

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

Wednesday, June 15, 2022  
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Thompson Boardroom 409  
Zoom: 699.627.8649  
Teleconference: 1.866.279.1594  
Participant code: 668739



PRESENT	REGRETS	ABSENT	Guests/Resources
F. Albert - Norway House M. Bignell - Opaskwayak G. Guiboche - Learning Council N. Halcrow - Cross Lake M. Head-Steppan - Flin Flon J. Hunter-Spence - Nelson House M. Jonasson - Wabowden N. Leahy - Thompson S. Neff - Grand Rapids B. Schaffer - Swan River T. Weenusk - Oxford House	R. Nabess - Governing Council M. Spence - Split Lake		T. Pidskalny - Tri-Council Exec. Officer J. Mayer - Administrative Assistant E. Jebb - Chancellor  B. Firman - UCN Kenanow Faculty of Education

## 1.0 Opening Prayer

Opening Prayer was offered by Elder Jimmy Hunter-Spence.

## 2.0 Presentation

- 2.1 Creating a Traditional Medicine Garden,  
Katrin Stedronsky, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Arts, Business, Science

**Action:** The Council of Elders will review and discuss the proposal and provide a response to K. Stedronsky.

- 2.2 History of UCN Council of Elders,  
Brenda Firman, UCN Kenanow Faculty of Education  
Received for information. Further discussion will take place via separate workshops for the Council of Elders.

## 3.0 Call to Order

Meeting Called to Order by Chair, Elder Martha Jonasson at 10:12 a.m.

## 4.0 Adoption of Agenda

It was duly moved and seconded by N. Leahy / N. Halcrow  
**THAT** the agenda for June 15, 2022, be adopted with the following additions:

- Item 6.4 Concerns of Elders (M. Bignell)
- Item 6.5 Honorary Awards for Elders (M. Bignell)
- Item 6.6 Resources of Language Department (M. Bignell)
- Item 6.7 Elders Protocol Pamphlet (M. Bignell)

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

COE-06/15/22-4.0  
Adoption of Agenda

## 5.0 Acceptance of Minutes

- 5.1 **May 18, 2022 - Meeting Minutes**

It was duly moved and seconded by B. Schaffer / N. Leahy  
**THAT** the COE accept the Minutes of May 18, 2022, as presented.

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

COE-06/15/22-5.1  
May 18, 2022 Meeting  
Minutes

Draft meeting notes will be distributed to the Council of Elders 7 to 10 days after the Council meeting for Elders to review Action Items. A final representation of meeting minutes will be emailed for approval if there is more than a month between meetings.

## 6.0

### **New Business**

#### 6.1 **President Update**

President's written report received for information.

#### 6.2 **Summer Institution Mile 20/Egg Lake**

In past years the Education Department held an annual Summer Institute, however, this hasn't taken place in a few years.

**Action:** G. Guiboche will follow up and report back at the next COE meeting.

#### 6.3 **COE Term Start Dates**

The Council of Elders was established in 2004, however, there isn't a comprehensive membership list of Elders that sat on the COE and their start and term ends. Once this list is compiled, the Elders can make recommendations regarding Honorary Awards, Elders photos/recognition, etc.

**Action:** J. Mayer will follow up with UCN Finance Department.

#### 6.4 **Concerns of Elders**

Discussion regarding a place on the agenda for Elders to express their concerns.

**Action:** T. Pidskalny will add a Standing Item to the Agenda for Council of Elders Concerns.

#### 6.5 **Honorary Awards for Elders**

This Item was addressed in Item 6.3 COE Term Start Dates.

#### 6.6 **Resources of Language Department and Curriculum**

Discussion regarding what happens to this documentation once it is compiled. There should be ownership of documentation for protection. Discussion regarding the establishment of a Centre for Languages and Culture. Recommendation that Cree names should be prominent at the Campuses - a sign for the Libraries and Boardrooms with the Cree Name, for example.

**Action:** R. Neckoway or A. Barbour-Stevenson will be invited to a future meeting to discuss.

#### 6.7 **Elders Protocol Pamphlet**

N. Halcrow and M. Bignell will sit on a committee with J. Mayer to develop a draft Protocol Pamphlet that will come forward to the Council of Elders for review and recommendations. Nelson Leaske and Melanie Belmore will be invited to sit on the committee.

Discussion ensued regarding the Seven Sacred Teachings and having Nelson Leaske or Melanie Belmore facilitate.

Elder Stella Neff departed the meeting at 11:47 a.m.  
 Elder Margaret Head-Steppan departed the meeting at 11:51 a.m.

**7.0**

**COE Activity Reports**

**7.1 S. Neff – Governing Council**

No report received.  
 Governing Council met on May 17/22. The next meeting is on June 16/22.

**7.2 B. Schaffer – Learning Council**

Verbal report received for information. Learning Council met on June 14/22.

**8.0**

**COE Self-Monitoring**

**8.1 2022/2023 Attendance**

Received for information.

**8.2 COE Record of Motions 2022-2023 & 2021-2022**

Received for information.

**9.0**

**Roundtable**



- Received for information.
- Request to ensure that a COE member is invited to the HR panel for the Thompson Campus Elder.
  - Elders attending Thompson Convocation include: Freda Albert, Jimmy Hunter-Spence (tentative), Nick Halcrow, Norma Leahy, and Martha Jonasson.
  - Elders attending The Pas Convocation include: Mabel Bignell. J. Mayer will follow up with members not in attendance at this meeting.
  - Concern was expressed regarding the lack of Indigenous-related questions in an HR Interview. What does the interviewee know about UCN, the Governance system, programming, etc.
  - Concern was expressed regarding Campus Elders being on a Term position and laid off during the summer.

**10.0**

**Adjournment/Closing Prayer**

Blessing of the food was offered by Elder Tommy Weenusk.  
 The meeting was adjourned at 12:57 p.m. by Elder T. Weenusk.  
 Next meeting: August 24/22 at 9:00 am in The Pas.

COE-06/15/22-10.0  
 Adjournment/Closing  
 Prayer

 _____ T. Pidskalny, Tri-Council Executive Officer  August 24, 2022 _____ Dated	 _____ Elder M. Jonasson, Chair  August 24, 2022 _____ Dated
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