

# University College of the North

## Minutes of the Council of Elders

Wednesday, May 26, 2021  
9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Zoom: 699.627.8649  
Teleconference: 1.866.279.1594  
Participant code: 668739



PRESENT	REGRETS	ABSENT	Guests/Resources
M. Bignell - Opaskwayak M. Jonasson - Wabowden N. Halcrow - Cross Lake J. Hunter-Spence - Nelson House N. Leahy - Thompson S. Neff - Grand Rapids B. Schaffer - Swan River M. Spence - Split Lake R. Nabess - Governing Council B. Partridge - Learning Council	K. Hyde - Learning Council	M. Head-Steppan - Flin Flon E. Samatte - UCN Elder The Pas	T. Pidskalny - Tri-Council Exec. Officer J. Mayer - President's Office D. Lauvstad - President & Vice-Chancellor E. Jebb - UCN Chancellor

**1.0 Opening Prayer**  
Opening Prayer was offered by Elder Stella Neff.

**2.0 Presentation**  
**2.1** Nil

**3.0 Call to Order**  
Meeting Called to Order by Chair, Elder Martha Jonasson at 9:11 am

**4.0 Adoption of Agenda**  
It was duly moved and seconded by B. Shaffer / M. Bignell  
**THAT** the agenda for May 26, 2021 be adopted with the following additions:  
- 6.5 Split Lake Regional Center (M. Spence)  
- 6.6 Regional Center Name Change (T. Pidskalny)  
- 6.7 Recruiting Elders (M. Bignell)  
**This Motion was put to a vote and CARRIED**

COE-05/26/21-4.0  
Adoption of Agenda

**5.0 Acceptance of Minutes**  
**5.1 April 21, 2021 – Meeting Minutes**  
It was duly moved and seconded by S. Neff / N. Halcrow  
**THAT** the COE accept the Minutes of April 21, 2021 as amended:  
- Correct the first column to read "PRESENT" not "REGRETS".  
- J. Hunter-Spence provided regrets.  
**This Motion was put to a vote and CARRIED**

COE 05/26/21-5.1  
April 21, 2021 Meeting  
Minutes

**6.0 New Business**  
**6.1 President Update**  
President's Update received for information and included the following updates:  
- The Pas Student Association Council conducted a survey of students to gauge their view of how things are going during the pandemic. The results indicated that students are happy with the work that instructors have been doing adapting the curriculum and the flexibility the instructors have in terms of meeting the needs of the students during the pandemic. Students indicated that UCN was doing a good job with communications. Students would prefer to be in the classroom, but are managing with the online learning.

- Government of Manitoba has requested that UCN submit proposals that would see a significant increase in the number of graduates from the DPN Program. Proposals were submitted for four locations (Flin Flon, Swan River, Thompson and Selkirk).
- UCN's DPN Program has received a five-year accreditation which is the maximum, and speaks to the overall excellence of the program.
- UCN applications are up approximately 30-35% over the last few years.
- UCN expected revenue decline in Contract Training due to the pandemic, however a significant increase was seen (approximately 125%).
- Research Funding received includes \$200,000 grant from the Canadian Institute of Health Research in addition to \$245,000 in kind contribution from research partners. A \$25,000 grant from the National Indian Brotherhood Trust on "Indigegogy Community of Practice by University College of the North", will bring UCN Elders into a conversation about Indigenous content and pedagogy and connect that conversation with practice in UCN's classrooms.
- Deveny Zahayko, UCN Policy Manager is working on updating UCN Policies and ensuring compliance with the Auditor General through our governance practices.
- UCN has engaged with Meyers Norris Penny on a Sustainability Plan.
- We will be initiating the planning of for Linkages, our conference on northern economic development. Planning for April/May 2022.
- A story entitled Roots, written and illustrated by Brie Phillips, graduate of the Kenanow Bachelor of Education program (June 2020), was published and unveiled last month. Her book will be sent to every provincial school (public and private), Manitoba libraries, the Legislative Assembly, the AMC, the MMF and the Mayor of every municipality. This is being done through the Retired Teachers Association of Manitoba, who provided Brie with a scholarship.  
**Action:** J. Mayer will forward books to the Council of Elders once available.

## 6.2 HR Process for COE Involvement

HR advisors have been asked to forward J. Mayer a notice of upcoming competitions and she can forward a request to the COE ahead of the interviews being scheduled. A minimum of one-week notice will be provided when possible.

## 6.3 Elders Protocol Pamphlet Update

T. Pidskalny was advised by S. Bulycz that the pamphlet was never completed, and a copy cannot be located. J. Mayer has contacted Nelson Leaske to see if he has records.

## 6.4 COE's Representative on Governing Council

T. Pidskalny advised that S. Neff's term concludes on June 30, 2021. Elder Neff is eligible for another term. COE will review and advise at the June 16/21 meeting.

## 6.5 Split Lake Regional Center

M. Spence expressed concern with the hours the Center is open and opportunities for programming. Discussion ensued regarding the limitations due to Covid and community lockdowns.

**Action:** D. Lauvstad will follow up with L. Plett, AVP of Access, for an update.

## 6.6 Regional Center Name Change

T. Pidskalny advised that a letter was sent to Chief and Council of the communities, advising them of the recommendation of the name change by the Council of Elders and

requesting input. With the pandemic and lockdown of several communities, communities have requested that UCN to provide more time so they are able to turn their attention to matters other than the pandemic.

#### 6.7 Recruiting Elders

Discussion ensued regarding sending communities a letter requesting their recommendation(s) and a biography of potential Elder(s) to sit on the Council of Elders. M. Jonasson contacted two Elders from Oxford House to request a representative. M. Jonasson is working with Norway House to put forth a recommendation. S. Neff has a name from Easterville, however has been unable to reach them. M. Bignell has been unable to reach an Elder from Pukatawagan.

#### 7.0

##### COE Activity Reports

#### 7.1 S. Neff – Governing Council

Verbal report received for information.  
Next Governing Council meeting is May 27, 2021.

#### 7.2 B. Schaffer – Learning Council

Verbal report received for information.  
Next Learning Council meeting is June 8, 2021.

#### 8.0

##### COE Self-Monitoring

#### 8.1 2020/2021 Attendance

Received for information.

#### 9.0

##### Roundtable

Received for information.

- Reminder to provide updated contact information to J. Mayer or T. Pidskalny.
- The link for Zoom training on June 2/21 has been sent to all committee members.
- A link to TRC recordings will be sent to all committee members.
- If committee members cannot contact UCN employees, please contact J. Mayer for follow up.
- Tech Manitoba (UCN) offers free training and will forward training sessions (computer training) to all committee members.

#### 10.0


##### Adjournment/Closing Prayer

Closing Prayer was offered by Elder Mabel Bignell.  
Meeting was adjourned at 12:33 p.m. by B. Schaffer.  
Next meeting: June 16/21 at 9:00 am.

COE-05/26/21-10.0  
Adjournment/Closing  
Prayer

  
T. Pidskalny, Tri-Council Executive Officer

August 25, 2021  
Dated

  
Elder M. Jonasson, Chair

August 25, 2021  
Dated