

# University College of the North Minutes of the Council of Elders

Wednesday, June 14, 2023  
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Thompson Boardroom 132  
Zoom: 699.627.8649



PRESENT	REGRETS	ABSENT	Guests/Resources
M. Bignell - Opaskwayak J. Donovan - Thompson G. Guiboche - Learning Council J. Hunter-Spence - Nelson House M. Jonasson - Wabowden T. Mendel - Swan River S. Neff - Grand Rapids T. Weenusk - Oxford House	M. Head-Steppan - Flin Flon M. Spence - Split Lake		T. Pidskalny - Tri-Council Exec. Officer J. Mayer - Administrative Assistant D. Lauvstad - President & Vice-Chancellor D. Smith – VP of Academic & Research Avére Stangeland - Executive Director, Kanawenimawasowin Child Care Centre Jennie Wastesicoot - Aboriginal and Northern Studies Professor Lynda Neckoway - UCN Campus Elder and Advisor

## 1.0 Opening Prayer

Opening Prayer was offered by Elder Jimmy Hunter-Spence.

## 2.0 Presentation

### 2.1 Kanawenimawasowin Child Care Centre

The child care centre has had the same paintings since 2012 and includes Robin Room 1, Robin Room 2, etc. The centre is asking for the Elders support in updating the décor to include the 7 Sacred Teachings and corresponding animals.

The Elders will tour the centre in August 2023 and provide feedback at that time.

**Action:** A. Stangeland will email pictures to T. Pidskalny for distribution to the Elders

## 3.0 Call to Order

Meeting Called to Order by Chair, Elder Mabel Bignell at 9:25 a.m.

## 4.0 Adoption of Agenda

It was duly moved and seconded by T. Mendel / J. Donovan

**THAT** the agenda for June 14, 2023, be adopted with the following addition:

- Item 2.1 Kanawenimawasowin Child Care Centre

**This Motion was put to a vote and CARRIED**

COE-06/14/23-4.0

Adoption of Agenda

## 5.0 Acceptance of Minutes

### 5.1 April 19, 2023 - Meeting Minutes

It was duly moved and seconded by J. Donovan / T. Mendel

**THAT** the COE accept the Minutes of April 19, 2023, as presented.

**This Motion was put to a vote and CARRIED**

COE-06/14/23-5.1

April 19, 2023 Meeting

Minutes

## 6.0 Committee Business

### 6.1 Committee of the Whole – In-Camera

6.1.1 Nil

### 6.2 President's Update

Verbal report received for information. Discussion ensued.

**Action:** Lynette Plett will be invited to present to the Council of Elders on community updates (program updates and community centres). Ramona Neckoway will be invited to provide an update on the Indigenous Initiatives & Reconciliation Department.

### 6.3 Aboriginal Education Research Forum Update

Elder Martha Jonasson and Elder Tommy Weenusk attended the forum and provided an overview. The forum included discussions regarding research, education, renaming/reclaiming/mapping territories, language, culture, etc.

### 6.4 Ratification of Governing Council Member to COE

At the April 20/23 Governing Council Meeting Pamela Marsden was appointed the Governing Council Representative to the Council of Elders.

COE-06/14/23-6.4  
Ratification of  
Governing Council  
Member to COE

It was duly moved and seconded by J. Donovan / J. Hunter-Spence

**THAT** the Council of Elders ratify the appointment of Pamela Marsden as the Governing Council Representative to the Council of Elders, for a 1-year term, July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

**This Motion was put to a vote and CARRIED**

### 6.5 COE Membership Consideration

The letter from Mervin Garrick, Cross Lake Elder, was reviewed and discussed. The Council of Elders agreed that Mervin Garrick be invited to the next meeting. The invite will be done via phone call and a letter. The letter will also advise of the requirements of becoming a COE member (criminal record check, etc.).

**Action:** T. Pidskalny will provide a draft letter for Elder Mabel Bignell's review and approval, prior to sending it to M. Garrick.

It was duly moved and seconded by T. Mendel / J. Donovan

**THAT** the Council of Elders invite Mervin Garrick to the August 30/23 COE meeting, as outlined above.

COE-06/14/23-6.5  
COE Membership  
Consideration

**This Motion was put to a vote and CARRIED**

The COE asked that T. Pidskalny draft a process for review at the next meeting.

The process will include the following:

- When an Elder is interested in sitting on the UCN Council of Elders they will submit a biography and resume, which can include references. They will include their contact information (mailing address, email, and telephone number).
- Once the Tri-Council Office receives the biography and resume, a letter and/or phone call will be made to that Elder thanking them for their interest and advising that their biography and resume will be reviewed by the COE at the next meeting of the COE.
- The biography and resume will be reviewed at the next COE Meeting. If COEs agree that the Elder would be a welcomed member, that Elder will be invited via letter and/or phone call to the subsequent meeting. The letter will also outline the requirements for becoming a member of the COE.

- At that subsequent meeting the COE will have the opportunity to discuss items with the potential member and ask questions. At the end of the meeting, the COE will go in camera to discuss their decision.
- Discussion to be had regarding when the potential member be advised - at that meeting? Via phone call by an Elder? Etc.

**Action:** T. Pidskalny will provide a draft process for the COE to review at the August 30, 2023 meeting.

Adjourned for lunch at 11:54 am.  
Blessing of the food offered by Elder Martha Jonasson.  
Meeting called to order at 12:55 pm.

## 7.0

### COE Activity Reports

#### 7.1 M. Jonasson – Governing Council

Verbal report received.  
Governing Council met on May 18/23. The next meeting is on June 15/23.

#### 7.2 T. Weenusk – Learning Council

Verbal report received.  
Learning Council met on June 12/23. The next meeting is on August 29/23.

## 8.0

### Self-Monitoring

#### 8.1 2022/2023 Attendance

Received for information.

#### 8.2 COE Record of Motions 2022-2023

Received for information.

## 9.0

### Roundtable

- Received for information.
- Council of Elders Meeting Packages will be mailed to Elder Martha Jonasson and Elder Jimmy Hunter-Spence the week before the meeting.
  - Discussion regarding if Elders are interested in attending a Sweat the day before a meeting. J. Mayer will reach out to all Elders one week before the meeting. If Elders are interested, J. Mayer will speak with the Campus Elders to book.
  - Discussion regarding the completion of a Kenanow booklet.
  - Would like to have a report on the Regional Centres. What are the centres being used for, what programming, how many students, etc. Lynette Plett will be invited to a meeting to provide an update.
  - Request was made for a tour of Nelson House ATEC building for the next meeting in Thompson.
  - Discussion if pictures of all UCN departments/staff, with names are available. There are some available on the UCN Website, however, only of those employees that wish to post their information.

10.0

**Adjournment/Closing Prayer**

Closing Prayer was offered by Elder J. Hunter-Spence.  
The meeting was adjourned at 3:01 p.m. by Elder T. Mendel.  
Next meeting: August 30/23 at 9:00 a.m. in The Pas.

COE-06/14/23-10.0  
Adjournment/Closing  
Prayer



T. Pidskalny, Tri-Council Executive Officer

September 27, 2023

Dated



Elder M. Jonasson, Vice-Chair

September 27, 2023

Dated