

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

Wednesday, September 27, 2023  
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Thompson Boardroom 409  
Zoom: 699.627.8649



PRESENT	REGRETS	ABSENT	Guests/Resources
M. Bignell - Opaskwayak J. Donovan - Thompson J. Hunter-Spence - Nelson House M. Jonasson - Wabowden P. Marsden - Governing Council T. Mendel - Swan River S. Neff - Grand Rapids M. Spence - Split Lake T. Weenusk - Oxford House	M. Head-Steppan - Flin Flon	G. Guiboche - Learning Council	T. Pidskalny - Tri-Council Exec. Officer J. Mayer - Administrative Assistant D. Lauvstad - President & Vice-Chancellor B. Cianflone - Governing Council Chair D. Smith - VP Strategic Direction L. Plett - VP of Academic & Research L. Neckoway - Campus Elder & Advisor V. Flaming - Indigenous Project Officer /Indigenous Curriculum Specialist Mervyn Garrick - Cross Lake Elder

## 1.0 Opening Prayer

A moment of silence was offered in memory of Elder Norma Leahy.  
Opening Prayer was offered by Elder Jimmy Hunter-Spence.

## 2.0 Presentation

- 2.1 Growth at UCN, Dan Smith, VP Strategic Growth  
Presentation was provided for information and feedback.

## 3.0 Call to Order

Meeting Called to Order by Vice-Chair, Elder Martha Jonasson at 10:32 a.m.  
A round table of introductions were provided.

## 4.0 Adoption of Agenda

It was duly moved and seconded by T. Mendel / J. Donovan  
**THAT** the agenda for September 27, 2023, be adopted with the following addition:  
- Item 6.1.1 Council of Elders Membership (postponed to the end of the meeting)  
**This Motion was put to a vote and CARRIED**

COE-09/27/23-4.0  
Adoption of Agenda

## 5.0 Acceptance of Minutes

- 5.1 **June 14, 2023 - Meeting Minutes**  
It was duly moved and seconded by J. Donovan / J. Hunter-Spence  
**THAT** the COE accept the Minutes of June 14, 2023, as presented.  
**This Motion was put to a vote and CARRIED**

COE-09/27/23-5.1  
June 14, 2023 Meeting  
Minutes

## 6.0 Committee Business

- 6.1 **Committee of the Whole – In-Camera**  
It was duly moved and seconded by T. Mendel / J. Donovan  
**THAT** the Council of Elders move in camera at 3:07 pm.  
**This Motion was put to a vote and CARRIED**

COE-09/27/23-6.1  
Committee of the Whole  
– In-Camera

- 6.1.1 Council of Elders Membership  
It was duly moved and seconded by J. Hunter-Spence / T. Mendel

**THAT** the Council of Elders welcome Mervin Garrick as a Council of Elders member, pending the completion of the required document checks.

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

COE-09/27/23-6.1.1  
Council of Elders  
Membership

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

**THAT** the Council of Elders reconvene from Committee of the Whole at 3:11 pm.

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

COE-09/27/23-6.1  
Committee of the Whole  
– Reconvene

## 6.2 President's Update

A written and verbal report was received for information. Discussion ensued.

- UCN has partnered with a Computer for Schools to refurbish donated computers and distribute to area school divisions and UCN Regional Centres for students use.
- UCN and MPI partnered to deliver Class 5 driver training in Northern communities. This is a great initiative to support employability in the North.
- At the request of the Learning Council UCN is currently undergoing the application process to become a member of Universities Canada.
- At the request of Industry, UCN has been developing a short course on Indigenous Awareness for Industry. UCN's Indigenous Initiatives and Reconciliation department, led by Dr. Ramona Neckoway is leading this initiative.
- UCN was asked to respond to the government's Critical Minerals Strategy.
- Funding request has been put in for a Home Builders program.
- Have received funding to expand the Child Care Program.
- Pre-Law is a new program currently under development at UCN.
- Linkages The Pas is scheduled for November 7 & 8, 2023.
- Interim VP Academic and Research, Lynette Plett provided an update.

## 6.3 COE New Member Process, Draft

The Council of Elders will review the draft and provide feedback at the November meeting.

Meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:24 pm.

Blessing of the food offered by Elder Martha Spence.

Meeting called to order at 1:12 pm.

## 6.4 Elders Protocol Pamphlet, Draft

The Council of Elders will review the draft and provide feedback at the November meeting.

## 6.5 Honoraria Rates

Governing Council Executive has asked the Tri-Council Officer to review Honoraria rates at other publicly funded institutions/organizations (for Elder, Student, and Staff). An update will be provided at a future meeting.

## 6.6 Linkages The Pas and Thompson

J. Mayer will follow up with each of the Elders regarding attendance.

**6.7 National Gathering of Elders**

Mabel Bignell is attending with OCN Elders and representatives.

**6.8 David Lathlin Award**

The David Lathlin Award wasn't mentioned for the Kenanow Bachelor of Education Program in the Convocation Booklet. There was no mention of him and the Elders would like to see this included in the next Convocation booklet for Kenanow.

**Action:** M. Bignell and Stella Neff will follow up.

**6.9 Kenanow Booklet for Teachers**

**Action:** M. Bignell and S. Neff will meet with Kenanow to discuss.

**6.10 Policies Regarding Elders Services**

M. Bignell shared that there are Council of Elder policies and wants to ensure the Elders are aware of these policies.

**6.11 Waskawimakanwa Mecimwaci Isihtawina**

The question was brought forward if this course could be extended beyond a two-day course. As this is an academic matter, Tommy Weenusk will bring forward the Council of Elders discussion to the next Learning Council meeting.

**6.12 Pipe Ceremony**

J. Mayer that, potentially, Pipe Ceremonies and Sweats could be available the night before a meeting, with notice. Smudging is also available in the Centres.

**7.0****COE Activity Reports****7.1 M. Jonasson – Governing Council**

Verbal report received.

Governing Council met on June 15/23. The next meeting is on September 28/23.

**7.2 T. Weenusk – Learning Council**

Verbal report received.

Learning Council met on August 29/23. The next meeting is on October 24/23.

**8.0****Self-Monitoring****8.1 2023/2024 Attendance**

Received for information.

**8.2 COE Record of Motions 2023-2024**

Received for information.

**9.0****Roundtable**

Received for information.

- Council of Elders will look at the possibility of having a COE meeting at Nelson House and have a tour of the Atoskiwin Training and Employment Centre (ATEC).
- The Elders would like to see the years of service awards handed out at a

celebration, as was done in the past. It is not as respectful and meaningful to receive it in the mail.

10.0

**Adjournment/Closing Prayer**

Closing Prayer was offered by Elder J. Hunter-Spence.  
The meeting was adjourned at 3:46 p.m. by Elder T. Mendel.  
Next meeting: November 29/23 at 9:00 a.m. in The Pas.

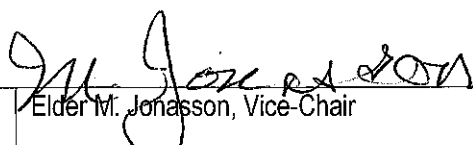
COE-09/27/23-10.0  
Adjournment/Closing  
Prayer



T. Pidskalny, Tri-Council Executive Officer

November 29, 2023

Dated



Elder M. Jonasson, Vice-Chair

November 29, 2023

Dated