

**Ontario NEIHR Leadership Circle
Minutes**

11:30pm to 12:30pm, October 26, 2021

Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88169026734>

In attendance

Dr. Suzanne Stewart, Dr. Holly Graham, Dr. Janet Smylie, Clay Shirt, Roy Strebel

Regrets

Chantelle Richmond

ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION/MOTION/ACTION
Clay - Spiritual opening Individual Check ins		
2. Group Update	<p>Janet - Happy to sit in this circle. The need to have nation specific self-Determination. There is a national network of Metis scholars. Chelsea Gabel part of the mentorship network, Metis community in Manitoba. Emailed Jeffrey Schiffer's NEIHR webinar poster. She and other Metis found it distressing. Contacted an expert genealogist showed us the records. Jeffrey maternal grandfather was French not Metis. Instructions from Elder Maria Campbell are clear to fight hard over this. Bring another Metis academic (Chelsea) to talk about these things including myself. Should he still present on Thurs? Concern about imposters taking on leadership positions - not responding to questions - creates distrust. Who will talk to Jeff on genealogy?</p> <p>Suzanne - Jeffrey is a co-applicant on the NEIHR. Executive Director at NCFST. Each member of the NEIHR will do a webinar to share including Jeff. Will talk to Jeffrey. No need to cancel webinar, would take away spotlight of work that NCFST has done around mental health. Brought on board as Dir. of a community organization, not as a Metis.</p> <p>Janet - Someone else from his team could present instead. Suggestion meeting to get Chelsea, Suzanne, Jeff, and others</p>	

	<p>from his team. Will include 2 Metis, 1 FN, and 1 person whose identity is not clear.</p> <p>Suzanne - (Update to Holly) The first 2 years of the NEIHR everyone does a webinar. Metis concern - Have meeting with Chelsea.</p> <p>Janet - Status cards and Metis cards are colonized. I am part of MNO and these are my relatives in Saskatoon.</p> <p>Holly - Maybe change the bio and introduction, remove the Metis ancestry. Many claiming ancestries and is problematic and growing. Propose to write paper on identification and provide terms on Indigenization, decolonization. Be truthful with our identity.</p> <p>Janet - Make identity statement. Someone outside our leadership circle has brought to us that his confusion over his Metis kinship is causing distress. Would like some clarification.</p> <p>Suzanne - Ask if he has documentation on his Metis identity. If he can't prove it, we need to have a meeting. Metis councils that you can pay to join that are not recognized.</p> <p>Holly - People claiming Indigenous identity and getting scholarships that should be going to our people.</p> <p>Janet - Have a meeting with this person on his Metis Identity. Having documentation would reduce the distress. Share with leadership. If not, meet with him and bring in an outside Metis scholar to help us.</p> <p>Suzanne - Will talk to him about this matter</p>	
<p>3. Concluding statements/n ext steps and Spiritual Closing</p>		