

**MONTREAL URBAN ABORIGINAL
COMMUNITY STRATEGY NETWORK**

**REPORT ON THE
5TH MEETING OF THE NETWORK**

**Held at Batshaw Youth and Family Centres
Montreal**

September 29, 2009

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AGENDA

1. Opening Prayer
 2. Welcome and Housekeeping
 3. Background Information on the NETWORK and Updates from the Interim Steering Committee Members
Question Period
 4. Presentation of the NETWORK's Draft Terms of Reference Including the Proposed Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest Guideline
Working Group Discussions – Suggested Amendments
 5. Approval of the Terms of Reference with the Accepted Amendments
 6. Discussion around the Propositions Brought by the NETWORK's Steering Committee Recommendations to the Steering Committee (AFNQL and KRG representatives; Youth subcommittee and representative)
 7. Presentation of the NETWORK's Draft Coordinator Job Description
Recommendations to the Steering Committee
 8. Subcommittee Meetings – Nomination of Representatives to the NETWORK's Steering Committee
 9. Closing Prayer
 10. Participants' Announcements
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1. OPENING PRAYER

Mr. Mike Standup, from Kahnawake, is invited to recite the opening prayer.

2. WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING

Mrs. Waneek Horn Miller, Coordinator of the First Peoples' House of McGill University, will chair the meeting in English and Rose-Anne Gosselin, Regional Counselor at the First Nations Human Resources Development Commission of Quebec, will chair it in French.

Mrs. Louise Constantin, from Centre St-Pierre, will take the minutes.

The facilitators welcome the participants and wish them a stimulating meeting.

They provide the following information:

- ◆ Translation: participants are invited to speak in the microphone ~~to allow~~ for translation;
- ◆ Parking: there will be regular breaks through the meeting to allow for people to check their parking;
- ◆ Registration in subcommittees: new members are invited to join subcommittees and write their name on the lists posted on the wall; they may join more than one subcommittee; see Appendix 1 for the list of subcommittees' members;
- ◆ Photos: pictures will be taken during the meeting; if there are people who don't want their picture taken, they have to feel free to mention it;
- ◆ APTN: a journalist from APTN will come at 1:30pm to film our meeting and will hold interviews with members of the Steering Committee and participants; it will be shown at 6:00pm.; If there are people who don't want to appear on TV, they are invited to mention it;

- ◆ Lunch meetings: the Communications subcommittee, the Art, Culture, and Heritage subcommittee, and the Steering Committee will meet at lunch time;
- ◆ Lunch: lunch will take place between 12:00pm and 1:30pm.; there is a cafeteria in the building or people can go out if they wish.

Discussion will take place during the meeting in small groups which will meet in the same room.

Feedbacks and comments are encouraged, but the schedule is tight and participants are invited to keep to the point.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE NETWORK AND UPDATES FROM THE INTERIM STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Participants are invited to consult the summary of the events leading to the creation of the NETWORK. The facilitators read this summary included in the Report of the meeting held on June 15, 2009 (p. 3).

Travis O'Brien is invited to provide more detailed information and answer questions.

He recalls that the objective behind the creation of the NETWORK is to improve the socioeconomic conditions of Aboriginal people, and the Strategy aims at creating various partnerships in Montreal that will contribute to reaching this goal, the same way as is now the case in Winnipeg, Toronto, and other cities in Canada. There are no questions.

Reports from the subcommittees follow:

◆ Art, Culture and Heritage

Devora Neumark reports that no meeting has taken place since the last NETWORK meeting. Since the subcommittee Coordinator, Dolorès Contré Migwans, moved out of Montreal, she cannot assume the subcommittee coordination any longer. At the lunch meeting, a new Coordinator will have to be selected.

◆ Communications

Odile Joannette reports that the subcommittee was created in June, 2009 and did not hold a meeting since then. So at the lunch meeting today, the subcommittee will start organizing and planning its activities. However, she met with Jean-François O'Bomsawin and Brett Pineau to come up with ideas for this meeting.

◆ Education, Training, and Employability

Dolorès André reports that two meetings took place and the subcommittee is still recruiting members. Now there are twenty active members involved from different organizations linked to training and employability. The meetings held addressed the following topics:

- 1st meeting: updated on what is taking place in the NETWORK;
- 2nd meeting: identified needs and preoccupations and defined the subcommittee mandate and its Terms of Reference, which are still in progress. Various ideas were shared at the preliminary level. There is an awareness that the Aboriginal community of Montreal is growing. According to Statistics Canada, it now reaches 17 800 people. Dolorès feels that it is particularly stimulating to participate in a group that shares the same preoccupations and she is convinced that the subcommittee will come up with interesting projects.

◆ **Health**

Chantal Robillard reports that several meetings took place already and that the subcommittee has completed its Terms of Reference and has worked at developing their Five-Year Strategic Plan. Its first task is to list available resources in the health sector, considering health as a holistic concept. She invites participants to join the subcommittee. Meetings are mostly held in English.

◆ **Social Services**

Nakuset reports that the subcommittee's last meeting was held on June 2, 2009. There were no meetings this past summer, because she had a baby. The next meeting is scheduled for October 21, 2009. The subcommittee is working on an ambitious plan. She invites people to join the subcommittee to share the big plans it has.

4. PRESENTATION OF THE NETWORK'S DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE INCLUDING THE PROPOSED CONFIDENTIALITY AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST GUIDELINE

The participants are invited to study and discuss the draft Terms of Reference in small groups.

It is reminded that this is a working document and that the elected Steering Committee will have the task to finalize it.

Each participant receives a number from 1 to 5 in order to form discussion groups. Each group should designate a person to take notes.

Simultaneous translation can be provided for one group only. If there is a need for translation in other groups, there are bilingual persons that can take care of it.

5. APPROVAL OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE WITH THE ACCEPTED AMENDMENTS

Each group presents its comments and suggestions, which will be referred to the Steering Committee who will see to it to integrate them in a coherent manner.

Some items gave rise to more in-depth discussions, which are reproduced below.

As a general comment on the document as a whole, **group 3** mentioned that there are differences between the French and the English texts. It is recommended that the versions be revised after the meeting in order to harmonize the text (the group will provide its recommendations to the Steering Committee). One participant mentions that the Secrétariat aux affaires autochtones du Québec offers translation services.

◆ **Vision Statement**

Group 1 found a problem with "citoyens autochtones" ("Aboriginal community" in the English version) and would like to replace it by "des Autochtones résidant ou de passage dans la région métropolitaine de Montréal" ("Aboriginal people living or in transit in the Montreal metropolitan area"). Other participants would prefer "Aboriginal people of Montreal", "Aboriginal residents and Aboriginal people in transit in the greater Montreal area", or "Aboriginal community."

A discussion arises as to the weight of the terminology, which impacts for instance on the identity, the eligibility to government and other institutional services, and on other issues. John Gordon mentions that the Montreal NETWORK will certainly be called in the near future to participate in national bodies, to

contribute to improve the quality of life of Aboriginal people in Canada as a whole and, thus, the terminology has to be as general as possible, with regards to membership as well as to the geographical area the NETWORK covers. Also, when a person has to deal with social services, there is no verification as to what nation or category she belongs to. Waneek Horn Miller specifies that this is not always the case, and that such verifications can take place, for instance in the education system. Dolorès André feels that there is enough categorization as it is now for Aboriginal people and she would like to use a wording that is as inclusive as possible.

It is moved by Dolorès André and seconded by Alana Phillips

TO REPLACE, IN THE VISION STATEMENT, “ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY OF GREATER MONTREAL” BY “ABORIGINAL PEOPLE IN THE GREATER MONTREAL AREA” (ET “CITOYENS AUTOCHTONES DE LA RÉGION DE MONTRÉAL” BY “LES AUTOCHTONES DE LA RÉGION DU GRAND MONTRÉAL” IN THE FRENCH VERSION).

Unanimously adopted.

It is requested to review the whole document to make sure the same terminology is used throughout.

Group 2 would like to add “private sector” as part of the Steering Committee to increase potential partnerships with employment and business partners. However, this suggestion is considered difficult to apply, for the private sector is very large. Furthermore, it applies more to the structure than to the Vision Statement.

Another question arises as to the terminology used in the English and the French versions: in English, we refer to “a cooperative body” and in French to “table de concertation”, which are not quite the same type of organization.

◆ **Purpose**

Group 3 suggests to add:

- paragraph 1: “through the NETWORK” after “Aboriginal citizens”;
- paragraph 2: “with subcommittees,” before “Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal”;
- paragraph 4: at the end, “and ensure transfer of information to the public.”

Paragraph 1 of the Purpose should equally be a purpose for the Steering Committee.

Group 5 would like to use “strategic plans” instead of “strategic orientations” in paragraph 3 of the Purpose and instead of “strategic direction” in paragraph 2 of the Objectives, to make it more concrete. And, in paragraph 3 of the Purpose, in the French version, replace “globales” by “intégrées”.

A discussion arises as to determine whether Objectives are not actually part of the Purpose and, in certain cases, of the Tasks.

It is suggested to include the first objective in the Purpose and to transfer objectives 2, 3 and 4 to the tasks.

◆ **Principles**

The following suggestions are made:

Odile Joannette: in paragraph 2, replace “All participants identified by...” by “all the Steering Committee members”.

Alana Phillips: in paragraph 1, replace “as a whole and individually” by “collectively and individually”.

Ianik Vertolli: in the French version, replace “reddition de comptes” by “imputabilité”.

Aurélié Arnaud: she agrees with “imputabilité” and also suggests to replace “rendement des investissements” par “pertinence des investissements”. She insists that the use of colons make it clear that “imputabilité” and “pertinence des investissements” are two different items. Furthermore, “culturally responsive” does not correspond to “respect des cultures”.

Alana Phillips: What does “community value of investments” mean in both French and English? Are we talking of monetary investments, investments in human resources? This concept needs to be discussed a little more. In French, in the first paragraph, better wording is needed. In Accountability, her group added “reporting to the NETWORK and the subcommittees”. In the French version, under “Rendement des investissements ... de Montreal” modify to read “région du Grand Montréal” to be consistent with the first page.

Odile Joannette : “Community Value of Investments” is difficult to understand. What should stay there is all which deals with the “relevance of the funding allocation”, but she suggests shortening the paragraph.

◆ **Objectives**

This section is abolished, because the items have been integrated in other sections.

Alana Phillips: her group has many comments, but she does not want to get into too many details. She recommends to merge paragraphs 2 and 4 and to rephrase paragraph 3 as follows: “Review and analyze recommended projects...”

One participant reminds that, originally, each objective was meant to be related to specific tasks. Now, objectives have been merged with purposes. Do we now have to associate tasks with purposes?

Indeed, it was difficult to differentiate between Purpose, Objectives, and Tasks. Would it be possible for the Steering Committee to work on this and clarify the categories?

Francis Lapan finds the Objectives appropriate, but considers that the verbs used create a problem of understanding. The content of the sentences refer to Objectives.

Joey Saganash: Changing the verbs is not an option; it is the content that is not clear.

Louise Lachapelle, Collège de Maisonneuve: it is often the case that objectives become mixed with tasks. She suggests to trust the Steering Committee to clarify the text. She considers there is a clear sense of direction with the Purpose as it is.

◆ **Tasks**

Rose-Anne Gosselin: She is used to seeing a general objective, then specific objectives, and then the specific.

Comment on the 1st task: in the French version, take out “avec” before “le Coordonnateur”; there should be two different tasks, one being “embaucher le coordonnateur “ and the second being “superviser...”. The same would apply in English.

In the tasks: include additional ones, i.e.

3. “Reporting to the NETWORK, the subcommittees and the partners and funders”;
4. “Determining the model of organization” (whether seeing to incorporating the NETWORK and determining where it would be housed);
5. “Developing an ongoing strategic plan on a five-year basis”;
6. “Revising and documenting the Confidentiality and the Code of Conduct”.

Joey Saganash (group 2): suggests to keep the global objective and, for each of the subcommittees, have a more specific objective, and then redefine the tasks for each subcommittee. Then there would be specific objectives for the areas covered by each activity. It helps in managing the accountability for each subcommittee.

Odile Joannette: she finds it is a good suggestion, but reminds that each subcommittee has to develop its own Terms of Reference. The document we are studying deals with the responsibilities of the Steering Committee.

Carole Chouinard, Ville de Montréal: she considers that the Steering Committee should be more process oriented and that the specific tasks belong to subcommittees. We should not discuss the specific tasks for the Steering Committee in such detail.

Aurélié Arnaud: her group adds another task for the Steering Committee, which is “calling an annual meeting” (with the logistics being the Coordinator’s task).

Waneek Horn Miller considers the discussion is getting too specific. She reminds that the main task of the Steering Committee is to supervise, and each subcommittee is responsible for its own tasks and Terms of Reference.

Some participants raise the concern that the time allocated to discuss the Terms of Reference will not allow completing this item. It is suggested that either the Steering Committee continue the work or that the discussion be completed at another meeting.

Odile Joannette: the objective for the day was to adopt the Terms of Reference so that the Steering Committee can have the legitimacy to start its work and apply for funding. The deadline has been set as November, 2009. Also one of the main tasks of the Steering Committee is to approve the Terms of Reference of each subcommittee, and several of them are ready to submit their documents.

Some comments are made about the structure and the governance:

- We want to make sure that, if a person sits on two subcommittees, that person cannot represent these two subcommittees on the Steering Committee.
- Some questions are raised with regards to observing vs. voting members. Is there a difference between different Steering Committee members? Yes, there are government representatives and other members from the community.

Odile Joannette: each subcommittee is responsible for its functioning; it is not the task of the Steering Committee to tell subcommittees how to function. For example, each subcommittee has to name a representative and an alternate. Only these two people can represent their subcommittee on the Steering Committee. There is a distinction in the subcommittees between elected members and nominated members, the latter being government participants. About voting, this is not so powerful, for what is looked for in the NETWORK’s functioning is unity of thinking. In that sense, unity of thinking is much stronger than voting rights.

Dolorès André: the reason why we brought up the voting issue, is that we know that often government members want to sit as observers and information providers, but they don’t feel comfortable in voting. Travis O’Brien from the Canadian government agrees that government representatives don’t want to be in a conflict of interest if they vote on bodies that often apply to government programs.

John Gordon: The Urban Aboriginal Strategy brings government representatives not to be so much passive observers but rather to be active involved participants who work at supporting the communities by providing them with information as to what are the current priorities of the government, helping them get proper funding.

The key words here are trust and integrity.

Carole Chouinard, Ville de Montréal: indeed we had a lot of discussions on this issue, which is very nuanced, because government people do not want to make decisions for the community, they feel that it is up to communities to determine their priorities. On the other hand, they want to be heard as well, to share, not only to sit passively. There were several discussions as to the presidency and vice-presidency. In other cities where the Strategy is applied, the alternating principle was adopted. But we don't feel comfortable with that and, if we vote, we would never vote to influence the communities' priorities.

- Widia Larivière mentions that some participants would like to create another subcommittee, a Youth subcommittee. Odile Joannette will address this proposal when Structure will be discussed later on.
- Waneek Horn Miller mentions that it was also considered to have an Elder sit on the Steering Committee. This too will be discussed in the short future.

To conclude this section, it is moved by Jean-François O'Bomsawin and seconded by Odile Joannette:

- 1. TO GIVE THE ELECTED STEERING COMMITTEE THE MANDATE TO FINALIZE THE TERMS OF REFERENCE BASED ON THE DISCUSSIONS HELD AT THE PRESENT MEETING AND ON ALL THE DISCUSSIONS THAT TOOK PLACE SINCE NOVEMBER 2008 AND TO SUBMIT THEM FOR APPROVAL AT THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING; AND**
- 2. TO MANDATE THE STEERING COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR EACH SUBCOMMITTEE.**

Unanimously adopted.

The Steering Committee will also be able to consult the notes of the working groups for the sections not discussed at the present meeting.

6. DISCUSSION AROUND THE PROPOSITIONS BROUGHT BY THE NETWORK'S STEERING COMMITTEE

Rose-Anne Gosselin invites the participants to consult the Interim Steering Committee's proposal concerning the NETWORK's structure. In the organigram, some squares have dotted frames whereas others have full frames. The "dotted frames" represent organizations that are not yet part of the NETWORK, namely the AFNQL and KRG. Two representatives from these organizations attend our meeting and are invited to say a few words.

She first invites Mr. Claude Picard, from AFNQL, to explain its involvement in the NETWORK.

◆ Presentation by Mr. Claude Picard, AFNQL Political Advisor

Mr. Picard thanks the organizers and the participants for their invitation. He explains that he is the AFNQL Political Advisor and has been General Manager of the organization for approximately ten years. He presents the greetings from Mr. Ghislain Picard, who is now meeting with Revenue Québec.

He underlines the dynamics of the NETWORK. He considers the relationship to be established as one of exchange. He invites the NETWORK to make proposals to the Chiefs with regards to the type of cooperation it wishes to have with the AFNQL. Already there are resources available, especially in the

employment sector thanks to the First Nations Human Resources Development Commission of Quebec, which is under the Chiefs' jurisdiction. He mentions that there are some bureaucratic constraints, especially about the responsibilities and powers of the Chiefs in their communities and about the limits in the government programs.

In the short term, the Chiefs Assembly will recognize and support the region of Montreal and the NETWORK initiative. The Montreal urban Aboriginal population is Quebec's most important Aboriginal population. But there is also a strong concentration in other towns. At the same time, many youths travel between their community and urban areas, and it is not easy to provide adequate services for them. He does not see why the NETWORK could not sit as an observer at the Chiefs Table (Table des Chefs). The *Regroupement des centres d'amitiés autochtones du Québec* and Quebec Native Women sit at the Table as non-voting observers since 1992 (Charlottetown Agreement). Also the McIver judgment will be discussed at the Chiefs Table. Also amendments to the Canadian Law will be presented by the Human Rights Commission. These are issues that are of interest to the NETWORK. So he thinks the NETWORK could sit at the Table as well or at least receive the information that is of interest to all of us. At the same time, it will be an opportunity for the NETWORK to get political support. This is the recommendation that he will bring back to Ghislain Picard, who will be able to submit it to the Chiefs Table. Also, he agrees to provide an active, but non-voting, representation on the NETWORK. Some of the subcommittees deal with issues that are dealt with by our commissions. The NETWORK could develop links with these commissions and get resources from them. The Chiefs Table can welcome the NETWORK.

If he is here today, it is because Ghislain Picard and the Table favorably view the NETWORK's initiative, for we all work to respond to the acute needs of the community.

Alana Phillips asks If there is a representation on the AFNQL's part on our Steering Committee, will it be the same person, which we would prefer? Mr Picard said "yes", it will be and it will probably also be a person from the office of the AFNQL. There are two political advisors now (John Martin and Mr. Picard), and it will probably be one of them.

Jean-François O'Bomsawin asks if it will be possible to get a written commitment from AFNQL about the intention to sit on the Steering Committee? The answer is "yes, of course", to make it more formal. Question: Can you also designate an alternate representative, so that there will always be someone from the AFNQL participating? The answer is yes.

Mr. Picard announces that the Quebec Government is bringing Bill 16 about Immigration, which was introduced by Minister Yolande James in Parliamentary Commission. The First Nations have always had a difficult relationship with the Quebec Government when discussions and legislation about immigration and cultural communities take place. They don't want to be considered a cultural community, but there is an agreement that they have to be consulted on such issues.

In 1986, the Government adopted a Declaration about non discrimination and integration of all communities in Quebec under Minister Savoie. The Government is regularly referring to this Declaration, but it does not always apply it and, in this case, it does not even agree to hear us in this Parliamentary Commission. This is why Mr. Picard has to go back to Quebec City to prepare a position about this. He apologizes he has to leave the meeting.

Also, the situation in Montreal and regions, like Val d'Or, are very different, and the discrimination level in certain regions is very harsh. This is also an important issue for us.

Mr. Picard is thanked for his participation.

Odile Joannette now invites KRG representative, Mrs. Solange Loiselle, Liaison Agent, to speak about her organization.

◆ **Presentation by Ms. Solange Loiselle, KRG's Liaison Agent**

KRG is an organization working with the Inuit (55th parallel), created in 1975 in the wave of the James Bay Agreement. It is a supramunicipal structure coordinating all public services, except health and education. It provides employment programs to all the community, not only to Inuit. It also provides services in Inuktitut.

Makivik Corporation is the organization that specifically deals with the ethnic aspect of the Inuit communities.

For many years, it has been requesting financing to provide services to their clientele no matter where it resides, including Montreal. Finally, now, there is an employee working in Verdun (Lisa Watt). Two more employees will be hired to develop practice firms on the internet (*entreprises d'entraînement*), but as well to deliver literacy programs and develop basic abilities. They are very happy to see the start of the NETWORK, because we all have to work at solving basic integration problems before we can look at employability.

They will be happy to join the subcommittee on employment. Lisa and Solange will sit on this subcommittee and, eventually, Lisa will assume full responsibility.

Questions:

Dolorès André considers that Makivik is the political equivalent of AFNQL. Answer: Yes, they receive their mandate to provide training and employment to the Inuit community from Makivik. Dolorès André asks whether it would not be more appropriate to have as well a Makivik representative in the NETWORK who would be the equivalent of the AFNQL. Answer: The Inuit structures are not the same as the AFNQL structures. What they have understood is that the NETWORK was a working group type of organization. If it is also political, the NETWORK should submit a request to Makivik. She cannot answer this question.

There is an Association of Montreal Inuit.

Alana Phillips would have a recommendation following this conversation. She considers it to be very important that KRG gets involved in the Education, Training and Employability subcommittee, but the NETWORK is looking at representatives who would sit on the Steering Committee as well as on the Education, Training and Employability subcommittee. So she believes that the NETWORK should solicit two representatives from the Inuit community.

Rose-Anne Gosselin is of the opinion that the organizations from the Inuit community are all grass-roots and sensitive. They can well represent all the interests of the Inuit. Lisa Watt specifies that, at the last meeting, there was a representative from Makivik and the issues that this person brought back were of a different level than the ones that KRG deals with.

Waneek Horn Miller had also invited, for reasons of proximity, the Chief of the Mohawk Council, for we are in the Montreal region, as well as a representative from the Cree who are numerous in Montreal. These representatives would be non-voting members. However, this is considered a premature decision that needs to be discussed.

Dolorès André sits on the Education, Training and Employability subcommittee and the members have expressed the wish to have an Inuit representative among them.

It is moved by Alana Phillips and seconded by Lisa Watt:

TO INVITE MAKIVIK TO JOIN THE NETWORK AND PARTICIPATE IN THE STEERING COMMITTEE.

Unanimously adopted.

It is moved by Dolorès André and seconded by Joey Saganash:

TO INVITE AFNQL TO JOIN THE NETWORK AND PARTICIPATE IN THE STEERING COMMITTEE.

Unanimously adopted.

Odile Joannette presents the Interim Steering Committee's proposal about the composition of the Steering Committee. The purpose is to be as inclusive as possible, but at the same time to be functional. So the proposal is to have eleven (11) positions on the Steering Committee. But the subcommittees can include as many participants as they wish.

Another proposal is to create another subcommittee, a Youth subcommittee. As for other subcommittees, it will be up to the subcommittee members to define its composition, its mission, its Terms of Reference, and its plan of action. Right now, we see this subcommittee as being formed by people who consider themselves as youths and people who work with youths in Montreal.

Alana Phillips wonders whether there won't be overlapping between subcommittees if some young members belong to the Youth subcommittee or to another subcommittee that deals with issues of interest for youths. The point in having a Youth subcommittee is to have someone on the Steering Committee who will speak for the Youths.

It is moved by Alana Phillips and seconded by Lisa Watt:

TO CREATE A YOUTH SUBCOMMITTEE.

Unanimously adopted.

7. PRESENTATION OF THE NETWORK'S DRAFT COORDINATOR JOB DESCRIPTION

Odile Joannette refers the participants to the job description included in their package. Any comments can be forwarded to the Steering Committee.

It is moved by Travis O'Brien and seconded by Terri Normandin:

TO HAVE THE STEERING COMMITTEE FINALIZE THE JOB DESCRIPTION AND PROCEED WITH THE HIRING OF A COORDINATOR.

Unanimously adopted.

Odile Joannette reminds participants that an Appeal to Solidarity was sent to all Aboriginal organizations to see whether one could provide an office with some equipment for the new Coordinator.

The NETWORK's goal is to have Montreal recognized in SAMU, and it would be interesting for an Aboriginal organization to become the host of the Strategy. The position will be posted in October, 2009 so the deadline to confirm the offer is October 15, 2009.

It is moved by Travis O'Brien and seconded by Donna Lemay:

TO MANDATE THE STEERING COMMITTEE TO RECEIVE THE PROPOSALS FOR SOLIDARITY UP TO OCTOBER 15, 2009 AND MAKE THE DECISION AS TO WHAT ORGANIZATION WILL BE THE HOST ORGANIZATION FOR THE NETWORK.

Unanimously adopted.

The City of Montreal has offered its collaboration by providing an office, with furniture and a computer. But it would be preferable, if possible, to have an Aboriginal organization be the host for the NETWORK. Thanks are expressed to the City of Montreal.

8. SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS – NOMINATION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE NETWORK'S STEERING COMMITTEE

Subcommittees that have not done so yet are invited to meet in order to designate among their members the person who will be their representative on the Steering Committee as well as an alternate.

The results are:

- ◆ Health: Carrie Martin (is absent today, but she agrees to her nomination which is accepted by the subcommittee members) and Chantal Robillard as alternate;
- ◆ Social Services: Nakuset and Alana Phillips as alternate;
- ◆ Art, Culture, and Heritage: Devora Neumark and Louise Lachapelle as alternate;
- ◆ Education, Training, and Employability: Dolorès André and Paige Isaac as alternate;
- ◆ Communications: Jean-François O'Bomsawin and Odile Joannette as alternate;
- ◆ Youth: Widia Larivière as an interim representative since the subcommittee is not active yet and Jorge Herrera as alternate.

Devora Neumark raises the fact that there are people who are not present today who should sit on this Steering Committee instead of her. She wonders whether this is not the result that Aboriginal culture is going through a rupture? This matter should be discussed further.

She wishes that the NETWORK as a whole recruit members to this subcommittee and work at strengthening it.

In the meantime, she will take on the responsibility to be the subcommittee representative, but will transfer her position to another person better qualified as soon as the subcommittee recruits new members.

Jean-François O'Bomsawin raises the issue that he and his colleague sit on the Steering Committee. So he would consider Odile Joannette to be the official representative instead of him.

Alana Phillips explains that he represents his subcommittee and not his organization. So this is not really an issue. The participants agree with this interpretation.

The government representatives are:

- ◆ Indian and Northern Affairs, Government of Canada (INAC): Travis O'Brien;
- ◆ Secrétariat aux affaires autochtones, Quebec Government (SAA): Chantal Latour;
- ◆ City of Montreal: Carole Chouinard.

It is moved by Lou Ann Stacey and seconded by Charlotte Pien:

TO ADOPT THE STEERING COMMITTEE COMPOSITION AS PROPOSED AND TO ELECT THE REPRESENTATIVES AND THE ALTERNATES AS NOMINATED BY EACH SUBCOMMITTEE AS WELL AS THE GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES AS LISTED HEREINABOVE.

Unanimously adopted.

9. CLOSING PRAYER

Mr. Mike Standup recites the closing prayer.

Odile Joannette invites the newly elected Steering Committee members to meet in order to determine the date of the first meeting.

The facilitators thank the translators, the food donors, Batshaw, and all of the participants and their respective organizations for their time.

Special thanks go to:

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- Donna Lemay
- Travis O'Brien
- Chantal Latour
- Carrie Martin
- Dianne Ottereyes-Reid
- Devora Neumark

PARTICIPANTS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alana Phillips announces that:

1. There is going to be a grand opening on October 22, 2009 for the Rising Sun Childcare Centre. If participants have or know of any children under the age of 5, they may contact us to see if there are places available.
2. There are still Aboriginal children in need of foster care placement and who need to have an Aboriginal adoptive or non-adoptive family, so if participants are or know of a family who can host children, please contact Batshaw.

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APPENDIX 1

Subcommittees' Members

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