



# Montreal Indigenous Community NETWORK

## AGM - Minutes - September 2, 2020

[NETWORK Bylaws](#)

[AGA version Française](#)

**Date: September 2nd, 2020**

**Location: Zoom**

**Time: 4:00 - 8:15pm**

**Quorum Established: Yes**

### The NETWORK

| STAFF                       |                                      | BOARD MEMBERS                   |   | CONSULTANTS        |                              |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Full Members<br/>(8)</i> | <i>Associate<br/>Members<br/>(7)</i> | <i>Name</i>                     | <i>Role</i>                               | <i>Name</i>        | <i>Role</i>                  |
| Brooke Deer                 | Allison Reid                         | 1. Heather Igloliorte           | Board Member/<br>Individual Full member   | 1. Diana Lombardi  | Facilitator/<br>Chair Member |
| Leilani Shaw                | Demi Vrettas                         | 2. Odile Joannette              | President/<br>Individual Full member      | 2. Michèle Spieler | Tech-Support/<br>COCO        |
| Alanna Mitchell             | Rowena Tam                           | 3. Tealey Kasennisaks Normandin | Board Member/<br>Individual Full member   |                    |                              |
| Jarret Jacobs               | Sarah Charlebois                     | 4. Elizabeth Fast               | Vice-President/<br>Individual Full Member |                    |                              |
| Christine Qillasiq Lussier  | Alexandre Huard                      |                                 |   |                    |                              |
| Kortanie Raye               | Amanda Moniz                         |                                 |   |                    |                              |
| Stéphanie Héroux            | Diego Ramirez                        |                                 |   |                    |                              |
| Kateri Dubois               |                                      |                                 |   |                    |                              |

**Associate Members in attendance:**

|                               |  |   |  |
|-------------------------------|--|---|--|
| <b>1. Anais Janin</b>         | Individual/Associate                                       | <b>14. Marie-Anne Cantin</b>  | SDIS Développement Social Ville de Montréal/Associate  |
| <b>2. Catherine Gerbelli</b>  | CSSS/Associate   | <b>15. Nolwen Mahe</b>  | Volunteer/Associate                                    |
| <b>3. Geneviève Hety</b>      | Passages/Associate   | <b>16. Otto Buxton-Vicentini</b>                                      | Project 10/Associate                                   |
| <b>4. Guy Lacroix</b>         | Arrondissement de Verdun/Attending as Individual Associate | <b>17. Phoebe Flaherty</b>  | Volunteer/Associate                                    |
| <b>5. Isabelle Gélinas</b>    | Y des femmes de Montréal/Associate                         | <b>18. Rachel Jordan</b>  | CDFM/Associate   |
| <b>6. Isabelle Winter</b>     | Le Plateau-de-Mont-Royal/Associate                         | <b>19. Samuel V. Dansokho</b>   | LIRR- United Church/Associate                          |
| <b>7. Jean-Olivier Roy</b>    | ISC/Attending as Individual Associate                      | <b>20. Sandy Gershuny</b>   | World Foundation for Prosperity and Autonomy/Associate |
| <b>8. Kira Page</b>           | COCO/Associate   | <b>21. Stephane Patry</b>   | Ville de Montréal/Associate                            |
| <b>9. Krystyna Slaweki</b>    | Frontier College/Associate                                 | <b>22. Érin Moutquin</b>  | EVOQ Architecture/Associate                            |
| <b>10. Lisa Byer-de-Wever</b> | Right Relations United Church of Canada/Associate          | <b>23. Sara Pierre</b>  | Individual/ Associate                                  |
| <b>11. Louise Constantin</b>  | CIUSSS/Associate   | <b>24. Jean Williams</b>  | Individual/Associate                                   |
| <b>12. Louise Lachapelle</b>  | Individual/Associate                                       | <b>25. Stephane Patry</b>   | Ville de Montréal/Attending as Individual Associate    |
| <b>13. Louise Royer</b>       | Social Action Office Diocèse MTL/Associate                 | <b><u>Associate member total (including NETWORK staff):</u></b><br>32 |  |

**Full Members in attendance:**

|                                |   |  |  |
|--------------------------------|---|--|--|
| <b>1. Ashanti Rosado</b>       | NFCM/Full Member                                  | <b>14. Sean Rivard</b>   | Statistics Canada/ attending as Individual Full Member |
| <b>2. Carlee Loft</b>          | Individual/Full Member                            | <b>15. Shannon Goedike</b>                                       | FNHRDCQ/ attending as Individual Full Member           |
| <b>3. Catherine Gibson</b>     | FPJCM/Full Member                                 | <b>16. Stephanie Bourassa</b>                                    | Tasiutigit Association/Full Member                     |
| <b>4. Elisa Cohen-Bucher</b>   | Mikana/Full Member                                | <b>17. Stephen Agluvak Puskas</b>                                | Makivik/Full Member                                    |
| <b>5. Elizabeth Fast</b>       | Vice-President/individual Full member             | <b>18. Tealey Kasennisaks Normandin</b>                          | Board Member/individual full member                    |
| <b>6. Harvey Michele</b>       | Indigenous Health Center of Tiotia:ke/Full Member | <b>19. Amy Edward</b>  | Individual Full Member                                 |
| <b>7. Heather Igloliorte</b>   | Board Member/Individual Full member               | <b>20. Nina Segalowitz</b>                                       | Individual Full member                                 |
| <b>8. Jay Launiere-Mathias</b> | Individual Full Member                            | <b>21. Don Barnaby</b>   | Elder/Full Member                                      |
| <b>9. Jean-Louis Savard</b>    | Individual Full Member                            | <b>22. Trina Slapcoff</b>  | Individual Full Member                                 |
| <b>10. Jennifer Jerome</b>     | FNHRDCQ/Full Member                               | <b>23. Genevieve Sioui</b>                                       | Concordia/attending as individual Full Member          |
| <b>11. Kaylia Marquis</b>      | Individual Full Member                            | <b>24. Vicky Boldo</b>   | Concordia ASRC/Full Member                             |
| <b>12. Linda Tremblay</b>      | Individual Full Member                            | <b>25. Lyn Black</b>   | ISWP/Full Member                                       |
| <b>13. Odile Joanne</b>        | President/Individual Full member                  | <b><i>Full Member total (including NETWORK staff):</i></b><br>33 |  |

**Chair of the Assembly:** Diana Lombardi

**Chair of the evening:** Brooke Wahsontiostha Deer

**Elder:** Don Barnaby

**Minute Takers:** Alanna Mitchell, Demi Vrettas, Sarah Charlebois

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1. **Opening prayer by Don Barnaby**
2. **Performance by Nina Segalowitz**
3. **Opening and welcoming by - Chair of the evening (Brooke Wahsontiostha Deer) Chair of the assembly (Diana Lombardi)**
  - 3.1. Brooke opens and introduces the NETWORK Staff and Board of Directors to members. while also advising if anyone has tech issues to call tech support at an appointed number for the night. She then explains the staffs' roles and responsibilities during this AGM (presenters, chairs, tech Support, translation, minute takers, event planning and others)
  - 3.2. Board Member, Tealey Normandin, shares welcoming words: She thanks the community, the NETWORK, & everyone who has supported the community through the pandemic. Tealey joined the NETWORK from the start in November 2008, and notes that it has grown so much!
  - 3.3. Outgoing Board Member, Elizabeth Fast, shares words: This is a bittersweet day for her today, because she is leaving the Board. She shares that the NETWORK has an incredible team and that the work that has been done during the pandemic has been amazing!
  - 3.4. NETWORK staff Jarret Jacobs, explains the contents of the AGM Survival Kits.
  - 3.5. *NETWORK staff Allison Reid facilitates an icebreaker about Zoom's functions:*
    - renaming self
    - reactions: clap or thumbs up
    - use the blue hand for motioning or asking a question
    - closed captions
    - using the chat to ask a question or add a comment
  - 3.6. While also sharing the process of distinguishing eligible voters by adding aV in front of the participants name, Allison reminds everyone about tech-support that

is available. Finally, letting everyone know where to find the translation of English to French (via Google Docs) and French to English (via Zoom closed captions).

- 3.7. Allison explains the NETWORKS relation to Diana Lombardi as she facilitated the AGM last year and we invited her again to facilitate the AGM this year. Diana introduces herself and explains that she will speak in both English and French throughout the evening.
- 3.8. Appointment of the Chair of the Assembly and the minute takers for the 2nd AGM 2020:

**Motion #1 : Motion to appoint Diana as Chair of the Assembly for the 2nd NETWORK AGM.**

First: Elizabeth Fast  
Second: Sean Rivard

Comments/Questions: n/a  
Proposed Change: n/a

**Motion #1 is adopted.**

**Motion #2 : Motion to appoint Alanna Mithcell, Demi Vrettas, and Sarah Charlebois as minute takers for the NETWORK's 2nd AGM.**

First: Odile Joannette  
Second: Catherine Gibson

Comments/Questions: n/a  
Proposed Change: n/a

**Motion #2 is adopted.**

**4. Approval of agenda**

Diana walks everyone through the Agenda set for the night and asks if there's any request for changes or additions to the agenda.

**Motion #3 : Motion to adopt the 2020 NETWORK AGM Agenda.**

First: Nina Segalowitz  
Second: Sean Rivard

Comments/Questions: n/a  
Proposed additions/Changes: n/a

**Motion #3 is adopted.**

**5. Approval of minutes from AGM 2019**

Diana facilitates the approval of the minutes from the first AGM 2019 through the hand raising function on zoom. Member requests to amend the spelling mistake in the French Minutes: "Il y a une coquille: en pleine croissance: un e à pleine" (corrected)

**Motion # 4 : Motion to approve the agenda without changes.**

First: Odile Joannette

Second: Jean-Louis Savard

Comments/Questions: n/a

Proposed Change: n/a

**Motion #4 is adopted.**

**6. Presentation of by-laws and amendments adopted by Members - facilitated by Diana Lombardi and Presented by Brooke Deer**

[The Bylaws can be found here.](#)

Brooke explains the context to the proposed changes of the by-laws that were proposed and requested at the last AGM. At that AGM, the members articulated the importance of recognizing that not all Indigenous people can identify their community, because of colonization. Therefore, the NETWORK staff have worded changes as requested.

Please see table below for individual amendments and discussion points:

| <b>Bylaw Term/<br/>Article</b>                      | <b>Definitions</b>  |
|---|---|
| Section 1:<br>Definitions<br>"Indigenous<br>Person" | <p><b>Original:</b><br/><i>"Indigenous" means a person belonging to an Indigenous group, nation, or community. Indigeneity implies a relationship to both territory and people; this means that a person can clearly identify the name of the Indigenous territory that they are from, the relationship that they hold to that community, as well as the Indigenous group, nation, or community that belongs to that territory. The group, nation, or community recognizes and accepts that individual as belonging to their community.</i></p> <p><b>Proposed Change:</b><br/><i>"Indigenous Individual" means an individual belonging to an Indigenous group, nation, or community. Indigeneity implies a relationship to both territory and people; this means that an individual can clearly identify the name of the Indigenous territory that they are from, the relationship that they</i></p> |

|   |   |
|---|---|
|   | <p><i>hold to that community, as well as the Indigenous group, nation, or community that belongs to that territory. The group, nation, or community recognizes and accepts that individual as belonging to their community.</i></p> <p><i>The NETWORK recognizes that many families and communities have been separated and/or displaced as a result of both historical and ongoing acts of settler-colonial violence. Thus, exceptions to the above criteria may be made on a case-by-case basis.”</i></p> <p><b>Discussion/Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How are Métis and Inuit classified? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The wording of “any Indigenous group” was meant to be inclusive to not only First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people but also Indigenous groups within and beyond Turtle Island (North America).</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>General consensus was reached to approve this section.</b></p>   |
| <p>Section 1:<br/>Definitions<br/>“Indigenous Organization”</p> | <p><b>Original:</b><br/><i>“Indigenous Organization” means any organization (including service providers, grassroots groups, businesses, non-profit and governments) that was founded by an indigenous person or group, or that is lead by indigenous people or where there is a majority of indigenous staff or where the board is indigenous. An exception would be a group experimenting growth.</i></p> <p><b>Proposed Change:</b><br/><i>“Indigenous Organization” refers to an organization (including service providers, grassroots groups, companies, businesses, government agencies and non-profit organizations) that meets all of the following criteria:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>the organization was founded by an Indigenous person or group</i></li> <li>● <i>the organization is staffed by Indigenous people (more than 50% of employees are Indigenous); This criteria does not apply to organizations that have fewer than five employees</i></li> <li>● <i>more than 50% of the organization’s members and clients are Indigenous (if applicable)</i></li> <li>● <i>the organization is governed by indigenous people; more than 50% of the decision-makers must be Indigenous (i.e. board of directors, steering committee, directors, or other decision-making positions).</i></li> </ul> <p><i>This shall be evaluated by the NETWORK upon membership registration. In extenuating circumstances like organizational restructuring, growth, or other, exceptions to the criteria above can be made.</i></p> <p><b>Discussion/Comments: N/A</b></p> <p><b>General consensus was reached to approve this section.</b></p> |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>Section 6:<br/>Associate<br/>Membership<br/>Article 6.a</p>             | <p><b>Original:</b><br/><i>An associate member is an individual, a company, a government agency, a non-profit organization, or other association that does not meet the criteria for Full Membership, and that supports the goal and the activities of the NETWORK.</i></p> <p><i>Associate membership may be available to persons who have applied for membership in the NETWORK.</i></p> <p><i>Associate memberships are non-voting members and shall be entitled to receive notice of and observe meetings of the members of the NETWORK.</i></p> <p><b>Proposed Change:</b><br/><i>An associate member is an individual or organization (including service providers, grassroots groups, companies, businesses, government agencies and non-profit organizations) that does not meet the criteria for Full Membership, and that supports the goal and the activities of the NETWORK.</i></p> <p><i>Associate membership may be available to persons who have applied for membership in the NETWORK.</i></p> <p><i>Associate memberships are non-voting members and shall be entitled to receive notice of and observe meetings of the members of the NETWORK.</i></p> <p><b>Discussion/Comments:</b> N/A</p> <p><b>General consensus was reached to approve this section.</b></p> |
| <p>Section 7:<br/>Membership<br/>Meetings<br/>Article 7.g<br/>“voting”</p> | <p><b>Original:</b><br/>At any meeting of members, the preferred mode of decision-making shall be done by consensus. In instances where consensus cannot be reached, decisions shall be determined by a simple majority vote (50% +1). In case of a tie, the Chairperson of the general assembly will break the tie by voting.</p> <p><b>Proposed Change:</b><br/><i>At any meeting of members, the preferred mode of decision-making shall be done by consensus. In instances where consensus cannot be reached, decisions shall be determined by a simple majority vote (50% +1). In case of a tie, the Chairperson of the general assembly will break the tie by voting. Members of the board of directors and NETWORK staff members who qualify for full membership may participate in voting.</i></p> <p><b>Discussion/Comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A member asks a technical question: is it worth qualifying or quantifying how many members of the staff make up the proportion of those voting? I’m imagining a last minute scenario where all the voting staff members attend but none of the non-staff voting members</li> </ul>   |



|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | <p>attend; would it be a majority staff member vote?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Staff do not contribute to quorum for meetings with members, which helps prevent this case.</li> <li>● I didn't catch it. Was it how we know if we're supposed to vote? Or a quorum with a consensus? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ No it was a discussion to the changes to in bylaws and there was a request for a staff from the NETWORK to clarify.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● How do we know if we're supposed to have a 'V' in front of our name? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In the icebreaker we asked Full Members/Full Member organizations to change their names to a V in front of their name to identify that they are voting members. Tech NETWORK staff will edit your name if you have not properly identified yourself.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>General consensus was reached to approve this section.</b></p> |
| <p>Section 6:<br/>Membership<br/>Article 6.a and<br/>6.b</p> | <p>That the term "Governmental Agencies" be used in both article 6.a and 6.b.</p> <p><b>Discussion/Comments: N/A</b></p> <p><b>General consensus was reached to approve this section.</b></p>  |
| <p>Section 7<br/>Membership<br/>Meetings<br/>Article 7.a</p> | <p>"AGMs shall be held within 4 months of the fiscal year"</p> <p><b>Discussion/Comments: N/A</b></p> <p><b>General consensus was reached to approve this section.</b></p>   |
| <p>Section 8:<br/>Board of<br/>Directors<br/>Article 8.a</p> | <p><i>"The board shall consist of seven (7) seats and among this number, a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer will be elected. Board seats shall be filled by Indigenous individuals who are Full Members of the NETWORK. Organizations that are Full Members cannot be represented on the board."</i></p> <p><b>Discussion/Comments: N/A</b></p> <p><b>General consensus was reached to approve this section.</b></p>  |

**Discussion/Comments:**

- The persons who can vote are those who attended last year's AGA I imagine?
  - It was only for those approving last year's AGM minutes that had to be in attendance of last year's AGM. Any other decision is for full members (Indigenous people and one representative of each Indigenous organization)

- What date will Bylaws come into effect?
  - They take effect as of this approval

**Motion # 5 : Motion to adopt bylaw amendments presented by Brooke and Diana, *without modifications.***

First: Vicky Boldo

Second: Genevieve Sioui

**Motion #5 is adopted.**

## **7. Organizational update 2019-2020 - Annual Report - Presented by Allison Reid**

- 7.1. Allison begins by discussing the growth and activities that have occurred at the NETWORK within the fiscal year (from the 1st of April 2019 to the 31st of March 2020). Since 2018, the NETWORK team and budget has expanded significantly, through the restructuring of the NETWORK which included a newly developed strategic plan that had 200 members involved. This restructuring came with an incorporation, the first board members, the first AGM, the first set of bylaws, the first human resource policies, election policies, procedures and more, and the NETWORK's first office after their expansion period in 2018.
- 7.2. Our team grew from 4 people to 12+ staff last fiscal year. This growth has created space and time to reflect on our organization, which was also made possible at a staff and board retreat in November 2019. The reflection process looked at how we can support and echo the Montreal Indigenous community voices through the NETWORK's support for Indigenous peoples, Indigenous Organization, and Indigenous serving organizations. Revenue diversification, and creating revenue through providing goods and services were also discussed.
- 7.3. The NETWORK values lived experiences more so than education from colonial institutions. During the hiring process, we ask questions about knowledge, experience, and critical thinking. Once hired, we invest in teaching, shadowing, accompanying, empowering, in order to build leadership skills among Indigenous youth. We have also recruited approximately 27 youth advisors between December 2019 and March 2020. The youth advisors are invited to do work and tasks and receive a remuneration minimum of \$20 per hour for their time, whether they did things or were there to learn and add to their skills and abilities. Through this process we have since hired two of the youth advisors, Kortanie Raye and Jarrett Jacobs, to be staff members of the NETWORK. They are the ones who have put together the AGM survival kits and helped us prepare for tonight's AGM.

- 7.4. Through our efforts to support youth, we wish for them to present themselves as experts of their own experiences and cultures. It is important for us to engage and hire Indigenous individuals, organizations, volunteers and translators, etc. as much as possible.
- 7.5. The Strategy for Safety, Belonging, and Well-Being of Indigenous people in Montreal is a project meant to gather all the work that the working committees have done and to combine it with the current information, knowledge, experiences, and expertise of the Indigenous community available to us; while using an umbrella approach to cocreate an overall strategy for Montreal through community led research, which will be later discussed by Brooke. Until the pandemic hit, our team had collected all existing document information and had begun analyzing it for presentation to the community. This phase will resume this fall.
- 7.6. The NETWORK works hard to strengthen alliances among settlers who wish to repair relationships with Indigenous people but don't always know how. Some of this work is done through the Indigenous Ally Toolkit launched in fall 2018, which has since been shared hundreds of thousands of times internationally. It has also been used in workshops, conferences, in colleges and universities while also having been shared across social media. The sale of physical copies of the publication is one way that we generate revenue. The toolkit has been adapted for specific regions, cultures, communities, and languages. The toolkit put the NETWORK on an international map, as the NETWORK won the Prix du Fonds Benenson-Humphrey Award from Amnistie Internationale Canada for their continued work towards the bettering of socioeconomic conditions for indigenous populations within Montréal.
- 7.7. The NETWORK continues to work towards creating reciprocal relationships with non-Indigenous partners. A few to name are:
- The “Changing the Lens” project with a 400-Level geography/urban studies course at Concordia University discussing the colonial social and cultural realities of Montreal, which is set to be launched in the near future;
  - Fostering relationships with volunteers and donors and redirecting hundreds to Indigenous-serving shelters & centers (especially during the pandemic), while also directing donations for these same shelters and centers;
  - Participated in the creation of a National Urban Indigenous Coalition; in which all of the Indigenous “coalitions” (the role that the NETWORK plays in other cities) across the country come together to create one overarching coalition to be able to foster information sharing and lessons learnt. Another important reason for this coming-together is to strengthen the urban Indigenous voice in discussions with

Indigenous Services Canada. The coalition is supported by ISC and contributes to helping them identify the priorities for urban areas

- NETWORK staff member, Leilani Shaw, co-chairs the CIUSSS centre-sud d Île de Montréal Table locale d'accessibilité des services en santé et services sociaux pour les autochtones à Montréal which is a place to exchange dialogue between various health and social service branches and Indigenous groups.

7.8. Allison presents a few projects and events that have taken place or that have been planned throughout the fiscal year.:

- When the pandemic hit, two gatherings that were scheduled had to be postponed, including:
  - A Youth Gathering was planned for the 28th of February. This was a youth led initiative to provide insight on the Safety, Wellbeing, and Belonging Strategy which also will be rescheduled in a virtual or post-pandemic setting.
  - Gathering Our Thunder - March 13 was cancelled when the W.H.O called the COVID-19 Pandemic. We plan to reschedule this as a virtual gathering soon.
- The homeless working committee launched the Indigenous Support Worker Project which is a peer-led support program for the street community in the Plateau Mont-Royal area.
- The Youth committee project, which was postponed due to the pandemic, was initially organized for August 2020. Large Pow wow will be organized by the youth committee in 2021, in collaboration with the City of Montreal;
- The NETWORK team began the relaunching of committees since the NETWORK's restructuring took place, the first of which was focused on the street community sector during the pandemic, and the second revolving around food security for those who are precariously housed
- We are hoping to host the next National Urban Indigenous Coalition meeting in Montréal; which is to be determined based on how the pandemic plays out;
- The NEIHRs project ("Network Environments in Indigenous Health Research") is a collaborative project aimed at increasing Indigenous health research capacity across Quebec. For the NETWORK, it's an opportunity to: prioritize and amplify Indigenous expertise and build mechanisms from the bottom up, share practices and learn through connecting with other Indigenous networks, coalitions, and groups beyond Montreal, re-connect through deepening relationships with communities of origin of Indigenous people living in Montreal, and find new ways to collaborate and maximize the exchange of information about systems change between groups. It is a 5 year project with the possibility of being renewed twice (15 years total), and it is in the beginning stages.
- We have also partnered with "Land is our Teacher" (previously named "Restoring our Roots") from Concordia University since their approach for supporting Youth aligned with the NETWORK's Strategy project;

- The NETWORK has been distributing newsletters on an almost -weekly basis since the pandemic hit in March 2020. While also continuing to support other Indigenous organizations through shared resources such as:
  - The hiring of a shared bookkeeper for the NETWORK, the Southern Quebec Inuit Association, and Mikana.
  - The sharing of office space to encourage our Indigenous entrepreneurship and changemaking: Mikana, CRE, and Yandata were housed at our offices in 2019-2020 among others;
- During the last two weeks of March, we adapted all of our day-to-day activities and we quickly realized that we would be working long hours to accommodate those in need during this pandemic. We did so by taking action in the following areas among others:
  - Developing a working group to offer immediate attention to the needs of the street community;
  - Developing a working group to support the emerging needs of those precariously housed. Where the creation of a food aid program emerged that services those in need through partnerships to provide food baskets, gift cards, and pre-made meals (in collaboration with SQIA, Native Montreal, Santropol Roulant, NWSM, and many more groups).
- We ensure regular communications with nonprofit and public sectors to ensure that information was being shared regularly and to ensure that essential services were receiving the support that they needed in terms of funding, volunteers, equipment and more (like cleaning products, PPE, food, transportation, housing, etc.).

#### 7.9. **QUESTIONS/COMMENTARIES**

- Can you share more on the strategy? I would like to know when this will be further discussed
  - Brooke will address it in her presentation later this evening.
- I'm curious about the Health Centre that wasn't mentioned in the report
  - The idea for a health centre came from one of the NETWORK's committees; but like the First Peoples Justice Centre of Montreal and DestiNATIONS. Once the organizations become incorporated, they have their own board and are separate organizations. They are now members of the NETWORK like you.

#### 8. **2019-2020 Audit - Ron Amstutz - Finance Statements**

Ron Amstutz, auditor, presents the report sectors including assets, net assets, liabilities, operating activities, purpose of the organization, etc. See audit ([Eng](#)) ([Fr](#)) for numbers and details.

**Motion #6 : Motion to approve the 2019-2020 audited financial statements.**

First: *Nina Segalowitz*

Second: Carlee Loft

Comments/Questions:

- Thank you for the amazing work you have done, Ron.

Proposed Change: N/A

**Motion #6 is adopted.**

## **9. Election of the board of directors**

9.1. Everyone with a “V” in front of their name has voting rights. The election period has opened and the appointment of ballot counters will begin but since we are doing this virtually there will be a different process. Which has been set up by the NETWORK staff and Coco.

9.2. Three Ballot Counters (consisting of 1 Staff member and 2 others) and an election chair are appointed

**Motion #7- Motion to appoint, Alexandre Huard-Joncas, Elisa Cohen-Boucher, and Isabelle Gélinas as the three ballot counters, and Diana Lombardi as the chair of the election**

First: Odile Joannette

Second: Jennifer Jerome

Comments/Questions: N/A

Proposed Change: N/A

**Motion #7 is adopted.**

9.3. Diana asks the voters to second the nomination for candidates for the Board of Directors since they have proposed themselves first by applying.

**Motion # 8 : Motion to nominate Carlee Loft as a candidate for the Board of Directors for a two year term.**

First: Carlee Loft

Second: Elisa Cohen Boucher

**Motion #8 is adopted.**

**Motion # 9 : Motion to nominate Geneviève Sioui as a candidate for the Board of Directors for a two year term.**

First: Geneviève Sioui

Second: Vicky Boldo

**Motion #9 is adopted.**

**Motion # 10 : Motion to nominate Jay Launière-Mathias as a candidate for the Board of Directors for a two year term.**

First: Jay Launière-Mathias

Second: Sean Rivard

**Motion #10 is adopted.**

**Motion # 11 : Motion to nominate Shannon Geodike as a candidate for the board of Directors for a two year term.**

First: Shannon Geodike

Second: Odile Joannette

**Motion #11 is adopted.**

**Motion #12 : Motion to nominate Dakota Swiftwolfe as a candidate for the board of Directors for a two year term.**

First: Dakota Swiftwolfe

Second: Jean-Louis Savard

**Motion #12 is adopted.**

9.4. There are 4 seats available and 5 candidates nominated. Diana explains the online voting process: those with “V”s can vote, and to be elected, a candidate must receive a majority vote.

Comments/Questions:

- Is it a one year or two year mandate?
  - 2 year
- How many seats are there to fill?
  - 4
- How many candidates are there?
  - 5 candidates so we have an election

9.5. The candidates present themselves and offer a few words on their background

- Carlee Loft, Kanien'kehá:ka from Kahnawá:ke/Akwesasne
- Dakota Swiftwolfe (not in attendance; biography read by Leilani Shaw), Cree & Ojibway from Moosomin First Nations
- Geneviève Sioui, Huronne-wendat de Wendake

- Jay Launière-Mathias, Pekuakamiulnu et Anishinabeg ayant grandi à Mashteuiatsh
- Shannon Goedike, Cree - Peguis Manitoba

9.6. Diana goes over the voting process, that people who can vote will be placed in a breakout room on Zoom and given further instruction in the breakout room. Whereas, everyone else will take a short-break.

9.7. The voters are transferred to a breakout room and provided a link to a survey of all candidates and all the voters can vote for a maximum of four candidates to the Board of Directors.

Comments/Questions:

- Who proposes the candidates and is this phase closed?
  - They proposed themselves by applying to the BOD Application before the AGM. The proposal phase is now closed.
- In the breakout room: How many votes are required for someone to get a seat on the Board of Directors?
  - 50%+1, then whoever has the highest votes will be elected to the Board of Directions
- Since only 1 can vote from each organization, how will it be tracked that only 1 person from each organization votes?
  - It is resolved the other representatives from organizations are registered as Full members as individuals.

9.8. Let's congratulate all those who are nominated on the ballot. But before naming the winners Michèle Spiele (COCO) goes into a breakout room with the appointed *Ballot Counters* to view and confirm the election results.

Comments/Questions:

- Was it mentioned today which board positions were being filled?
  - No, The board will decide together which roles will be filled by each member;
- Can we know which 2 years positions are open at the moment?
  - The positions are always 2 year. Last year we had one year and two year stagger so that people can become elected at different years.
- Is the board a stagnant board where members are elected?
  - The NETWORK is a staggered board, meaning that not all seats are up for election at the same time to ensure institutional memory on the board



## 10. Election results by Michèle Spieler (Tech support, COCo)

- 10.1. Staff member, Allison Reid, thanks all the candidates and reminds everyone that we have so many amazing candidates for the Board. The NETWORK would be so lucky to have any and all of these candidates on the board. In 12 years, this is the first time the NETWORK has had a real election with more candidates than seats!
- 10.2. Diana announces the Board of Director results.  
**The members appoint Dakota Swiftwolfe, Carlee Loft, Jay Launière-Mathias, and Geneviève Sioui to the Montreal Indigenous Community NETWORK Board of Directors for two year terms.**

## 11. 2020-2021 Planned Activities

NETWORK staff, Brooke Deer, presents the activities for 2020-2021. Funds to support the Indigenous community during these difficult times have come from multiple sources such as: Centraide, ISC, ESDC, and the Breakfast Club.

A presentation provided on the 2020 Action which focuses on 11 areas with subcategories:

- 11.1. Governance
- a) Financial Audit
  - b) Host the NETWORK's 2nd Annual General Meeting
  - c) Update Bylaws
  - d) Report on Activities
  - e) Recruit and retain board members
  - f) Apply for charitable status
  - g) Draft remaining/and improve existing NETWORK policies
- 11.2. Strategic planning
- h) Host the NETWORK's 2nd annual strategic planning and visioning retreat
  - i) Update the NETWORK's 2018+ internal organizational strategic plan
- 11.3. Organizational Sustainability: Human Resources
- j) Develop a succession plan for the executive director position
  - k) Continue to improve the NETWORK's employee benefits (health benefits, etc.)
- 11.4. Organizational Sustainability: Financial Resources
- l) Obtain sufficient funding to retain all current staff for the year
  - m) Diversify revenue streams
  - n) Work towards obtaining a more permanent home for the NETWORK
  - o) Create a post-pandemic financial management plan

- 11.5. Working committees & Gatherings
  - p) Relaunch working committees as working groups
  - q) Continue to host gatherings: “Friends from Other Struggles” initiative to strengthen ties with other marginalized groups and organizations
  
- 11.6. Education & Awareness Building
  - r) Develop and distribute Community Research Protocol
  - s) Finalize and publish the Lateral Violence Booklet
  - t) Finalize and publish a guide on decolonized decision-making spaces with Indigenous partners
  - u) Finalize and establish a Guide to remuneration Indigenous Organizations for their participation in consultative processes
  - v) Further develop awareness workshops, approaches, and areas of advocacy
  
- 11.7. Community Planning & Research
  - Strategy for Safety, Wellbeing, and Belonging of Indigenous People in Montreal
    - w) Finalize a portrait of realities, experience, challenges and needs of Indigenous people to be presented to community members for feedback and review
    - x) Conduct primary research with community members in order to supplement information in the portrait and fill any gaps, correct inaccuracies
    - y) Co-create a strategy
    - z) Co-create a plan to implement the strategy
  
  - Information Stewardship
    - aa) Develop a detailed project plan for the Information Stewardship project and begin implementing the project plan
  
- 11.8. Supporting Organizations
  - bb) Continue supports to Organizations as needs arise, within the ability of the NETWORK
  - cc) Develop a formal support program for Indigenous organizations
  
- 11.9. Partnerships and Collaborations
  - dd) Continue to strengthen relationships with partners
  - ee) Repair inter-Indigenous sector relationships that have been strained as a result of the lack of resources, "reconciliation fatigue," "racial battle fatigue," lateral violence, external pressure and frustrations, and emerging strains from the pandemic

ff) Further develop relationships with other groups working towards decolonization and systems transformation

11.10. Communications

- gg) Producing regular, bilingual newsletters
- hh) Increase the NETWORK's social media presence
- ii) Revamp the NETWORK's logo; through participation with community members
- jj) Manage and update the NETWORK's website
- kk) Documenting achievements
- ll) Update Indigenous Resource Guide

11.11. Covid Response

- mm) Adapt to the changing and emerging needs of the Indigenous community in the context of the pandemic
- nn) Support the workforce within the Indigenous sector: including Counselling support
- oo) Communicate and collaborate with all levels of government
- pp) Publish a pandemic-specific pamphlet for Indigenous individuals coming to Montréal from communities outside of Montreal

11.12. Comments/Questions:

- Economic development - fostering Indigenous small businesses
  - Question answered within the overview of the Budget

**12. Budget 2020-2021 - presentation by Allison Reid, Executive Director**

12.1. The budget has significantly increased this past year for a number of reasons:

- We continue to be in a period of growth.
- Approximately half of our funds were managed at the NWSM, our previous fiduciary (until March 31, 2020).
- We have received a significant amount of funding for pandemic-related activities and we have become the fiduciary for other organizations.

12.2. In our budget creation process, we created three budget columns: a pessimist budget, an optimist budget, and a final budget. Allison walks us through the final budget line by line. Areas of shared resources with other organizations and initiatives that the NETWORK is currently managing were presented along with funds specific to the pandemic

12.3. Comments/Questions:

- The cost of evaluation of each project: . Eis each project must be submitted to the funder? The evaluation is not considered in each action NETWORK performs. Who is or are the evaluators?
  - Every project is separated based on the use of resources. Each fund request is different depending on their expense needs. The performance indicators are in the annual action plan created and briefly presented by Brooke Deer's.'s presentation and our "Action Plan" which you will have access to.

Proposed Change: N/A

### **13. Appointment of auditor for 2020-2021, chaired by Diana Lombardi**

#### **13.1. Motion # 13 - Motion to appoint Amstutz Inc. to complete the 2020-2021 audit.**

First: *Geneviève Sioui*

Second: *Heather Igloliorte*

**Motion # 13 adopted.**



### **14. Commemorating Nancy ♥**

Holding a moment of silence for our beautiful Youth Advisor Nancy who has recently passed. We dedicate this AGM to our dedicated and hard working youth advisor who supported us in many ways especially with our Strategy for Safety, Wellbeing, and Belonging project.

**15. Outgoing words by NETWORK staff and board**

- 15.1. Brooke Deer thanks everyone for their work in preparing for the AGM, new, existing, and outgoing Board members and all of the NETWORK staff.
- 15.2. Board Member, Heather Igloliorte shares some closing words and thanks everyone involved in the NETWORK for their dedication, commitment and hard work.
- 15.3. Allison Reid shares a few words on behalf of President Odile Joannette. Since she had to leave early. She wanted to share with you that, on behalf of the NETWORK, she will be writing an excerpt in the introduction section of the Strategy for Reconciliation of the City of Montréal. If anyone has any feedback of what they would like to include in that you please don't hesitate to write to her or the NETWORK staff. She felt it was really important to highlight that partnership and that work that will be done for and with our members.

**16. Closing prayer**

Don shares words and a song to close the meeting.

**17. There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourns at 8:16 pm.**