

# ***E2S – Edmonton 2 Spirit Society First Official Board Meeting Minutes***

March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018

## **I. Call to order**

Boyd Whiskeyjack called to order the first official board meeting of E2S – Edmonton 2 Spirit Society at 6:05PM on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at the Pride Centre of Edmonton. Smudge and Opening Prayer done.

## **II. Roll call**

Boyd conducted a roll call. The following persons were present: Boyd W (President), Jeffery C (Vice- President), Ashley T (Secretary), Sebastien B (Treasurer), Lynsday B (Board Member)

## **III. Approval of minutes from last meeting**

No minutes as this was the first official Board Meeting for E2S.

## **IV. Open Issues (short term)**

### **a) Potluck (April 15<sup>th</sup>- 5PM at Pride Centre)**

i) Boyd shared that he visited Warren Winnipeg on Thursday March 8<sup>th</sup>. From this visit, Warren called for a potluck to ground the board in a solid foundation through traditional practices.

. (1) A grandmother created traditional attire for the founding board.

ii) Boyd invited other 2Spirits, Indigenous and non-Indigenous allies including:

(1) 2SYEG leaders (2) 2 Spirits In Motion (2SIMF) Small Guiding Work Group (SGWG) (3) Indigenous Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (IPFLAG) iii) The group decided what dish they will bring to the potluck, as follows:

(1) Lynsday – soup (2) Sebastien – baked/fried bannock (3) Jeffery – choc. Ice cream cake (4)

Ashley – beverages (tea, water, ginger ale) (5)  
Boyd – berries

**b) 2S Grant Entry in Albuquerque, NM (April 26<sup>th</sup>)**

i) There are two options of sending representation of Edmonton 2S

(depending on availability of persons): send Ashley alone on a flight OR send a delegation (group of 2-4) to drive down. The trip is 1 day 2 hours long.

(1) Ashley mentioned that a fellow 2S friend is off work during this time and that her Elder may be available as well. Boyd mentioned he will contact another 2S individual to see if they are also available. IF a group drives down it would be best to drive down on the 24<sup>th</sup> if there are two drivers and the 25<sup>th</sup> if there are 3 or 4 drivers.

ii) A sacred item is to be sent to be put on the Sacred Staff

(1) Ashley spoke with her Elder about providing a sacred item to the Staff in honor of E2S.

iii) Travel/food/accommodation costs:

(1) Ashley said it is approx. \$1000CD (\$700-800US) there and back for gas.  
(2) Boyd suggested taking a tent would be the most cost-effective solution for accommodations. Alternatively, Jeffery mentioned AirBnB.

(3) Boyd thinks \$200-300 would be sufficient funds for food.

iv) Ashley mentioned a GoFundMe account to help raise funds for a delegation to go. Jeffery shared his experience using GoFundMe. **Jeffery motioned to create a GoFundMe account in support of E2S representation at the 2S Grand Entry and, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ashley, All in Favor 5/5. Motion passed.** He said he will call to confirm the % taken and ask about a reduced rate for a Society.

(1) Boyd is going to write up a biography of the E2S to provide information for creation of the GoFundMe account; what the money's for, who the money is going to, and where the money will be allocated. (2) Ashley will contact her photographer and do a headshot in her regalia to post on the GoFundMe account.

**c) Edmonton Pride Festival Society  
(EPFS)**

Pride Week involvement (June 8-15<sup>th</sup>). Boyd shared that he met with Angela, Executive Director of the EPFS on Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. She mentioned that Shell Canada has a desire to support the Indigenous LGBTQ2+ community. Boyd made it clear that the E2S DOES NOT want any Shell logo'ing associated directly with the space/onsite activation, programming or event(s) that E2S hosts. He also indicated that resources would be needed for the following, however, since we are only in the infancy stage of this planning we understand that they may change.

- Funds to cover protocol costs, giveaway items/gifts, honorairums
- Communication and advertising of the event(s)/programming once it has been finalized. EPFS is willing to help in whatever capacity is needed or wanted and are happy to simply provide resources needed to ensure the success of the E2S programming, however, EPFS is also happy to help with planning and organizing if desired to BEST support E2S.

i) Pride Festival Ideas:

(1) Gender affirming ceremony

(a) Boyd met with Kristy Harcourt, Programs Manager at the Pride

Centre of Edmonton (PCE) on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. She mentioned that space is available to gather in the building on the following dates:

- Sunday June 10 unil 7pm (key needed)
- Tuesday June 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm
- Wed June 13<sup>th</sup> at 6pm
- Sunday June 17<sup>th</sup> until 7pm (key needed) (2) iPFLAG storytelling at the BBQ on Sunday June 10<sup>th</sup>. Boyd reached out to Roxanne Tootoosis to see if she is available to do this. Waiting to hear back. (3) 20x20 vendor tent/booth onsite for artisans/crafters to sell their goods

(a) Jeffery suggested that each vendor provide a giveaway item (b) Post a sign that says NO ALCOHOL/DRUGS and gate the area (c) Ashley will reach out to Mother Earth essentials (4) Consider Iceis Rain for some kind of performance during Pride Week

(hopefully after the Parade on the Mainstage) (5) Consider working with the Rainbow Refuge program on Friday June 8<sup>th</sup> as

part of their "Traditional Dance." Which will bring folks from various ethnic backgrounds together for celebration, dance, food. (a) It was suggested that we do a FB page callout for performers. Boyd will contact Adrian LaChance and his PowWow dance group. Sebastien or Ashley will see about contacting Metis Jiggers. (6) Set up a teepee at the festival site (away from the beer gardens)

(a) Boyd set up a meeting with Ron, Executive Director of Canadian Native Friendship Centre (CNFC) for Tuesday April 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss a partnership with 2S and Indigenous involvement during Pride Week. (7) **Jeffery motioned to have a proposal for Shell drafted for funding that will also include a 20% contingency, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sebastien, All in favor 5/5. Motioned passed.**

ii) Pride Parade:

(1) Boyd applied for a motorized 40ft. maximum float. He will hear back from EPFS in early April. Also, he suggested creating a Pride Parade Planning Advisory Committee to help organize the float. Kristy (PCE) shared that if two elements during the same week (float and festival) were overwhelming for the E2S, there is room for us to walk in the parade with the Pride Centre's entry. Boyd or Jeffery must let Kristy know how E2S will proceed by mid-May. Boyd mentioned that he will be away for the summer to spend time with an elder from May-August. Jeffery is Entry Captain for the float. (2) Lyndsay is going to provide 3 golf carts with 6 seats to accommodate participation of mobility challenged individuals (3) Ashley is willing to rent a vehicle, a mustang in particular, for the day. Jeffery suggested that we ask Shell to rent us a LIMO. Boyd will inquire with Angela about this possibility. (4) Decorations: Boyd suggested that we use the big Medicine Wheel at the CNFC. (5) Letters need to be written up and sent out to surrounding reservations to

involve Indigenous leadership. The Chief's that will be invited to march with us include: Billy Morin of Enoch Cree Nation, Tony Alexis of Alexis Band, Muskwacis (4 bands), Saddle Lake etc. Boyd saved a letter that was sent to these communities for the 2017 Pride Parade and will contact Alyssa, Chair of EPFS to update and use the same template. (6) Boyd will have a poster made to be shared on the E2S Facebook Page to encourage participation throughout the province.

(a) Boyd created the E2S – Edmonton 2 Spirit Society Facebook Page and is going to make the E2S Board Members moderators. (7) Boyd will contact and invite Steven, a member of the Montana 2S

Society

iii) 2019 and beyond: 2S PowWow during Pride (Angela will send Winnipeg Pride contact to Boyd for guidance in planning and organizing. Boyd will contact Albert McLeod, 2S Winnipeg Leader). The group will also reach out to the Ben Calf Robe Society PowWow Committee for guidance in following proper traditional protocol. For now, Ashley is going to request that 2 Spirits be presented in their Annual Pow Wow in May.

(1) Lyndsay suggested that once the logo is finalized that we create Post Cards to hand out at traditional events to create awareness of E2S existence and potentially gather willing participants and volunteers to help with our cause. Also, that the inclusion of 2S women is equally important as male 2 Spirits.

#### d) **Establishment of Society**

i) Logo: Boyd drafted up a logo and presented it to the E2S Board and they liked it.

**Lyndsay motioned to have the Corporate Seal digitalized, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ashley, All in favor 5/5. Jeffery added a stipulation that the Logo not to be approved until the Board sees it and approves. All in favor 5/5. Motion passed.**

(1) Last year Fruit Loop fundraised and donated funds in the amount of approx.. \$300 to the 2S group and the PCE kept it safe. Boyd accessed \$100 for a cheque to be made out to Jerecy Remanente (the digital media guy) for his services in creating the logo. The check was made March 28<sup>th</sup>.

(a) Boyd also requested a cheque in the amount of approx. \$59 in early March to order a NUANS report when applying to incorporate the 2SYEG group into a Society. \$50 more was used for the application fee mid-March. Boyd asked Kristy how much funds are left over, and she said \$30. Boyd has to account for the rest of the money.

ii) Website: Boyd mentioned that Kristy can set up a page on the PCE website for E2S. The group needs to identify VALUES, MISSION, VISION and research other 2S websites for information to be posted. (1) Boyd contacted a digital media guy and he is willing to create an E2S website in the future at a cost of \$1000-2000

(2) Boyd mentioned Kristy's suggestion to look at the Edmonton Community Foundation's "Vital Signs" project grants to see if it would be a good fit to fund this project. The Pride Centre offered to be the charitable organization partner

for such an application. Jeffery mentioned that once you are accepted for a grant they contact your organization separately.

iii) Create a bank account: Boyd mentioned that Kristy pointed out that the PCE was given the opportunity to assign some federal apology funds to different community building projects and set aside \$800 for a discussion within the Treaty 6 territory. PCE has kept the recording requirements very minimal – PCE said it would provide the \$800 for a community conversation related to Indigenous identities, gendered harm and federal actions. For reporting they only need to report that the event (ceremony) occurred, how many attended and on which date it occurred during the Calendar year 2018. (1) Sebastien said he will go to Service Credit Union and inquire about certain details in regard to setting up an account with an organization (E2S).

## **V. New business (long-term)**

a) Membership Form – fee to be decided. \$5 seemed to be a consensus. The E2S

Board will vote on a potential once a membership form is finalized. Boyd created a draft for the Board to review. Will edit and revise once logo is finished.

b) Boyd planted a seed in the mind of E2S Board members by mentioning a long-term goal of hosting an Annual 2S Gathering in Edmonton (area) starting in 2019. This would be a good time to hold a Mr. and Mz. Indigenous 2S pageant. Sebastien suggested we do it during the equinox. Boyd mentioned not to hold an event close to another 2S Society's event because we do not want to conflict with their events.

i) Boyd asked Ron (CNFC) about how to organize a Pageant and he mentioned 4 main criteria, which include:

- Public Speaking
- Art performance
- Volunteerism

• References from community. c) Identify key partners within the Edmonton and area, including: CNFC, Ben Calf

Robe Society, Bent Arrow, EPFS, PCE etc. d)

Next meeting is Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 8pm.

## **VI. Adjournment**

Boyd Whiskeyjack adjourned the meeting at 8:00PM. Minutes submitted by: Boyd (Ashley will submit next meeting) Minutes edited by: Jeffery Minutes approved by: Lyndsay

**Minutes were re-opened Thursday, July 23rd to remove information pertaining to cultural/ceremonial details and names due to privacy reasons.**