



# FIRST NATIONS FINANCE AUTHORITY

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON THE 10<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JULY 2025  
ORIGINATING IN WINNIPEG, MB

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Minutes of AGM on July 10, 2025

A meeting of the Members of the First Nations Finance Authority (FNFA) was held at Wyndham Garden Winnipeg Airport Hotel, in Winnipeg, Manitoba on Thursday, July 10, 2025 starting at 9:00am CST.

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Directors Present:

1. Chair Chief Derek Epp - Ch'iyáqtel First Nation, BC
2. Councillor Veronica McGinnis - Osoyoos Indian Band, BC
3. Councillor Dawn Styran - Leq'á:mel First Nation, BC
4. Councillor Michael Paul - Wasoqopa'q First Nation, NS
5. Councillor William Kaysaywaysemat - Kahkewistahaw First Nation, SK
6. Councillor Gayle Bedard - Lax Kw'alaams, BC

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Regrets:

7. Councillor Pat Brennan - Henvey Inlet First Nation, ON
8. Councillor Patrick Courtois - Première Nation des Pekuakamiulnuatsh (Mashteuiatsh), QC

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Borrowing Members Present:

Total Participants present = 43  
Total Voting Members present 17

**Quorum was met**

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Proxies: Proxy Holders = 12

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Quorum: In accordance with section 10.7 of Bylaw No. 2025-1, a quorum equals the lesser of 25 members or 5% of the Members present through their representatives or by proxy.

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I. Opening Prayer / Acknowledgement / Call to Order

Chair Chief Derek Epp opened with a prayer and called the meeting to order at 9:00am CST.

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II. Roll Call by the President & CEO

Ernie Daniels called roll call. There were 17 registered/voting delegates, confirmed.

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III. Adoption of Agenda The Chair, Chief Derek Epp, presented the Agenda to the Members for discussion. No concerns were raised.

**MOTION:**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda for the 2025 Annual General Meeting be adopted as presented.

Moved: Councillor Marshall Mewha, We Wai Kai Nation

Seconded: Councillor William Kaysaywaysemat, Kahkewistahaw First Nation

Carried.

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IV. Adoption of Minutes from July 18, 2024 AGM The Chair presented Members with the Minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting for discussion. No concerns were raised.

**MOTION:**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the July 18, 2024 Annual General Meeting be adopted as presented.

Moved: Councillor Michael Paul, Wasoqopa'q First Nation

Seconded: Councillor Veronica McGinnis, Osoyoos Indian Band

Carried.

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V. Presentation of FNFA Amended and Restated Bylaws Kateri Cree, Legal Counsel of FNFA, presented on the amendments to FNFA's Bylaw, which was then presented as Bylaw 2025-1.

**MOTION:**

A. The Board of Directors of the Authority has amended and restated Bylaw No. 2023-1 of the Authority is its entirety by adopting Bylaw No. 2025-1 (the Amended and Restated Bylaw");  
B. The Amended and Restated Bylaw has been presented to the members of the Authority (the "Members"), for their confirmation.

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Bylaw Amendment is hereby confirmed and approved.

Moved: Councillor Ann Cada-Hamelin, Sheshegwaning First Nation

Seconded: Councillor William Kaysaywaysemat, Kahkewistahaw First Nation

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Carried.

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VI. Presentation of the  
FNFA 2025/2026  
Annual Report and  
Financial Statements

The Chair read the highlights from the “*Message from the Chair*” from the Annual Report.

Ernie Daniels spoke about highlights from the year and presented FNFA’s latest member accomplishments and upcoming initiatives. He then took questions from the audience and discussed.

*The meeting took a brief health break.*

Rachel McAllister presented the Audited Financial Statements for 2025/2026 as presented in the Annual Report.

She took questions from the audience and discussed.

Approval of the Financial Statements is not necessary according to FNFA Bylaw 2025-1, but was given regardless.

Moved: Chief Gordon BlueSky, Brokenhead Ojibway Nation

Seconded: Chief Darren Blaney, Homalco First Nation

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VII. Appointment of  
Auditor

The Chair read the proposed motion to appoint KPMG as the Independent Auditors. No concerns were raised.

**MOTION:**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors, and members present, appoint KPMG LLP as the independent auditors for the 2025/2026 fiscal year.

Moved: Councillor Dawn Styran, Leq’á:mel First Nation, BC

Seconded: Councillor William Kaysaywaysemat, Kahkewistahaw First Nation

Carried.

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VIII. Introduction of  
Board by the President  
& CEO

Ernie Daniels introduced the current Board of Directors:

1. Chief Derek Epp - Chair / Director (Ch’iyáqtel First Nation, BC)
  2. Councillor William Kaysaywaysemat - Deputy Chair / Director (Kahkewistahaw First Nation, SK)
  3. Councillor Veronica McGinnis - Director (Osoyoos Indian Band, BC)
  4. Councillor Dawn Styran - Director (Leq’á:mel First Nation, BC)
  5. Councillor Michael Paul - Director (Wasoqopa’q First Nation, NS)
  6. Councillor Gayle Bedard - Director (Lax Kw’alaams, BC)
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Directors Not Present:

7. Councillor Patrick Courtois – Director (Pekuakamiulnuatsh Takuhikan/Mashteuiatsh, QC)
8. Councillor Pat Brennan – Director (Henvey Inlet First Nation, ON)

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IX. Election of Chair, Deputy Chair and Directors

The Chair called upon a Motion to elect an electoral officer, Jody Anderson, FNFA’s VP, Partnerships, Strategy & Public Affairs.

**MOTION:**

Jody Anderson is appointed as Electoral Officer.

Moved: Walter Tabobondung, Wasauksing First Nation  
Seconded: Councillor William Kaysaywaysemat,  
Kahkewistahaw First Nation

Carried.

Ernie Daniels provided an overview on the voting process, to hold up the voting cards to nominee individuals. The Board appointments are for one-year terms and Members were advised to be mindful that regional representation on the Board is desired. The Board approved that 11 directors may be elected for 2025/26. If there’s more than 11 nominations, there will be an election. For those communities that may have upcoming elections, please be mindful that you must be elected as either Chief or Councillor to remain eligible to sit as an FNFA Director.

Jody Anderson, as Electoral Officer, began the nomination process and opened the floor to the Members for the position of Chair.

Councillor William Kaysaywaysemat, Kahkewistahaw First Nation, nominated **Chief Derek Epp** for position of Chair. Chief Derek Epp accepted the nomination.

No further nominations from the floor for the position of Chair.

By acclamation, Chief Derek Epp was elected Chair.

The floor was opened for nominations for the position of Deputy Chair.

Councillor Dawn Styrán, Leq’á:mel First Nation, nominated **Councillor William Kaysaywaysemat** as Deputy Chair. Councillor William Kaysaywaysemat accepted the nomination.

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No further nominations from the floor for the position of Deputy Chair.

By acclamation, Councillor William Kaysaywaysemat was elected Deputy Chair.

The floor was opened for nominations for 9 director positions.

Councillor Michael Paul, Wasoqopa'q First Nation, nominated **Councillor Dawn Styrán** for the position of Director. Councillor Dawn Styrán accepted the nomination.

Chief Roddy Owens, Pauingassi First Nation, nominated **Chief Gordon BlueSky** for the position of Director. Chief Gordon BlueSky accepted the nomination.

Councillor Sheri Bernard, Abegweit First Nation, nominated **Councillor Lisa Marshall** for the position of Director. Councillor Lisa Marshall accepted the nomination.

Councillor Michael Paul, Wasoqopa'q First Nation, nominated **Councillor Veronica McGinnis** for the position of Director. Councillor Veronica McGinnis accepted the nomination.

Councillor Dawn Styrán, Leq'á:mel First Nation, nominated **Councillor Michael Paul** for the position of Director. Councillor Michael Paul accepted the nomination.

Councillor Julie John, Skwlāx te Secwepemcú'ecw, nominated **Councillor Gayle Bedard** for the position of Director. Councillor Gayle Bedard accepted the nomination.

Councillor William Kaysaywaysemat, Kahkewistahaw First Nation, nominated **Councillor Miguel Cocoo** for the position of Director. Councillor Miguel Cocoo accepted the nomination.

Councillor Miguel Cocoo, Première Nation des Atikamekw de Wemotaci, nominated **Councillor Olivier Bacon** for the position of Director. Councillor Olivier Bacon accepted the nomination.

Councillor Dawn Styrán, Leq'á:mel First Nation, nominated **Councillor Pat Brennan** for the position of Director. Pat Brennan accepted the nomination electronically.

Councillor William Kaysaywaysemat, Kahkewistahaw First Nation, nominated **Chief Raymond Flett** for the position of Director. Chief Raymond Flett accepted the nomination.

Councillor Walter Tabobondung, Wasauksing First Nation, nominated **Councillor Louis LeDoux** for the position of Director. Councillor Louis LeDoux accepted the nomination.

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No further nominations were brought forward.

All representatives and proxies were given ballots to complete as part of the voting process.

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X. Introduction of  
New Board of  
Directors

Ernie Daniels announced the election results by showing a slide with names of the new Board Members for 2025/2026, as follows:

**Chairperson**

1. Chief Derek Epp - Ch'iyáqtel First Nation, BC

**Deputy Chairperson**

1. Councillor William Kaysaywaysemat - Kahkewistahaw First Nation First Nation, SK

**Directors**

1. Councillor Dawn Styrán - Leq'á:mel First Nation, BC
2. Councillor Veronica McGinnis - Osoyoos Indian Band, BC
3. Councillor Michael Paul - Wasoqopa'q First Nation, NS
4. Councillor Pat Brennan - Henvey Inlet First Nation, ON
5. Councillor Gayle Bedard - Lax Kw'alaams Band, BC
6. Councillor Lisa Marshall - Millbrook Band, NS
7. Councillor Louis LeDoux - Mistawasis Nehiyawak, SK
8. Councillor Miguel Coooco - Première Nation des Atikamekw de Wemotaci, QC
9. Chief Gordon BlueSky - Brokenhead Ojibway Nation, MB

Jody Anderson called for a motion to destroy the ballots and thanked the new Board of Directors.

**MOTION:**

FNFA will now destroy the ballots.

Moved: Councillor William Kaysaywaysemat,  
Kahkewistahaw First Nation

Seconded: Walter Tabobondung, Wasauksing First  
Nation

Carried.

Jody Anderson officially closed the election process for 2025/2026.

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XI. Adjournment  
of Meeting

Chair Chief Derek Epp thanked outgoing Directors and provided closing comments to the Members. The new Board of Directors are to meet immediately following the Annual General Meeting.

Elder Daniels closed the meeting and delivered a closing prayer.

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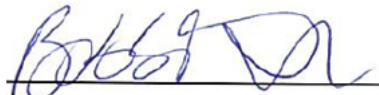
## **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Moved: Councillor Gayle Bedard, Lax Kw'alaams  
Seconded: Veronica McGinnis, Osoyoos Indian Band  
Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 12:49pm CST.

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Certified on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025 to be an accurate record of the proceedings taken and resolutions passed at the meeting of the Members of First Nations Finance Authority at Wyndham Garden Airport Winnipeg Hotel, Winnipeg, Manitoba on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025.



Bobbi Setter  
Corporate Clerk

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