



Medicine Hat Métis District 2 Council Meeting Minutes

Date: August 25, 2025

Time: 7:00 p.m. – 8:57 p.m.

Location: Saamis Aboriginal Employment: 919 Tractor Avenue SE, Medicine Hat, AB T1A8L1

In Attendance: Heather Seale, Pat Aaker, April Aaker, Laurie Oulette (via Teams)

Guest: Catherine Schnell

1. Opening

- Prayer: Led by Laurie Oulette
- Call to Order: 7:04 p.m. by Heather Seale

2. Approval of Agenda

- Motion to approve agenda: Pat Aaker
- Seconded: April Aaker
- Carried

3. Financial Report

- General Account Balance (Aug. 25, 2025): \$30,602.29
- Casino Account Balance (Aug. 25, 2025): \$16,256
- Outstanding cheques: NIL
- Accounts receivable: NIL
- Accounts payable: NIL
- Motion to approve financial report: April Aaker, seconded Laurie Oulette | Carried

4. Approval of Online Motion

- Online Motion to invite Apeetogosan to give presentation on Thursday, Oct. 2 was put forward by Pat Aaker and seconded by April Aaker.
- At the meeting, the motion was amended to: invite Apeetogosan to present a day and evening session on October 18–19, 2025. (Waiting to hear back from Apeetogosan)
- Both mover and seconder agreed to the amendment.
- Carried

5. Action Items & Planning Carried Forward

- Confirm date, times, and facility needs with Apeetogosan.
- Book the Big Eagle Room.

- Create and distribute citizen invitation.
- Provide invitation to Miywasin for inclusion in the next Reil Issue newsletter once date and location are confirmed.

6. Administration & Operations

- Proposal: laptops for administration.
Motion by April Aaker to purchase laptops, printers, and office supplies locally.
Seconded by Laurie Ouellette. Carried
- Complete requirements to receive operating funds: Heather will complete this request.
- Building purchase search put on hold after consultation with other District Captains.

(Viewed Rims of Steel building – currently lease option only.)

7. Event Planning

October 4 – Métis Harvest Fest

- Naming: Both districts approved the name Battle River Métis Harvest Fest vs. Whoop-Up.
- Identify potential funders for prizes (Apeetogosan proposals/donations). **(At this time, it will not be a jigging competition.)**
- Invite local artisans and request small donations for prizes. In progress: Alex asked Local 1 and us to secure 7–10 artisans; tables will be supplied at no cost to vendors.
- Required supplies: 10 crib boards and 10 decks of cards for crib tournament.
- District 1 is arranging catering.

Métis Week – November 2025

- Cultural Budget: \$8,500 allocated per district. \$5,000 approved for Métis Week; \$3,500 reserved for other cultural purposes to be used before March 31, 2026.
- Confirmed Costs: fiddlers \$3,000; contribute \$2,000 towards Métis Elders Banquet.
- Mileage funding for Elders: use remaining Elders grant funds for Battle River Métis Fest in Lethbridge. Plan to hire Miywasin staff already insured if they can drive van **(Jeannette agreed to be the driver).**

8. Elders & Knowledge Keepers Council

- Candidate suggestions: Jeannette, Wally, Donna Kennedy.
- Selected candidates: Jeannette Hansen and Pat Aaker. Both accepted to put names forward and present bios
- Two Elders/Knowledge Holders will be appointed to the Provincial Elders Council from each Territory.

9. Grants & Funding Applications

- New Horizons for Seniors Grant (due Sept. 17, 2025): Cathy and Heather have completed the application for the Walk with Our Ancestors project. Includes 5 Cultural Gatherings in Medicine Hat and a weekend Cultural Gathering at Métis Crossing. Waiting for letter of support from MP Glen Motz.
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10. Business Arising from Previous Meeting

- Bank account name updated; cheques ordered. Completed.
- New post office box: PO Box 1046 Station Main, Medicine Hat, AB T1A 7H1.

11. Governance & Appointments

- Amend Treasurer and Secretary Appointments.
- Motion to split Treasurer and Secretary Roles from one position into two: Pat Aaker – Treasurer and April Aaker – Secretary.
Motion by Laurie Ouellette, seconded by April Aaker. Carried

12. Financial & Administrative Motions

- Motion to set up online banking access for Captain, Treasurer, Secretary.
Motion by Pat Aaker, seconded by Laurie Ouellette. Carried (completed).
- Motion to purchase QuickBooks subscription once laptops are purchased.
Motion by April Aaker, seconded by Pat Aaker. Carried

13. Operating Funds Request Package to Otipemisiwak Métis Government (OMG)

Heather and Cathy will complete the application process to receive operating and cultural budgets for 2025/2026. **(Waiting for approval)**

Treasurer information for financing agreement:

- Name: Pat Aaker
- Phone: 403-526-1938
- Email: paaker@telus.net
- Mailing Address: PO Box 1046, Medicine Hat PO Main, T1A 7H1

14. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn: Pat Aaker
- Adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

15. Next Meeting

- Date: September 22, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.
- Location: 15 Taylor Court SE, Medicine Hat, AB T1B 3X5 (Heather Seale's house)