**Michel First Nation / Friends of Michel Society**

**Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

**Saturday September 14, 2019**

**Villeneuve, Alberta**

**Agenda**

9:30 am Sign In

10:30 am Call to Order

Opening Prayer

Appointment of Secretary, notice of meeting being recorded

Appointment of Chair

Adoption of Agenda

Introduction of Leadership Team

Questions and Answers

Introduction of Chief and Council

AGM Minutes from 2018 – included in AGM package

Errors and/or Omissions

Motion to accept Minutes

Business arising from 2018 Minutes

Chief and Council Reports – included with AGM package Discussion on reports, Motion to accept Reports

Financial Reports – included with AGM package Discussion on reports, Motion to accept Reports

Motion to pay AGM expenses.

Presentation on NOVA Edson Mainline Project.

Maps of Michel IR #132

12:00 pm Break for Lunch

1:15 pm Continue with Meeting

Elder’s Words of Guidance

Appointment of Electoral Officer

Protocol and instruction for election

Election of Chief ---- Election of Councillors

Other

Adjournment/Closing Prayer





Councillor Report for 2018- 2019

Councillor - Syd Courtepatte

Scanned and compiled all AGM Minutes, AGM Motions, BCR’s Council Minutes, Council Motions and Elections from 1995 to 2018. Copies were saved on memory sticks and paper copies provided to Chief and Councillor Dayle.

Attended all council meetings and external meeting.

Completed draft copies of Membership code, Election code and Constitution for the Michel First Nation, presented to Chief and Council.

Prepared and presented to Council Letter of intent for Chief and Council.

Participated in a number of monitoring sessions, with City of Edmonton and Fort Edmonton Park.

Attended initial meeting with Mediator

Follow up with City and Collaborative Process

Attended AFN sponsored meeting for First Nations LED Process

Questioned Minister Bennett and Joe Wild on no reply to Michel report from Mediator

Met with Mitchell Wincentaylo of Indigenous Environmental Stewardship and Reclamation for the town Devon, Discussion how they can help Michel First Nation and how Michel First Nation helps them

Contacted Arrow Tech for AGM

Attended Treaty 6 Flag Raising at Edmonton city hall.

Scanned and complied the Chief and Council meeting for 2018 – 2019 and complied all motions for 2018-2019.

Researched and set family trees and family lineage from texts, emails and forwarded emails from other members of Chief and Council. To help find family so that could apply for status, and see if part of Michel First Nation for a minimum of 30 people.

Syd Courtepatte Councillor Michel First Nation

September 2019.





**Councillor Report for 2019 AGM by Dayle Callihoo-Campbell**

Dear Michel First Nation Members, Family and Descendants,

Let me once again start with giving thanks. Thank you to our Elders for teachings, guidance, encouragement and prayers. Thank you to our members for help and support. Thank you to our volunteers for time and assistance. Thank you for attending this annual meeting.

Thank you to ALL Chief and Council, past and present, for countless hours of volunteered time and energy, for the benefit of all Michel people.

Without the hard work, dedication and perseverance of our Chief and Council, we would not be meeting here at this Annual General Meeting.

Remember it is your current elected Chief and Council which opened the dialogue with Canada.

I serve as the Treasurer for Michel First Nation and Friends of Michel Society and met with MNP to review the Financial Statements and prepare the Notice to Reader.

I have attended: all Council meetings and participated in Mediation; meetings with the City of Edmonton and the town of Devon; the Four Policies and Nation Building Conference to present letters to Minister Bennett and Joe Wild, Senior Assistant, Deputy Minister Treaties and Aboriginal Government; and the Treaty Six flag raising in Morinville in Sturgeon County.

I met with Hamilton and Olsen Surveys to prepare the maps of the Michel Indian Reserve #132 in various formats to show the history of the land after reviewing the Orders in Council. I also requested copies of all surveys undertaken on the Reserve. One set will be on each side of the hall to look at. Copies in smaller versions are part of your 2019 AGM package.

I am still committed to finalize a membership code and election code for ALL members to provide input and vote on - one that is inclusive, not exclusive. This will need to be done with Canada. Codes will need legal review to be lawful and enforceable. It has been 34 years since Bill C31 gave us our Indian Status back, but not legal band status.

Chief Gilbert Anderson’s last words to me regarding our band were, “Keep up the good fight!” Let us honour him and keep the fight good and against Canada - not against our own family and other members and descendants. Not by trying to get other members fired from their jobs! Not by negatively criticizing everything *elected* Chief and Council say and do. Membership votes for your Chief and Council, they are not self-appointed. Constructive criticism is always welcome. Saying ‘respectfully’ and being respectful are 2 different things. Remember the fight is not against each other but against Canada and injustices done to our people - let’s keep it a good fight and the focus there.

I do urge each one of you to think about which qualities you want in your leaders to represent us in dealings with Canada and the media and vote accordingly. It is your collective voice that Chief and Council represent.

I have been an elected MFN Councillor since the 1995 AGM when I was voted in on a by-election after being nominated by Herb Bell. I have not resigned; I have not abandoned my commitment to represent membership. With your continued support, I will be honoured to continue to serve my Nation for another term and provide my 24 consecutive years of Councillor knowledge and experience.

Thank you so much, Dayle Callihoo-Campbell

** Michel First Nation Band #472 – IR #132**

**Friends of Michel Society Annual General Meeting Minutes**

**Saturday Sept 15, 2018 Muir Lake, Alberta**

**Welcome** to those who managed to make it in the snowstorm

Council present: Chief Gil Goerz Goerz, Councillors Dayle Callihoo-Campbell, Syd Courtepatte, Roy Goerz,

Maureen Ligtvoet, Celina Loyer and Jessie Loyer

**Call to Order** at 10:40 am

**Opening Prayer** conducted by Elizabeth Gerlat.

**Selection of Secretary**

**Moved by Gil Goerz to nominate Susan Wilden to record meeting minutes, seconded by Dayle Callihoo­-Campbell.**

**Motion carried. (2018-1)**

**Adoption of Agenda**

**Moved by Roy Goerz to adopt the agenda presented, seconded by Brad Labonte. Motion carried. (2018-2)**

Chief Gil Goerz noted correction to agenda – Meditation should be Mediation.

**Introduction of Chief and Council**

Celina Loyer on leave since May 10th

**AGM Minutes of 2017** read – errors and or omissions

Page 14 Robert Lama should be Robert Lema

Page 17 change John Callihoo to Calliou

**Moved by Gil Goerz to accept 2017 AGM minutes as corrected, seconded by Joy Callihoo-Lizee.**

Elder from Paul Band started to share about his family history and was asked to wait as there was a motion on the floor. Elder left the building.

**Motion carried. (2018-3)**

**Business Arising from 2017 Minutes**

Presentation of information from Maureen Ligtvoet on the upgrades to the Villeneuve cemetery.

Maureen replied to cemetery questions. Lots of unmarked graves. Met with Robert Lema at cemetery, noted that ground is settling on plots. If a plot needs repair, they contact that sites family to advise of work needed. Maureen put down tobacco and wants to honour the site.

Charlie L’Hirondelle spoke about his memories digging graves with his uncle, the dead were buried wherever the family wanted. In 1952 graveyard was cleaned up with a cat, since then graves cannot be found.

Leona Callihoo knew where family members were buried, and crosses were placed.

Chief Gil Goerz invited Paul Band Elder to speak when he returned. Edward Adams apologized for earlier interruption, can’t hear and has hearing aids. From Paul Band and on dad’s side registered with Michel Band. Ambrose Phinia. Since 1973 been researching and listening to others about Michel. In a position to run for Chief for Paul Band, wants compensation for his great grandfather. I am a Stoney of Little Pine and want to get Michel Band recognized, old elders want the same. Has lots of information. My friend Mr. Calvin Callihoo invited me.

I have valid information to disperse to Chiefs. We didn’t surrender sovereignty; government doesn’t own the land. I’m a fighter, I won my case, don’t need insurance to operate vehicle on Paul Band. RCMP can’t do anything. I don’t back down. Thank you for putting me on Michel Band. I want Michel re-instated.

Kevin Callihoo spoke on family grave site issue. Trying to get headstones for 25 years ago, several family members were cremated and put in one spot.

Maureen - sadly this is happening at Villeneuve. Michel Band provided lumber for the first church and now it’s nice that Robert Lema is helping.

Celina Loyer- husband Darrell is administrator for the Calahoo cemetery site. It is the responsibility of the family to provide headstones. Tonya Burton says it’s very hard to find information. Take elders and put up plaques. And yes, people buried over people is disgraceful.

Leon L’Hirondelle - if grave sites are not owned by religious organization, they are municipal real estate who set up and mandate the rules.

Rossdale- Historical cemetery has more than 40 graves, church lost information and it surfaced after the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that these gravesites are there.

Charlie L’Hirondelle went to Ottawa with Michel Band papers in search of death certificates and found records of birth and of death of his grandmother and grandfather. Needed those papers, as grandparents passed on.

**Mediation Position by Chief Goerz**

My goal has always been to get INAC to the table. There have been misunderstandings about who we represent, and this confusion has caused other groups to come forward and claim to represent members of Michel First Nation. There are now 4 groups recognized by INAC and identified the other three groups.

INAC requested that need to speak with one voice and we have tried to come together but different understandings and different personalities prevented us coming together to speak as one.

As a result of this stalemate FMS sent a letter to Ben Johnson requesting mediation.

September 7th was a good day and the teleconference moved forward with all factions coming together.

We were asked to submit the names of two representatives from each of the four groups to meet with the mediator.

September 14th was the final date to clearly indicate if each group would like to proceed. It’s my understanding that all have replied to Ben Johnson. Position papers from the four groups were requested by INAC to be submitted as well.

We are currently awaiting what the next steps will be for this group of 8 to start the mediation process.

Who is Michel? We must develop our membership codes to be inclusive of all descendants who can prove lineage to the original pay list, develop election codes and codes of conduct and have them ratified by the membership.

INAC to provide their list of Michel members who are on their Alberta General list.

At our next AGM, hopefully within one year, we should have these ready and present new codes to the assembly. If accepted this will mean all descendants can vote. If we use todays codes, it would be only status who could vote.

Bylaws that call for an election every three years were never ratified. Original code - election every year not followed. We hope to defer an election until everyone can vote.

Dayle Callihoo-Campbell said a new membership code should go back to the original treaty payment lists and start there. Members could be registered with other bands and we need to identify all potential members.

We will need a media campaign and mass mailout to reach all members to provide a chance for everyone to vote.

All input at that time will be accepted by chief and council and all could be included, not just 838’s.

Rosalind Callihoo indicated that only Michel members are on 838 General List.

Dayle Callihoo-Campbell - Alberta General List 838 was created as a result of the 1958 Michel Band #472 enfranchisement.

Only 1 of the 4 groups, Friends of Michel Society consists of Chief and Council *elected* by membership.

Charlie L’Hirondelle asked all to stop arguing.

Fay Shaw - read letter from Rosalind Callihoo without prejudice. Copy of letter provided to secretary upon request.

Rosalind Callihoo - clarify what we are looking for with no disrespect to 838 members on General List. I shouldn’t have to prove that. To get into the meeting you need to show 838 cards.

We held a legitimate unity meeting on May 26 with 88 members, 99% voted to agree to form a Unity group. We feel members want legitimate representation.

Joy Callihoo-Lizee - what is going on with the new treaty, this is up to the people to decide if we have an election. Jessie Loyer - if we have an election today some don’t have a voice and this may disenfranchise our kids, lets breathe for a year.

Judy Lewis - if you will be putting off election, I would like to have an election within a year to establish a new Chief and Council so this board will not be leading us any longer. Chief Gil Goerz, this will not be true as mediation will establish new representation. We can argue until the cows come home, and we will get no where.

Leon L’Hirondelle - worked on election codes, election codes and governance codes on how to conduct ourselves, everyone will be included with these codes and that’s how we will decide who will go to the government

Judy Morin Callihoo - family and sons know issues. From Ontario and Grand Prairie. You represent us Mom. I’m 838. We should not change what we have. Keep todays code and move forward.

Tera Elwood from Kehewin - Dad has status, sister Elaine is registered with Michel. If you pass mediation today don’t need to hold an election, I’ve been on council. Know format. Don’t be snowed that election needs to be held, 4 groups have a voice, a collaborative voice.

Connie Callihoo Stonehouse - you obviously chose 2 people, but we need to have the 2 people we want. We have chosen two people from our Council to represent FMS at mediation as I suspect other groups have done.

**Break for Lunch at 12:10 pm**

Requested $5 for lunch.

**Resume Meeting at 1:25 pm**

Maureen Ligtvoet presented a petition to refurbish the Iroquois sign which used to be on the highway near Spruce Grove, this will be presented to City Council for their consideration.

**Elder’s Words of Guidance**

Chief Goerz asked for our Elders to share words of wisdom.

Elizabeth Gerlat - Solomon Callihoo’s daughter, has been listening and praying. Lord leads us, gives us grace and wisdom we are a body of people together. Going back and forth going nowhere, we need to come together. Together we make our plan come true to be recognized as a band. We are all related, lets unite, lets ask for peace and say a prayer of peace and togetherness.

Maureen introduced her Dad Ernie Callihoo who experienced the 1958 enfranchisement with lots of sadness, frustration, grief and loss, fist fights. Remembers father fighting with other band members. Not all agreed. Now we need to try to move forward, times are changing, we are going for the same thing. Fearful to go to Band meetings because of conflict and yelling. Says speak with gentleness, be kind to one another.

Francis Callihoo - Residential School survivor - St. Albert, Hobbema, Sturgeon Lake. Survived it, still a survivor. Mavis Callihoo - that’s my Dad, I’m proud of him.

John Calliou - lived as white man before 1985, grandmother had to figure out reinstatement and lineage to regain Status. Ernie, still living on former reserve – John still does not really know what happened. Starving but worked hard could buy an acre for a dollar. Times have changed for young people, jobs hard to find, education hard to get. We have to be a family and need young people to bring it back. Can’t remember everything. John and Doris together 50 years. Need to accept things, can’t fight about everything. Older people need help. Looking after an 18-month-old great grandchild. We are human, different personalities but try to get along. Need to listen to get along.

Judy Frances Lewis - I’m 72, not here to be contentious but government is not going to recognize us if we are not a legal organization, 2 daughters not included on list but can be included. We are not a legal entity. INAC says 838 recognized as Michel Band, I’m not learned enough to provide an answer. They say what we need to do to be recognized.

Rosalind Callihoo - grandfather speaks about treaty mineral rights never sold. Her goal was to learn treaty and understand. Treaty allowed settlers the depth of a plow in consideration for surrendering land. Petition signed to reinstate band, then went to Ottawa to present. New thinking needs to happen, young need to understand history, we are family and still hold Treaty rights. To deal with INAC we need a credible force.

Charlie L’Hirondelle - age 81, born on the reserve a mile north of the gravel pit. Grandparents farmed, then Mother took over. Ernie is a smart man, kept his land. There are lots of Elders here. In order to regain status in 1985 I have papers and documents; I know what it took me and Bernard to get status. I was 17 when they took the land away.

Maureen Ligtvoet shared elders hope to hear a word from the youth. They sit close and listen.

Gordon ? - Johnny Callihoo Chief of the reserve, Uncle Rodrick, my mom was born on reserve. I was not born on reserve. I thought dealing with the government takes time. We are getting sluffed off waiting. Don’t know the answers, we need to keep them on their toes, and we might get stuff done if we keep them moving.

**Chief and Council Reports** - provided in package

Chief Gil Goerz - want to clarify rhetoric going forward - 2 representatives from each of the 4 groups get into mediation to develop credible membership and election code and open the membership to everyone. After the election then a new team will get into serious negotiations. Informing all members of our goals and presenting new codes for ratification will be difficult because we are scattered across Canada, in Quebec, Ontario, the West and the USA - all need to be informed. We will require funding to get the message to all members and INAC has agreed to provide some funding.

New Chief and Council elected at this universal election will take us forward before they shut the door. If we have an election now it will not be credible as not all 838 members are here to have a voice. Need to provide a 90-day notice for an election and this was not provided.

**Financial Reports** - provided in package

Dayle Callihoo-Campbell - presented the financial reports.

Question from the audience - March 31 funding of $30,000 is not on this report.

Chief Gil Goerz - it was $30,000 we originally applied for but the monies actually received was $20,700, payment received in July, hence not included in report.  
We applied for the funding from the National Energy Board on the Enbridge line 3 project and met with Consultant and lawyer to discuss project. Timeline was tight and there was not enough time for a full community meeting. Expenses were to cover Consultant and lawyer fees and travel expenses claimed by Chief and Council were   
placed back in the coffers.

Tracy Campbell got stuck in a traffic jam due to an accident south of Leduc today. Updated Land Use Study.

Beverley Asmann - said I had to pay a lawyer to see financial documents and I’m a member, also asked to sign a waiver to keep documents confidential within Michel membership.

Every AGM we presented self audited financial documents.

Dayle Callihoo-Campbell - explained under the 1991 Bylaws an audit can be done by 2 qualified members of the Society, submit to AGM each year and send to Corporate Registry annually. The President (Chief) and Secretary/Treasurer (Councillor) do this.

Certified audit will cost $5000-$8000 if completed by an accounting firm.

Every dollar is accounted for when money comes in and goes out.

The Financial Statements are not signed by Chief and Councillor because of identity theft with actual signatures but are signed when reports are submitted to the Province (Corporate Registry).

Dayle Callihoo-Campbell - financial statements can be viewed April 1, 2012 to March 31,2018.

MNP did a Notice to Reader and reviewed our Financial Statements and Bank Statements for both Michel First Nation and Friends of Michel Society.

Alan Goerz - 2 people elected can audit books of a Society. He explained that a review is a step down from an audit which is very acceptable in any Society.

Dayle Callihoo-Campbell - we will need to do a complete audit when we receive any funding from DIAND and will also require capacity funding from them to complete it.

Suggestion that we need an accountant, replied this is why we used MNP to prepare our statements.

Dayle Callihoo-Campbell advised the August 31, 2018 bank statements indicated there is $8,886 in Friends of Michel account, and $70,391.47 in Michel First Nation account.

MNP accountant John Garcia developed the reports. I’m not an accountant and do not understand the accounting lingo. All reports are available for review if anyone wants to look at them.

**Alan Goerz moved the financial statements be accepted as presented, seconded by Felix Young.**

**Motion carried (2018-4).**

Question and comment from the floor - are the 4 groups willing to come together? Need to come together to develop a leadership team to lead us into mediation.

Need a motion to accept Chief and Councillor reports as written out and presented to assembly.

**Moved by Joy Callihoo-Lizee and seconded by Kevin Callihoo that Chief and Council reports be accepted. Motion carried (2018-5).**

Mavis Callihoo spoke thanking the Chief and Council for their hard work and thanked the Elders who spoke.

Chief Gil Goerz reviewed where he stands and asked the other groups to share how they see things playing out moving forward.

At this time Leon L’Hirondelle came forward and suggested that membership vote today on having an election.

**Moved by Tim Callihoo and seconded by Joy Callihoo-Lizee that we have an election today for Chief and Councillors.**

Discussion ensued that in order to vote today you would need an 838 Status card.

Comments from Margarite (?) saying she is happy with current Chief and Council so no need to vote today.

Wes Shannon also spoke indicating he and Elizabeth Gerlat came from BC expecting to have an election but have changed their minds and agree with postponing elections until everyone can vote.

Joy Callihoo-Lizee spoke saying we need people who know the history of Michel to lead us and current Chief and Council do not have this background, we need a change.

More discussion on the logistics of having an election without proper notification to all members took place. Bylaws state there should be an election every year, but the tradition has been to have elections every three years. There was confusion from the membership on who would be running for office and the lack of campaigning left questions.

At this time Jessie Loyer and Celina Loyer explained to the membership how it came to be that they are on the Blood Band (Indian Registration) list through a previous marriage of their Mother/Grandmother. When she married Celina’s Father and Jessie’s Grandfather Gilbert Anderson, he was not status at that time and their Mother lost her Indian status. She regained Indian status with Bill C-31 and was put back on the Blood list according to the Indian Act as that was where she lost her status from. They were also placed on this list when they received their Indian status as they were given status before Gilbert Anderson received his. They have never been recognized by the Blood Band as being active members and have always been members/descendants of Michel Band. Jessie thanked the assembly for letting them explain.

Councillor Roy Goerz indicated there was a motion on the table and we need to vote on it.

**Motion denied (2018-6).**

**Short Break at 3:15 pm - Resume Meeting at 3:25 pm**

**Discussion from other groups**

Brandy Callihoo-Shott from the Descendants group spoke on how they would like to see mediation progress and that they are interested in developing genealogy for all Michel members. All descendants, status and non-status need to verify their genealogy to prove you belong. Wants everyone to get along and work together for Michel membership.

Rosalind Callihoo spoke on behalf of the Michel Band Unity Group. Says she was asked to provide assistance to the Chief and Council but became frustrated with their direction and formed this group to represent all Michel descendants, status and non-status as she felt Chief and Council only represented status members. Rosalind Callihoo indicated she has lots of history of the Michel Band and that this will help her group represent Michel in future negotiations. Testimony to the Indian Claims Commission resulted in their recommendation that Canada grant special Status to Michel. This was ignored by Canada and a Statement of Claim was initiated. Rosalind Callihoo did not feel the Corporation was a legitimate group and because if their affiliation with the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples did not want anything to do with CAP. She indicated that Brandy had agreed to join their group along with Joe Avery, but this did not work out and Brandy left to continue with the Descendants Group. INAC says we have to come together in mediation and have to send them our position papers asap. We can agree to disagree, but we need to come together. She also noted that there was no representation from the Michel First Nation Corporation at this meeting and wondered why.

**Other**

Chief Gil Goerz indicated it was agreed that two members from each of the four groups would come together to form a leadership team and enter discussions with a mediator. This Team will develop a mandate moving forward and will also develop a social media page to keep everyone informed from one source with the same message. This will be an information site only with no squabbling allowed.

There was discussion about Celina Loyer and Jessie Loyer remaining on Council.

**Motion to fill 2 Councillor positions made by Joy Callihoo-Lizee and seconded by Mary Callihoo.**

Discussion from the floor felt that they would like these two to remain and that the election in 2019 would decide. Dayle Callihoo-Campbell spoke against the motion to have a byelection to fill these positions also saying the next election would decide who sits on Council.

Wes Shannon also spoke against the motion requesting we wait for the next election.

Rosalind Callihoo spoke in favor of the motion saying this is a conflict of interest and bylaws and that if we do not have a byelection the Chief and Council should step down.

Jessie spoke on her position and indicated she has received slanderous remarks from certain members on social media. She is happy and proud to be a Michel member and chooses to be here.

Celina remarked that she has sent a letter to INAC requesting a change in her status affiliation but INAC has not acted on her request. Accepting Band would have to send a BCR to INAC indicating they accept new member but since Michel not recognized as a band this could not happen. I have always acted in the best interest of Michel First Nation and have done much to promote Michel in the communities and schools. I have also suffered much abuse from certain members on Facebook and phone calls and I ask in a very passionate plea that you get your act together.

**Joy Callihoo-Lizee and Mary Callihoo then request to withdraw their motion (2018-7).**

**Motion that the present Council remain only for a one-year term made by Judy Lewis and seconded by Edna Stack.**

Discussion ensued and questioned what if the next election took longer than one year. The consensus was that there will be an election in the next year to decide who will be on Council.

**Motion denied (2018-8).**

Final comments by Chief Gil Goerz - I remain committed to participating in mediation and to have things in place for an election in 2019. The Michel First Nation museum display you see here will be on display at the Onoway Museum early in the new year for all to visit. Thanks to all for attending.

50/50 draw won by Paulette Goerz and door prize won by Theresa Hayes.

**Closing Prayer** by Elizabeth Gerlat asking for safe journeys home for all and that we get along and move forward.

**Meeting adjourned** at 4:05 pm