



## Maskwacis Education Schools Commission

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### BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING NOTES

<b>DATE:</b>	June 10, 2025
<b>START TIME</b>	1:03 pm
<b>END TIME:</b>	5: 52 pm
<b>LOCATION:</b>	MESC Governance & Training Centre
<b>CHAIR:</b>	Dr. Shauna Bruno (left 5:05 pm)
<b>MESC BOARD:</b>	Allison Adams-Bull (Google Meet, arrived 1:28 pm, left 3:00 pm) Helen Bull (left 5:05 pm) Carmella Cutknife Azure Johnson Bruce Littlechild John Nepoose
<b>REGRETS:</b>	Ilene Cardinal-Nepoose
<b>STAFF:</b>	Tracy Swampy-Sylvester
<b>RECORDER:</b>	Jenn Nepoose

#### 1. ADOPT AGENDA

<b>TIME:</b>	5 min
<b>PRESENTER:</b>	Dr. Shauna Bruno
<b>DOCUMENTS:</b>	N/A
<b>DISCUSSION:</b>	- Added Board Member Declaration of Conflict of Interest to Other Business.
<b>DECISION:</b>	- Moved by Debra Strongman-Omeasoo, seconded by Helen Bull, all in favour

#### 2. ADOPT MAY 13, 2025 MEETING NOTES

<b>TIME:</b>	5 min
<b>PRESENTER:</b>	Dr. Shauna Bruno
<b>DOCUMENTS:</b>	"2. May 13, 2025 Board Meeting Notes.pdf"
<b>DISCUSSION:</b>	- No business arising from minutes.
<b>DECISION:</b>	- Moved by Azure Johnson, seconded by Elliott Young, all in favour.

#### 3. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

<b>TIME:</b>	10 min
<b>PRESENTER:</b>	Tracy Swampy-Sylvester
<b>DOCUMENTS:</b>	"3. Superintendent Report.pdf"
<b>DISCUSSION:</b>	- Clarification on Parent meetings. - Discussion on sponsorship from the Nations to support the honorarium for the Kehtehyak Forum.

<b>4. ITEMS FOR DECISION</b>	
<b>A. Quarterly Finance Report &amp; Budget Presentation</b>	
<b>TIME:</b>	30 min
<b>PRESENTER:</b>	Trina Vy
<b>DOCUMENTS:</b>	"4. a. Quarterly Finance Report & Budget Presentation.pdf" "4. a. i. 25-06-01 - Audit service plan - MESC March 25.pdf" "4. a. DRAFT Motion-2025-26 Budgets.pdf"
<b>DISCUSSION:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will adjust the schedule of quarterly reports to align with year end.</li> <li>- \$5 million owing to MESC is for tuition fees. Delay is Nationally.</li> <li>- Spending is on track and average for this time of the year.</li> <li>- Request to report how many staff at each site for future reports.</li> <li>- Revenue projection may fluctuate as the audit is not complete.</li> <li>- Remaining funding for the kindergarten can be reallocated to the remediation of the Maskwacis Cree Junior High School gymnasium. The garden at the Early Learning Centre still needs to be completed and staffed for the summer.</li> <li>- The auditor is looking into reporting the interest earned separately.</li> <li>- Need to comply with Board investment policies when considering investing interest earned. Could invest interest earned into a GIC but the return is lower and MESC would not have access to it.</li> <li>- Each year more students have registered with MESC from neighbouring school districts.</li> <li>- Per student is roughly \$21,000.00/student. This amount may increase.</li> <li>- Need to determine the need in the curriculum team in order to properly budget for any increases in staff.</li> <li>- Rebates for fuel are accounted for in the corporate services budget.</li> <li>- May run a deficit without deferred revenue. Would be a consideration for negotiations and the needs of the system.</li> </ul>
<b>DECISION:</b>	- <b>Motion 216 - Approve 2025 - 2026 budgets.</b> Moved by Elliott Young, seconded by John Nepoose, all in favour, motion carried.
<b>B. 2025 - 2026 Board PD</b>	
<b>TIME:</b>	10 min
<b>PRESENTER:</b>	Dr. Shauna Bruno
<b>DOCUMENTS:</b>	"4. b. i. Proposed 2025-2026 BOG PD.pdf" "4. b. ii. DRAFT Motion- 2025-2026 Board PD.pdf"
<b>DISCUSSION:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Azure, Elliott, Bruce, Debbie, Allison, Jeff, Izaiah, Clainia and Ilene will attend the CSBA in July 2026.</li> <li>- Jason, Helen, Shauna, John, and Carmella will attend the First Nations Educators Conference.</li> <li>- Will organize a land based session for the whole Board with any remaining budget.</li> </ul>
<b>DECISION:</b>	- <b>Motion 217 - 2025-2026 Board PD.</b> Moved by Elliott Young, seconded by Bruce Littlechild, all in favour, motion carried.
<b>C. Summer Recess</b>	
<b>TIME:</b>	5 min
<b>PRESENTER:</b>	Dr. Shauna Bruno

<b>DOCUMENTS:</b>	"4. c. DRAFT Motion- Summer recess 2025.pdf"
<b>DISCUSSION:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recess for the month of July with the exception of the special Board meeting on July 16th to review the audit.</li> <li>- All Board members are expected to attend the July 16th Board meeting.</li> </ul>
<b>DECISION:</b>	- <b>Motion 218 - Summer Recess 2025.</b> Moved by John Nepoose, seconded by Carmella Cutknife, all in favour, motion carried.

#### **D. Board Honorarium Annual Bonus**

<b>TIME:</b>	45 min
<b>PRESENTER:</b>	Trina Vy
<b>DOCUMENTS:</b>	"4. d. DRAFT Motion- Board bonus.pdf"
<b>DISCUSSION:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Proposed increase to \$2000/Board member for the summer bonus.</li> <li>- Only provided to voting Board members.</li> </ul>
<b>DECISION:</b>	- <b>Motion 219 - Board Bonus.</b> Moved by Azure Johnson, seconded by Elliott Young, all in favour, motion carried.

### **5. BOARD EDUCATION, PRESENTATIONS, AND DISCUSSION**

#### **A. Curriculum Presentation**

<b>TIME:</b>	1 hour
<b>PRESENTER:</b>	Carla Badger
<b>DOCUMENTS:</b>	"5. Curriculum Presentation.pdf"
<b>DISCUSSION:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Curriculum is still in draft. Welcome any feedback to refine the content and outcomes.</li> <li>- Share appreciation for the work that has gone into the development of the curriculum.</li> <li>- Curriculum team has full support of the Board in their work.</li> <li>- Tracy will report on progression and assessment of fluency of students speaking Cree.</li> <li>- Determine how the curriculum will be presented at a future meeting.</li> <li>- Hoping to have the k-9 nehiyawewin curriculum implemented within 5 years. Treaty curriculum will be implemented sooner.</li> <li>- Any changes in staffing on the curriculum team will have an impact on the timeframe.</li> <li>- Additional staff would not speed up the timeline but rather improve the quality of resources and opportunity for professional development with teachers.</li> <li>- Accreditation of the 10-12 curriculum has not started. After the Board passes the motion for the courses it will go into a review process with Alberta Education. Once the curriculum is approved, the Board will then need to write a letter to the Minister. The curriculum then becomes the official curriculum and MESC retains ownership.</li> <li>- Barrier of teachers not speaking Cree and taking the initiative to learn.</li> <li>- Next steps and support needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clarification of what Treaty term to use throughout the curriculum (asotamawin, tipahamatowin, ostesmasinihikan)</li> <li>- More time to develop the curriculum and resources. Could be up to a</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	decade to develop all the resources needed for the curriculum.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Need to schedule more PD days in the school calendar in order to train our teachers on the curriculum. Will prepare a presentation at the July special Board meeting.</li> <li>- Need a Board motion approving nehiyawewin courses once the feedback is collected from the pilot courses.</li> <li>- Contracting and outsourcing of some resource development.</li> </ul>
<b>B. Procurement Report</b>	
<b>TIME:</b>	10 min
<b>PRESENTER:</b>	Tracy Swampy-Sylvester
<b>DOCUMENTS:</b>	N/A
<b>DECISION:</b>	- Table until August.
<b>C. Negotiation Update</b>	
<b>TIME:</b>	10 min
<b>PRESENTER:</b>	Tracy Swampy-Sylvester
<b>DOCUMENTS:</b>	N/A
<b>DISCUSSION:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Engagement is ongoing, MNP will be compiling information and data.</li> <li>- Met with Louis Bull Chief and Council. Ermineskin Chief and Council meeting has been scheduled for July 16th.</li> <li>- Need to meet with Samson and Montana.</li> <li>- Brian will create a matrix of options for negotiations.</li> </ul>
<b>6. OWNERSHIP LINKAGE</b>	
<b>A. Update from Circle of Elders</b>	
<b>TIME:</b>	10 min
<b>PRESENTER:</b>	Helen Bull, John Nepoose and Tracy Swampy-Sylvester
<b>DOCUMENTS:</b>	N/A
<b>DISCUSSION:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discussed the round dance MESC is planning for February 2026.</li> <li>- Reviewed plan for Kehtehayak Forum.</li> <li>- Will be doing a visioning activity in August.</li> </ul>
<b>B. Update from Circle of Parents</b>	
<b>TIME:</b>	10 min
<b>PRESENTER:</b>	Azure Johnson, Carmella Cutknife
<b>DOCUMENTS:</b>	N/A
<b>DISCUSSION:</b>	- Aiming to get the Circle of Parents together in October to roll out the COP plan.
<b>C. Update from Nation Representatives</b>	
<b>TIME:</b>	10 min
<b>PRESENTER:</b>	Allison Adams-Bull, Ilene Cardinal-Nepoose, Debra Strongman-Omeasoo, Elliott Young
<b>DOCUMENTS:</b>	N/A
<b>DISCUSSION:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Unable to schedule a meeting with Montana, their schedules are full.</li> <li>- Will be meeting with Ermineskin Chief and Council on July 16th from 1:00 - 4:00.</li> </ul>

<b>7. MONITORING BOARD PERFORMANCE</b>	
<b>A. GP-7.1: Audit Committee Terms of Reference - Content Review</b>	
<b>TIME:</b>	5 min
<b>PRESENTER:</b>	Dr. Shauna Bruno
<b>DOCUMENTS:</b>	"7. a. GP 7.1 - Audit Committee Terms of Reference.pdf"
<b>DECISION:</b>	- No changes, policy still relevant.
<b>B. G: Global Governance Commitment - Direct Inspection</b>	
<b>TIME:</b>	5 min
<b>PRESENTER:</b>	Dr. Shauna Bruno and Jenn Nepoose
<b>DOCUMENTS:</b>	"7. b. i. Global Governance Commitment.pdf"
<b>DECISION:</b>	- Provide an interpretation of the statement and any recommendation on its appropriateness.
<b>C. EL-8: Communication and Support to the Board - Monitoring report</b>	
<b>TIME:</b>	5 min
<b>PRESENTER:</b>	Tracy Swampy-Sylvester
<b>DOCUMENTS:</b>	"7. c. i. EL-8 Communication and Support to the Board.pdf" "7. c. ii. Monitoring Report EL-8.06.2025.pdf"
<b>DECISION:</b>	- Request for a risk assessment and impact of risk reported and discussed at the board level in detail.
<b>8. Other Business - Board member declaration of conflict of interest</b>	
<b>TIME:</b>	5 min
<b>PRESENTER:</b>	Dr. Shauna Bruno
<b>DOCUMENTS:</b>	"2. May 13, 2025 Board Meeting Notes.pdf"
<b>DISCUSSION:</b>	- Elliott has been contracted by KKI to develop a system map. Potential conflict of interest when the engagement broadens to external organizations such as MESC. In that situation, Elliott's colleague will conduct the engagement and will not participate in the discussions.