completed (April 2021)	Submitted Society Annual Return for 2020 & 2021 to Service Alberta; directors and change of address completed with Service Alberta. Audited financial statement included with filing.  Guide to complete Annual Return developed for future filings.
City of St. Albert National Indigenous Peoples Day	City of St. Albert	Vernon	Completed (June 2021)	June 21 <sup>st</sup> National Indigenous Peoples Day Ceremony & proclamation.

				Proclamation drafted by Vernon, reviewed by Bruce and included in city's presentation.
<b>Metis Local 1904 Local Banking</b>		Local Executive	(April 2021)	Signing authority on bank account changed for 2021 executives.
<b>Metis Local 1904 Metis Flag Raising</b>	City of St. Albert	Vernon	Completed (Sept 2021)	Letter sent to the city requesting a flag raising. City funded the installation of two flagpoles. Flag raising ceremony took place in Sept 2021.
<b>Metis Local 1904 Moss Bag Project</b>	Local, Region 4	Paula Reban	Completed August 2021- Reimbursement submitted.	Moss Bag project complete, 11 participants registered and attended.
<b>MNA Region 4 Funding</b>		Vernon	Completed (2021/2022)	Letter sent to Region 4 for annual funding of \$1500- Received for 2021 and 2022
<b>AGM Funding</b>			Completed (January 2022)	\$1000 received from region 4 for 2022 AGM
<b>Metis Local 1904 Local Capacity (office space)</b>		Alfred, Archie, Gary and Vernon	Completed (October 2021)	Office space approved at Arts & Heritage for no cost.
<b>Metis Week</b>	City of St Albert	Vernon & Gwen, Archie, Dwayne	Completed (November 2021)	Supported the City of St. Albert in Metis week events

		Postras, Sharon		(on line) and presentations. Sash ceremony completed with presentation of sash to Zack Willier.
<b>City of St. Albert Indigenous Relations Position</b>	City of St Albert	Vernon & Gwen	Completed (September 2021)	Letter of support submitted to City of St Albert for ongoing funding of IR position.
<b>Tom Ghostkeeper Memorial Fund</b>	MNA	Vernon & Marla	Completed (November 2021)	Two educational grants of \$1000 each awarded to successful applicants.
<b>Pekiwewak Adasisak Walk (Children are Coming Home Walk)</b>	City of St Albert, Winds of Change		Completed (July 2021)	Supported planning and execution of event.
<b><u>Incomplete Projects</u></b>	<b><u>Collaborators</u></b>	<b><u>Local Lead</u></b>	<b><u>Timeframe</u></b>	<b><u>Notes/Status</u></b>
<b>Metis Local 1904 Constitution Forum</b>	MNA	Bruce	Not successful	Proposal submitted to hold a two day constitutional workshop in order to gather urban Metis feedback on Constitution development. Proposal amount: \$30,130.00  Not supported by MNA.