

Resolution for the Métis National Council Board of Governors:

WHEREAS the Métis Nation has a profound and enduring history, originating from the unions of Indigenous peoples and European settlers during the fur trade era, and evolving into a distinct and vibrant community with its own unique culture, language, and traditions in west central North America in the early 1800s;

WHEREAS the Governments of the Métis Nation play a crucial role in ensuring that the historical integrity of the Métis Nation and its people is upheld and protected, preserving our unique heritage and cultural identity for future generations;

WHEREAS in 2002, the Métis National Council Secretariat Inc. ("**MNC**") General Assembly ("**General Assembly**") unanimously adopted a definition for citizenship within the Métis Nation (the "**National Definition**") that was then adopted and implemented by each MNC Governing Member;

WHEREAS the National Definition affirms a distinct identity of the Métis people, distinguishing us from other Indigenous groups and mixed-ancestry individuals, emphasizes the unique cultural, historical, and political characteristics of the Métis Nation; ensures rights and claims of the Métis are legally defensible, and is crucial for nation building;

WHEREAS in 2017, the General Assembly passed a resolution directing the President of the Métis National Council to initiate an examination of the Métis Nation of Ontario ("**MNO**") citizenship and report back to the General Assembly with recommendations;

WHEREAS in 2018, the MNC President tabled a report titled, "Addressing the Integrity of the Historic Métis Nation Homeland", and presented a resolution ("**Probation Resolution**") to place the MNO on probation and form a committee to review the MNO Registry for compliance with the 2002 definition.

WHEREAS in 2021, the MNC passed a resolution to establish an Expert Panel "with a mandate to review the history of the seven Ontario communities ("**Seven Communities**") through the lens of the National Definition and contemporary Métis governance," provide a discussion paper for consideration of the Board of Governors, and placed the 2018 Probation Resolution in abeyance.

WHEREAS in 2022 the General Assembly passed a resolution to prioritize the Expert Panel review, setting timelines for member appointments, and identifies that the General Assembly shall review the paper and "conclusively resolve those matters outstanding in the Probation Resolution";

WHEREAS in December 2024, the report of the Expert Panel was completed and shared with the Board of Governors of the MNC for consideration in accordance with the 2021 establishing resolution.

THEREFORE be it resolved that

- 1) the MNC affirms its support for the National Definition as adopted by the MNC General Assembly in 2002 and the basis on which it has been adopted by Métis Governments throughout the homeland;
- 2) the MNC recognizes and affirms that Métis Governments, on behalf of their Citizens, are the sole authorities empowered to make determinations about their citizenship and history, in accordance with the National Definition;
- 3) the MNC acknowledges receipt of the report of the Expert Panel, in satisfaction with the prior General Assembly resolutions SGA210929-07 and GA221027-11;
- 4) in accordance with clause two (2), the MNC is a National Indigenous Organization which respects the inherent jurisdiction of rights-bearing Métis Governments, and therefore the report of the Expert Panel cannot be approved or endorsed by the MNC and;
- 5) in accordance with clauses two (2) and four (4) of this resolution, the report and any documents, and/or records of the Expert Panel collected, considered, cited or otherwise utilized in fulfilling their obligations are hereby transferred to the ownership and stewardship of the MNO to use or endorse as they deem appropriate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2018 Probation Resolution was always out of the MNC's scope and authority and accordingly is hereby quashed and deemed to be of no force and effect.